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Construction starts



Last Thursday, the Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship (AOPS) project marked another significant milestone with the cutting of steel for the future HMCS Margaret Brooke, the second ship in the class. The event took place at Irving Shipbuilding Incorporated's marine fabricating facility in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, with Geoff Simpson, the DND AOPS Project Manager, activating the plasma cutter to enter the ship into production. Also in attendance were Justin Courtney (ISI Marine Fabricator), Frank Simei (ISI AOPS Program Director), Scott Jamieson (ISI VP Programs), Daniel Pelletier (PSPC AOPS Director), Kevin McCoy (ISI President) and Noel Gerveau (ISI Marine Fabricator). As part of the National Shipbuilding Strategy's combat vessel work package, the AOPS project will deliver six vessels to the Royal Canadian Navy by 2022.



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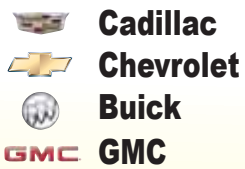
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Protecteur crew recognized for bravery and courage

On behalf of the Queen, his Excellency the Governor General has approved national honours for the following deserving individuals for their responses during the HMCS Protecteur fire.

On Feb. 27, 2014, while operating 300 nautical miles north the Hawaiian Island, a major fire broke out in the main engine room of HMCS Protecteur.

The magnitude and the intensity of this event ranks only second to the HMCS Kootenay fire of Oct. 23, 1969, where nine sailors perished and 50 were injured.

The significance and impact to the RCN were critical, but luckily, due in part to the crew's training, combined with their courageous actions throughout the night and following day, they were able to save their ship with no loss of life - a significant accomplishment at the time considering Protecteur had close to 300 crew members onboard, including 17 passengers and two contractors.

The crew reacted brilliantly and with steadfast courage in the face of the worst-case scenario for a ship, a fire far at sea, in a main engineering space.

Meritorious Service Cross

Cdr J.A. Elbourne - for inspirational leadership and

outstanding actions as commanding officer. His critical decision making kept his crew focused and steadfast in their determined fight to save the ship.

LCdr J. Murray - for exceptional leadership and remarkable professionalism as executive officer. His outstanding actions and forceful determination were instrumental in saving the lives of the crew and the ship.

CPO1 I.M. Kelly - for remarkable leadership and selfless dedication as coxswain. His boundless drive and personal kindness were essential in enabling the crew to fight the fire.

PO1 M.A. Penner - for exceptional leadership and unmatched technical acumen as CERA. His tireless actions in a smoke-filled compartment prevented catastrophic explosions and serious injury or death.

Medal of Bravery

PO2 A.L. Aubry - for great courage and selfless determination in immediately attacking the fire in extremely hazardous conditions.

Meritorious Service medal

Capt M. Gibbons - for leadership and outstanding pastoral support as the ship's padre.

PO1 P.R.J. Storie - for outstanding leadership in restoring power to the ship under dangerous conditions.

LS A.C. Astles - for outstanding professionalism and leadership as attack team leader and fire boundary duties. He played a critical role in saving lives and extinguishing the fire.

LS C.L. Korolyk - for selfless dedication and leadership as a member of the attack team. He entered the fire zones several times and volunteered for hazardous duties. His contribution to the firefighting efforts helped save the ship and shipmates.

In relation to the above mentioned, the CDS has approved departmental awards for the following deserving individuals and units:

CDS Commendation

LCdr J. Lafontaine - for outstanding leadership and selfless dedication regardless of suffering from first degree burns to his lower legs.

PO2 I.B. Cameron - for selfless actions and leadership as one of the first responders and attack team leader.

MS A. Brown - for demonstrating great determination and selfless dedication by pushing himself to the point of exhaustion to pro-

Luckily, due in part to the crew's training, combined with their courageous actions throughout the night and following day, they were able to save their ship with no loss of life...

tect the ship and shipmates.

LS S.B. Macdougall - for exceptional leadership and devotion to duty as a member of two attack teams. His mental and physical fortitude to endure extreme conditions enabled the team to contain and extinguish the fire.

AB D.J.T. Green - for outstanding professionalism and perseverance as a member of three separate attack teams.

AB M. Charlesworth - for exceptional determination as a member of the first attack team. He led a shipmate in distress to safety before returning to his duties.

CF Unit Commendation

HMCS Protecteur - for professionalism and remarkable dedication. The teamwork of the entire crew, while living in extreme and arduous conditions, helped save the ship.

USS Chosin - for rendering invaluable assistance to

HMCS Protecteur after the catastrophic engine room fire while at sea.

USS Michael Murphy - for outstanding actions, commendable seamanship and technical acumen while attempting to take HMCS Protecteur under tow following the engine room fire.

USNS Sioux - for exceptional technical expertise and incredible seamanship when successfully taking the crippled HMCS Protecteur under tow to Pearl Harbor, following the engine room fire.

USN Region Hawaii - for exemplary commitment in ensuring the safe return of HMCS Protecteur to Pearl Harbor and then to Canada, following the engine room fire.

Editor's note: The information above reflects the substantive rank held by the members at the date of incident. Many of the awards have already been presented.



Photo: Cpl Stuart MacNeil, MARPAC Imaging Services

The former Protecteur-class replenishment oiler, HMCS Protecteur is towed out of Esquimalt Harbour by the tug Corbin Foss on Feb. 24, 2016, on its journey to Halifax for disposal. Protecteur was unable to return to service following a major fire in 2014.

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Comox museum looking for new home

Rachel Lallouz
Staff Writer

Founder and Director of the HMCS Alberni Museum and Alberni Project Lewis Bartholomew is searching for a new location for his beloved museum, which was served with a notice to vacate its three-year-old home at the Comox Centre Mall in June, due to the mall's overhaul planned by its most recent owners.

The museum has been given until the end of September to secure a new location that their tight rental budget of \$800 per month can afford.

The mall's previous owners, explains Bartholomew, were supportive of the museum's project to share pivotal moments in Canadian history with visitors, and charged a reduced fee of \$500 per month rent.

"We now are in the position where we need to find a space large enough to house our current exhibits on First World War, Second World War, HMCS Alberni's crew and history, and any potential visiting exhibits that we may take on in the future," says Bartholomew,

who adds he hopes that the new location can remain in Comox to maintain its deep ties to HMCS Quadra and CFB Comox.

Bartholomew, who is originally from Seattle, quit his job in grocery management a few years ago to start the museum after hearing about the 1944 sinking of HMCS Alberni during the Second World War. He was deeply touched by the loss of 59 lives.

"I grew up with the heartbeat of the Second World War as my father served in the U.S. military during that time. It was his stories I heard continually as a child. But a lot of young people nowadays don't have grandparents or living history to explain what transpired back then," says Bartholomew. "For that reason, I am compelled to do this work."

The museum relies on a small staff of volunteers, donations made to the museum by individual guests, and sponsorship by local businesses to make ends meet, but Bartholomew says he finds himself dipping into his personal finances to support the museum when



Lewis Bartholomew, Founder and Director of HMCS Alberni Museum and Alberni Project stands proudly next to a model of HMCS Alberni.

money is scarce.

"We have basically been put out into the street, even though this museum is incredibly important for the community. We have a number of retirees in the Comox area that lived or worked during the Second World War period," he says. "This museum gives them a safe space to touch base with their memories. Some come every single week."

Shortly after their current exhibit, "War Brides – One Way Passage," was installed at the museum, Bartholomew says he received a call from a war bride in Ontario who was receiving full health care in a hospital. She shared her hospital room with her husband, and the two had recently celebrated their 72nd anniversary.

"From her bedside table, she thanked me for tell-

ing their story," he says. "It's moments like this that demonstrate the importance of the museum and make keeping it open worth it."

To save the museum, Bartholomew is seeking local sponsorship and donations from interested businesses.

"I feel this museum is incredibly important for Canadians – for the young and the old and especially for those whose life stories we are telling," he says. "I really don't want to see this disappear. We've always prided ourselves on being a community-supported museum and I would love to see it continue that way."

For more information on the museum, please visit www.alberniproject.org. To speak with Bartholomew about donations or sponsorship, please email him at mrbarth@alberniproject.org

A lot of young people nowadays don't have grandparents or living history to explain what transpired back then, for that reason, I am compelled to do this work.

Lewis Bartholomew, Founder and Director, HMCS Alberni Museum, and Alberni Project



From left: Comox Town Councillor Barbara Price presents Lewis Bartholomew with the 2015 Town of Comox Heritage Award at the Filberg Lodge during Heritage Week.

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WHAT SAY YOU

People Talk

With the 2016 Rio Olympic Games wrapped up, Lookout asked current and former athletes at the base:

If you could choose to participate in any Olympic sport which one would you pick and why?



Soccer because I was born into a soccer family and my dad, grandfather, and uncles all played. It would be a great way to carry the family name onto the international stage, and I would be so proud to have made it that far and represent Canada.

Pte (Ret'd) Bill Stewart



It is difficult for me to choose between my two favourite sports of hockey and softball, but I think I would prefer softball because I really like the feeling of being on the field, catching some fly balls, standing behind the plate, hitting the ball, and of course stealing bases.

**LS Josee Cholette,
Language Training
Division**



Since my favourite sport of squash is not an Olympic sport yet, I would have to say tennis. While slightly different, the game is a close cousin of squash since many of the fundamentals are the same, like footwork and endurance. I enjoy the full-body workout and tennis definitely ranks up there for me.

**PO1 Timothy King,
Naval Training
Development Centre
(Pacific)**



I recently competed in the Invictus Games, but if I could compete in the Olympics I would definitely be interested in the 100m dash. I love that it's an explosive event and very little race strategy is involved. It's all about power, speed and the ability to perform under pressure.

**LS (Ret'd)
Stephan Moreau**



As a swimmer and especially after watching the women's swim team compete at these Olympics, I would have to stay true to my roots and say swimming. It was a very exciting Games in the pool for Canada this year.

**Pte Claire Bortolotti,
CF HSVCS(P)**

WHAT SAY WE

SPORTS trivia

Stephen Stone & Tom Thomson
Contributors

Questions

- Who is the first Canadian boxing world champion (any weight class)?
- Who was the first and only Canadian-born World Heavyweight Boxing Champion?
- Who is considered the greatest boxer never to win a world championship?
- Who was "The Fighting Fisherman"?
- Who was the first Canadian inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame?
- Which boat was the undefeated champion of the International Fisherman's Trophy races run from 1921 to 1938?
- Who invented basketball?
- Who were the Edmonton Grads?
- Who was J. Percy Page?
- Which basketball team had the best record at the Olympics prior to WWII, but never won a medal?

- James Naismith (Almonte, Ont.) Naismith wrote the original 13 rules of basketball in 1891. The document came up for auction in 2010 and sold for \$4.3 million.
- The Grads were a women's basketball team made up of graduates of the basketball program at McDougall Commercial High School in Edmonton, Alta. They won their first national title in 1922 and the women's first world title in 1924. The team compiled a record of 502 wins against 20 losses between 1915 and 1940, which is still the record for best winning percentage of all time for any North American sports team.
- J. Percy Page was the only coach of the Edmonton Grads. He started coaching them as high school students and continued after they graduated.
- The Edmonton Grads. They competed in every Olympic Games from 1924 to 1936, winning all 27 matches they played and outscoring their opponents 1863-297. No medals were ever awarded as women's basketball did not become an official Olympic sport until the games in Montreal in 1976.
- Sam Langford (Weymouth Falls, N.S.) Langford fought in all weight classes from light-heavyweight title in December 1958 second on Ring Magazine's list of the greatest punchers of all time.
- Yvon Durelle (Baie-St-Anne, N.B.) Durelle fought from 1948 to 1964 from middleweight to heavyweight. His fight in Montreal against Archie Moore for the light-heavyweight title in December 1958 is regarded as one of the greatest ever.
- Jenkins, a pitcher, played the majority of his career for the Chicago Cubs and the Texas Rangers. He was honoured with a postage stamp in February 2011.
- The Bluenose (Lunenburg, N.S.) — just take a look on the back of the dime.

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Rashida Malik
REALTOR® - MLS Award Winner

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A few good "heroes" needed to renovate the Rainbow Kitchen

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

Military members past and present are being sought to join other volunteers in renovating Esquimalt United Church's Rainbow Kitchen.

The \$500,000 renovation project on Admirals Road, managed by Victoria-based non-profit organization HeroWork, starts the week-end of Sept. 16 and continues for the following two weekends.

The 4,600 square foot community wing of the Esquimalt United Church is home for several community groups and the non-denominational Rainbow Kitchen, which serves approximately 36,000 hot meals a year to people in need in Esquimalt.

HeroWork Founder and executive director Paul Latour says his group has carried out over \$1.3 million in "radical renovations" since he founded the non-profit organization in 2010. He has relied on military personnel to volunteer in past projects and is counting on them to deliver again.

"Participating in something positive for the community and in a team atmosphere will give our volunteers from CFB Esquimalt an amazing experience, but also help them showcase to the public the difference the military makes in their communities, both at home and abroad," says Latour.

HeroWork recently received a \$20,000 donation from Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services Boomer's Legacy Foundation.

As part of the reno kickoff volunteers will meet at the Canteen Road parking lot at 4 p.m. Friday Sept. 16 and march to the church with some musical accom-



Photo by Peter Mallett, Lookout

Left: HeroWork founder Paul Latour, HeroWork Project Manager Peter Smither and CPO2 (Ret'd) Roxanne 'Rocket' Ogden get their shovels and wheelbarrel ready ahead of a massive renovation project of the Esquimalt United Church Rainbow Kitchen.

paniment provided by the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy.

After the opening ceremonies, volunteers will start demolition work, including landscaping, excavating and removing decaying cedar shingles from the roof, replacing windows and doors, and painting.

Renovations on the inside of the building include a complete kitchen refit, the creation of an additional bathroom, fixture and

appliance upgrades, flooring, wall and ceiling replacement, electrical work, furniture repair, painting, the construction of a new loading dock, and more.

HeroWork's military liaison is Lt(N) Colin Dudeck. Personnel from the base interested in getting involved should contact him at colin.dudeck@forces.gc.ca. Former military and civilians are asked to contact Latour at paul@herowork.com

U.S. naval ship to bear name of gay rights activist Harvey Milk

A U.S. Navy replenishment oiler will be named after the late gay rights activist Harvey Milk, a San Francisco city government official who served in the navy for four years.

Milk was one of the first openly gay people to be elected to public office, but was assassinated by political colleague Dan White while serving on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1978.

"Milk offered hope for millions of Americans who were being ostracized and prosecuted just for who they loved," said U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus at the announcement in San Francisco Aug. 16.

Milk's career as a naval officer concluded with his "other than honourable" discharge. He was accused of fraternizing with enlisted personnel. Some believe Milk was forced out of the military because he was gay, but others say Milk accepted the other than honourable discharge to negate potential disciplinary action.

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Success and adversity - veteran stays in the game

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

The way former Royal Canadian Navy sailor Bill Stewart sees it, the oranges he cuts up and serves at halftime to the players on the Saanich Fusion men's soccer team are a metaphor for life.

"Some days are sweet while some are sour," says Pte (Ret'd) Stewart as he prepares refreshing citrus bites for the Vancouver Island Soccer League's Over-35 team.

His sweetest day was back in 1975 when he led CFB Esquimalt to a Canadian Armed Forces National Soccer Championship by

scoring a hat trick in the deciding game against CFB Cold Lake.

The former navy cook recalls the storybook ending of scoring the winning goal on the final play of the game.

"The ball came across the midfield and I back-heeled it and then did my patented toe-poke shot," he says of the moment. "I saw an opening in the goal; I hit it with the front of my foot to score on the final play of the game and we won the nationals."

The entire team and coaching staff piled on top of him. That moment is rooted in his memory like a still photo.

During his two-year military career between 1974 and 1976, Stewart worked the mess in HMCS Terra Nova, HMCS Qu'Appelle and HMCS Kootenay. While he was quite proficient at his trade in the kitchen, the navy thought so highly of his soccer skills they sent a helicopter out to the Qu'Appelle, which was a couple of days into its voyage to Hawaii, to fly him back to Victoria to play in the series.

"I was only 19 years old at the time and I was getting the royal treatment; I felt like the Duke of Sooke when that helicopter took off from the deck," says Stewart.

He got hooked on soccer at five years old and gradually developed a reputation as a proficient finisher in front of the goal. During his first year in the navy he was the target man for CFB Borden, who finished the CAF Championship as runners-up.

"Some athletes go through their whole life dreaming of that day of winning a championship but it never happens," says Stewart. "To me, winning that championship was like living a dream."

But with the sweet times comes the sour ones.

Three years following that soccer win Stewart experienced a life threatening

accident.

He was working as a chef at the Banff Spring Hotel when a co-worker came to him complaining she had left keys inside her fourth floor hotel room.

He offered to retrieve them by climbing through an outside window to her room. Things didn't go as planned. He lost his grip and fell more than 40 feet to the ground.

The list of injuries was extensive: broken ribs, broken tailbone, crushed vertebrae and lung, two blood clots in his brain, and paralyse on his right side. He slipped into a coma following the accident and didn't regain consciousness until three weeks later.

When he came to doctors told him he would likely never walk again.

"I know others would have given up, but it's not in my mindset, I don't know how to give up," says Stewart.

It took him more than six months to get out of his chair and walk.

He now walks with a noticeable limp.

The important thing, says Stewart, is that he found his way back onto the soccer pitch in 1983, not as a player but a team manager for Vic West. The more than a century-old club was a team his father, grandfather and great uncle also played



Photo submitted by Saanich Fusion

Bill Stewart and Saanich Fusion team captain Jeevan Manhas celebrate their victory, earning the 2016 Tony Grover Masters' Cup for the Over 35 A Division of the Vancouver Island Soccer League and the Alec Hylan Player of The Game Trophy.

for, so reconnecting with Vic West was crucial for Stewart at that stage in his life.

Although he parted with Vic West three seasons ago, Stewart didn't quit the game but instead took up a similar position with their rivals in Saanich.

This is where he slices up bags of oranges before the team's matches.

"All the players on the team know Bill's story and what he has overcome to be with us," says team captain Jeevan Manhas. "The oranges he serves at halftime, and

his smile, gives us an edge."

Stewart has also formed friendships with internationally known athletes including world snooker champion Cliff Thorburn, two-time National Basketball Association MVP Steve Nash and his family, former Vancouver Whitecaps and Canadian international midfielder Bob Bolitho, former Dallas Cowboys kicker Eddie Murray, and Harlem Globetrotters legends Jimmy Blacklock, Sweet Lou Dunbar and Hubert Ausbie.

Their friendship was crucial to Stewart overcoming his accident and dealing with lemons in life.

"Don't sweat the small stuff and don't delay what you can do today. That's the attitude I like to have in life. It's also the lesson the beautiful game has taught me."



Photo by Peter Mallett, Lookout

Bill Stewart slices up oranges for soccer practice at his home in Victoria.

The navy thought so highly of his soccer skills they sent a helicopter out to the Qu'Appelle, which was a couple of days into its voyage to Hawaii, to fly him back to Victoria to play in the series.

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Gagetown is a-buzz with bees

Major Gord Bennett
5th Canadian Division Support
Base Gagetown

5th Canadian Division Support Group (5 CSDG) Gagetown recently started a beekeeping club with hives on rooftops, mirroring communities across the globe that are encouraging urban and suburban hobby beekeeping.

The hives, while small in number, are providing a unique opportunity for members of their base community to develop new skills and sweet products with positive environmental impacts.

Recent concerns surrounding colony collapse disorder have increased across North America and Europe.

A loss of bees or other pollinators would wreak havoc on the national and regional economy. A world without honeybees would see massive declines in blueberry, raspberry, gooseberry, strawberry, apple and cranberry production in New Brunswick, all of which are key contributors to the provincial economy.

This problem is compounded as New Brunswick presently does not have sufficient pollinators or beekeepers for cash crops, resulting in the importation of thousands of hives from other parts of the country.

Youthful buzz boosts beekeeper demographic

The number of beekeepers in New Brunswick has also declined due to the aging beekeeper population. With fewer beekeepers, the province is

at risk of losing a valuable skillset that benefits the economy, generates healthy food and local products, and is used as a litmus test for environmental conditions. The base club, with just over 20 members currently pursuing an interest in beekeeping, seeks to change this.

No bears, no pesticides – high bees are safer bees

5 CSDG Gagetown is joining the ranks of other major cities that have all embraced rooftop beekeeping and bee-friendly gardening in public areas.

Rooftop beekeeping provides the ideal location for bees. The roofs are away from bears, there is an abundance of accessible forage, and pesticides are not employed – all setting the conditions for a successful project.

The rooftops block the north wind in the winter but enable the bees to forage in the summer. The Base's Roads and Grounds section reduced the mowing around the building thereby allowing the flowers to regenerate for a longer period between cuttings. The delay in mowing saves fuel and labor costs while providing forage for the bees. In a minute sense, it also reduces carbon emissions from mowing equipment.

Salvaged materials and hive husbandry increase honey haul

The hives currently sit on pallets and were constructed from pine shelving and recycled materials, adding another positive environmental impact while reducing costs. Several of the hives

were then painted using mis-tinted paint. Each hive contains five to 20 frames on which the bees will produce comb, eventually filling it with brood and honey.

A lucky hive owner may, in the later part of the fall, be able to harvest a small batch of honey, but generally it will take a year to generate a strong hive that will be able to produce excess honey to reward the beekeeper.

Kinder, gentler little buzzers

Honeybees are bred to be calm in nature. Contrary to popular belief, most insect stings do not come from honeybees but from hornets, ants, spiders, and wasps, which can sting multiple times. Typically, honeybees will warn before stinging by buzzing in a "z" pattern in front of an intruder who is just outside the hive, and then bouncing off that person. Stinging brings death to the bee so there is a significant incentive not to sting.

Foraging bees will fly away from people when collecting nectar and pollen and are not confrontational, while male bees, known as drones, do not sting at all.

Next generation of beekeepers to carry sweet torch

As the club grows, a younger generation of beekeepers – like the young brood of a hive – will be born. Participants will learn the wisdom of the aging beekeeper, carrying the sweet torch passed from generation to generation while lending environmental and economic benefits to the local New Brunswick community.



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Tod Creek is a salmon-bearing stream located in Saanich, B.C., that flows north from Prospect Lake to Tod Inlet where it enters the ocean.



Heals Range creek restored to enhance salmon habitat

Lorraine Crinkley
FSE

A creek that runs through DND property is receiving much-needed restoration. Tod Creek is a salmon-

bearing stream located in Saanich, B.C., that flows north from Prospect Lake to Tod Inlet where it enters the ocean. The District of Saanich has undertaken various restoration projects on Tod Creek and recently approached DND about restoring the portion of the creek that run through Heals Range. The District of Saanich

completed an assessment of Tod Creek, both upstream and downstream from Heals Range, and confirmed that old beaver bafflers were impeding water flow and fish passage. Beaver bafflers are corrugated pipes installed through the base of a beaver dam that allows water to pass through the dam silently. Because the beavers can't hear the running

water they are unable to stop the flow and become discouraged and move on to another area. Although the beaver bafflers were successful in deterring beavers from Tod Creek, they were never maintained and have since clogged up with debris. Reduced water flow through the creek due to unmaintained beaver bafflers and sedimentation causes an increase in water temperature and produces anoxic, turbid conditions that can be detrimental to salmonid species. DND and the District of Saanich partnered to complete multiple improvements to the creek including the creation of terraced banks, the planting of riparian vegetation, the grading of the stream bottom, the installation of sediment controls, and removal of old beaver bafflers. Once the beaver bafflers were removed, the banks were terraced. Riparian vegetation is scheduled to be planted in the fall to improve slope stability around the stream. Originally the stream banks were steep and bank material was sloughing into the stream, which also impeded water flow and fish passage. Grading the stream bottom also helped provide consistent flow year round and reduced the opportunity for pooling water. DND and the District of Saanich are hopeful the stream improvements made to Tod Creek will enhance salmon habitat and are assessing the feasibility of making further improvements to the section of the creek within Heals Range.

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Photos by MCpl Brent Kenny

The Working Group of the North American Maritime Security Initiative (NAMSIS) gathered at CFB Esquimalt for their biannual meeting Aug. 16 to 19.

Maritime security at the heart of tri-lateral forum held on base

SLt MJ Cserhazi
MARPAO

The Working Group of the North American Maritime Security Initiative (NAMSIS) gathered at Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt for their biannual meeting from Aug. 16 to 19.

NAMSIS is the only tri-lateral maritime security forum between Canada, Mexico and the United States. It was established to improve maritime security along the coast from Alaska to the southern tip of Mexico. In Esquimalt, the main focus of the Working Group was to refine communications and legal considerations.

Delegations from the Royal Canadian Navy, the Mexican Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy, Canadian Joint Operations Command (CJOC), and Joint Interagency Task Force South share a common goal: to strengthen their relationships and increase interoperability by sharing information, best practices and developing tri-lateral exercises.

"NAMSIS exists to formalize our efforts and to share our best maritime practices and protocols," says Major Donald Senft who represented MARPAO at the discussions.

While the nations have a strong nautical alliance and regularly collaborate with each other, NAMSIS seeks to streamline their practices. This effort represents a large amount of ongoing work.

"NAMSIS is a marathon not a sprint," says Commander Alex Kooiman of CJOC. "It will take time to come up with answers to larger issues such as communications and legal considerations so we can better prosecute offenders across international borders. By understanding the legal parameters and how to employ that knowledge throughout our respective forces, we will be able to

work more closely to support each other."

Canada, Mexico and the U.S. regularly conduct operations and exercises together in the areas of maritime interdiction, humanitarian assistance, search and rescue, and counter narcotics. Enforcing maritime law is especially important for Commander Luis E. Rodriguez Gallo of the Mexican Navy.

"When we talk about NAMSIS it means that we want to work together to increase maritime security. Our next challenge together is to know what our partners need from us, and what we need from them," he says.

The NAMSIS initiative will continue to collaborate both at sea and on land to strengthen interoperability and to increase the security of North America.



Commodore Jeff Zwick, Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific, addresses attendees of the North American Maritime Security Initiative Working Group, held at the CFB Esquimalt Chiefs' and Petty Officers' Mess Aug. 16.

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Old Bofors gun to be donated to museum

Rachel Lallouz
Staff Writer

After its most recent upgrade is completed, *HMCS Nanaimo* will donate its decommissioned 40 mm Bofors gun to the Vancouver Island Military Museum in Nanaimo.

Director General Maritime Equipment Program Management (DGMEPM) and Director of Surplus Acquisitions and Loans (DDSAL) in Ottawa have been working since 2007 to donate surplus or unneeded equipment and weapons to museums across Canada as naval memorabilia.

"This is in keeping with our theme at MEPM to preserve as much naval history as possible, and continue the close relationship and ties between the home cities and their warships," says Wayne Yetman, Naval Ordnance Life Cycle Material Manager with Director Naval Combat Systems. "It allows the RCN to preserve a valuable piece of naval history in each

namesake home city with their ship's 40mm gun for display," he adds.

Navy staff contacted city councillors in Nanaimo several months ago to see if the city would be interested in keeping the gun for historical purposes. Shortly after, the city contacted the museum. All parties unanimously agreed the gun would make an excellent addition to the artefacts, weaponry, and memorabilia already housed at the museum, and serve to honour veterans of the first *HMCS Nanaimo* and serving members of the current *HMCS Nanaimo*.

"These guns have been in operation for a very long time and have certainly proved their worth," says Petty Officer (Retired) Brian McFadden, who served in the Royal Canadian Navy for nine years, and is Vice President of the museum. "I am especially happy

because a number of ships I worked on had this particular type of gun."

McFadden says once the gun has been stripped, sandblasted, and repainted by DND, it will be shipped to Nanaimo and mounted on a cement pad next to the museum at Piper Park. In this location, the museum's annual 5,000 visitors will be able to view the gun.

Guns have been donated to museums across the country including the former *HMCS Terra Nova* 3"70 gun

to the Naval Museum of Alberta, in Calgary, and the former *HMCS Qu'Appelle* 3"50 gun to the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

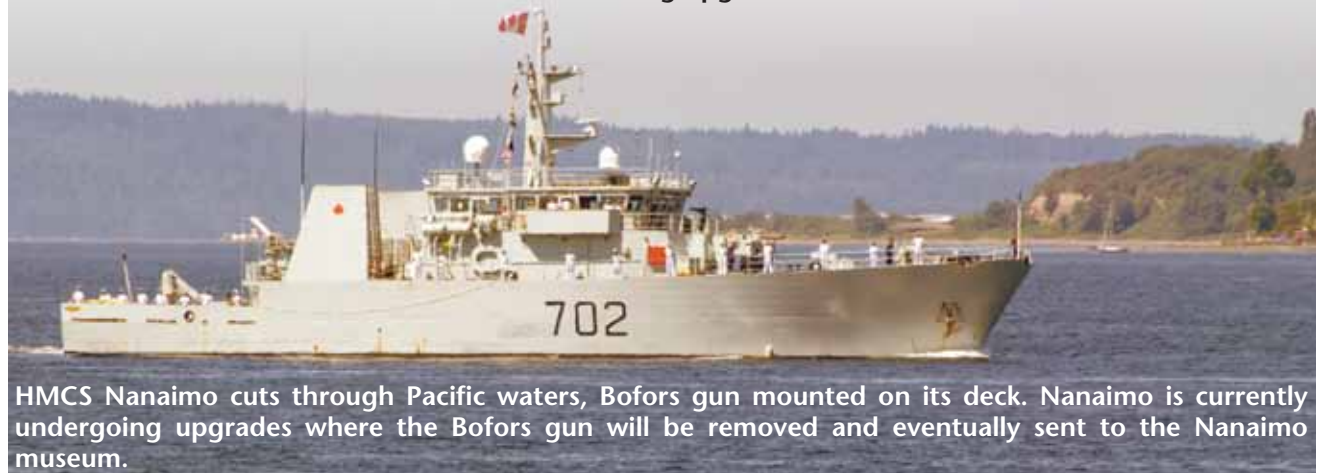
In Nanaimo, those anticipating the arrival of the decommissioned gun can set their sights on viewing it later this year. A Freedom of the City ceremony will take place May 17, 2017 to coincide with the 20th anniversary of *HMCS Nanaimo*.

For more information about the museum, please visit www.vimms.ca



Photo by Sandy McClearn, smcclearn.smugmug.com

The 40mm Bofors gun, used in a wide range of roles on Maritime Coastal Defence Vessels, are being replaced during upgrades.



HMCS Nanaimo cuts through Pacific waters, Bofors gun mounted on its deck. Nanaimo is currently undergoing upgrades where the Bofors gun will be removed and eventually sent to the Nanaimo museum.

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Roundballer scores Germany adventure

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

A good year just got better for SLt Connor Duke, a talented guard with the Tritons basketball team.

The 24-year-old, 6'3 shooting guard is set to take his A-game to Warendorf, Germany Sept. 2 to 4, for the CISM (Counseil International du Sport Militaire) Basketball Championship.

This will be his second CISM tournament; last year he represented the Canadian military in South Korea.

"Being able to represent Canada feels pretty great, especially since I never expected to be good enough to play any sport at the international level, let alone basketball," says SLt Duke who played two seasons for the Royal Military College in Kingston,

Ont., before graduating in 2014.

SLt Duke received another morale boost when it was announced he is the RCN's command nominee for the annual Canadian Armed Forces sports awards to be held in Ottawa in October.

"For me it definitely feels good to be recognized for what I've accomplished and the work I've put in on the court playing basketball, but I'm not speaking about this with the intention of looking like a star or something" he says. "Receiving the award and being honoured came as a complete surprise to me. I just want CAF members to know that sports opportunities are out there and all you have to do is ask around."

His coach Joshua Buck think he's worthy of the award. He says SLt

Duke has a basketball IQ and energy "unparalleled" to other players as soon as he sets foot on the court.

"Connor has the ability to turn his natural competitive spirit into over-drive once the shot clock starts to wind down," says Buck. "He's not only an intense competitor but he's also a respected team captain and leader for our team."

CISM coach Sandy MacIntosh says SLt Duke has "101 ways to beat you" in his basketball repertoire, adding "He's got the green light to launch [shoot] it from anywhere on the court."

In September he'll line up his jump shot for the first time in Europe. SLt Duke and the Canadian delegation arrive in Germany Aug. 29 for a three-day training camp before facing opponents Germany, France and the United States over three days.

"Our team is quite different in terms of the squad that attended the World Games last year, and I think we will definitely be competitive against our three opponents," says SLt Duke.

At the World Games last year Canada posted four consecutive losses, including losses to South Korea and the United States before defeating Germany in their final game. SLt Duke says that will put the pressure on him and his teammates who make up Canada's backcourt.

"I think our biggest weakness is our size because we are a pretty under-sized team. We are going to need to be faster and fitter so we can run them into the ground," he says.

In order to register another victory against Germany and their other opponents, SLt Duke says he and the rest of the team are looking for strong performances from key players SLt Cody Brown, a guard from CFB Halifax, and centre Aviator TJ Ruty from CFB North Bay.

Receiving the award and being honoured came as a complete surprise to me. I just want CF members to know that sports opportunities are out there and all you have to do is ask around.

SLt Connor Duke

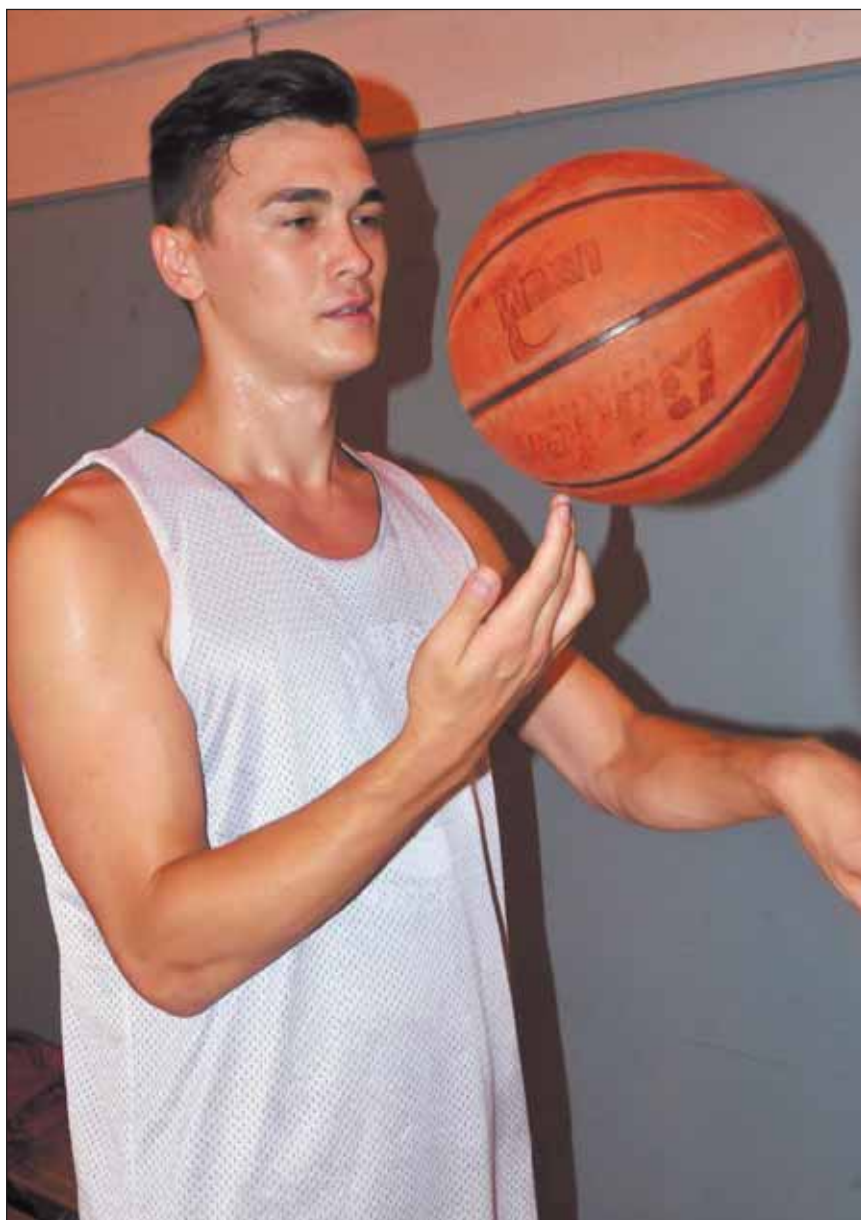


Photo by Peter Mallett, Lookout Newspaper

SLt Connor Duke gets in shooting practice at the Naden Athletic Centre.

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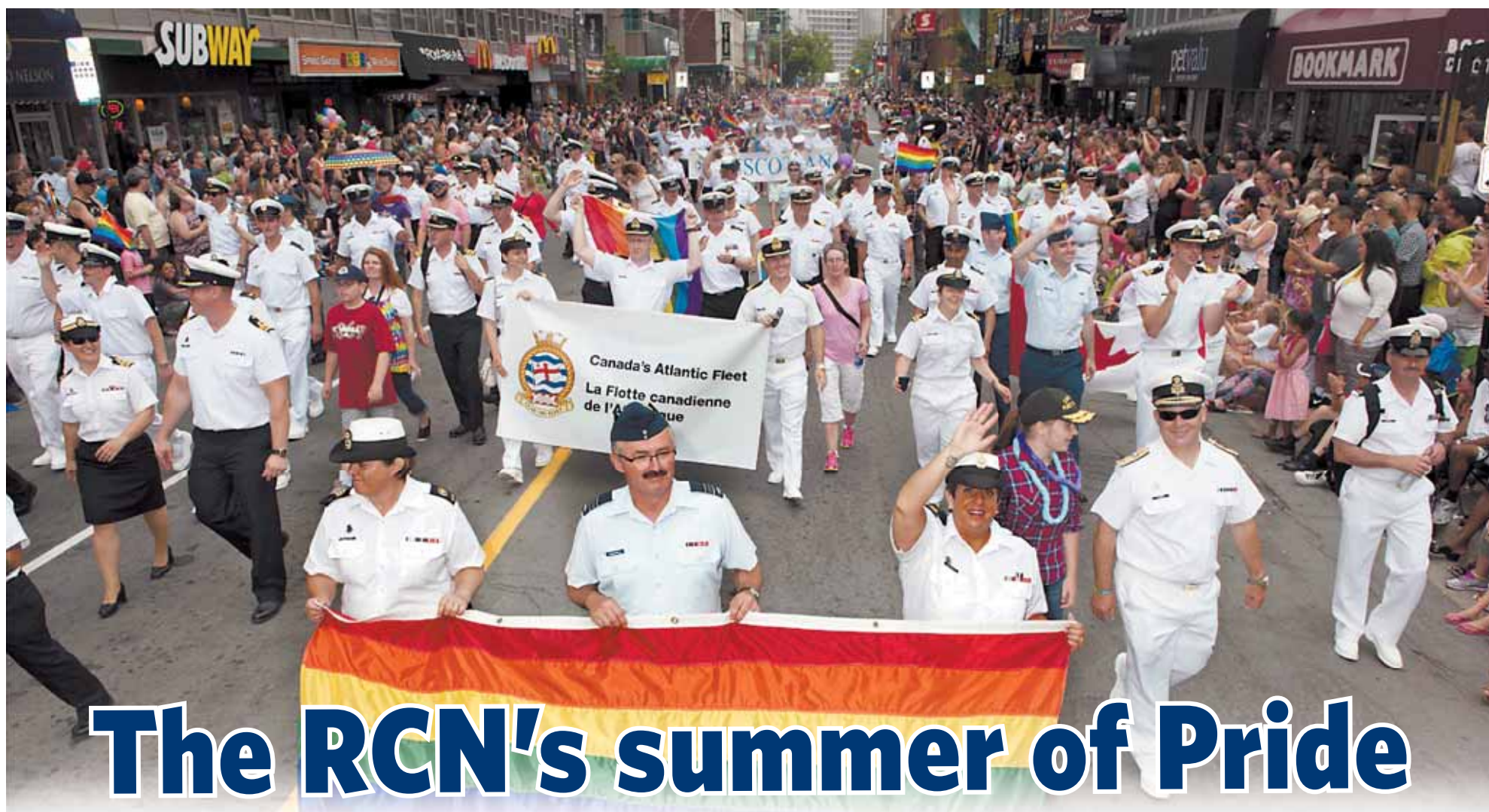
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The RCN's summer of Pride

Darlene Blakeley
Navy Public Affairs Ottawa

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) strives to be reflective of the nation it serves by embracing diversity and inclusivity within its ranks and Canadian communities.

Many units in the RCN have taken part in Pride celebrations across the country to mark the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) Canadians.

"We have a lot to celebrate in the CAF," says Rear-Admiral John Newton, Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic (MARLANT). "We have made progress around respecting gender and identity differences. Diversity is a source of strength and flexibility, and plays a pivotal role in ensuring that the RCN remains a strong, innovative and forward-looking organization."

The Halifax Pride parade, just one of the many LGBTQ events across the nation, was held on July 23, when approximately 100 sailors and other CAF members, accompanied by RAdm Newton, marched shoulder-to-shoulder through the streets carrying Canadian flags and Pride flags to

show their support for inclusivity, diversity and respect in the workplace.

"For several years now we have encouraged members to march in uniform in the annual Halifax Pride parade; however, this was the first time there was an official military presence," said RAdm Newton. "The parade was an exciting event that celebrated the very best of our city and country."

As well, this year marked the first time MARLANT raised the Pride flag throughout the formation, with flags going up around Canadian Forces Base Halifax and units of the fleet simultaneously at 8 a.m. on the morning of the parade. A number of the RCN's Naval Reserve Divisions flew the flag as well, including *HMCS Cabot* in St. John's, *HMCS Prevost* in London, and *HMCS York* in Toronto.

The Toronto Pride parade is the biggest one in the country, with a large RCN contingent getting involved. *York*, and its sister Naval Reserve Division in Hamilton, *HMCS Star*, along with personnel from other units, have participated in the parade since 2007.

"Every year we turn out a volun-

teer contingent for the parade, and most years we have our band in the parade as well," says Commander Rob Johnston, Commanding Officer of *York*. "Historically the navy has made up over 90 per cent of the CAF's contingent, now usually numbering over 60 members."

"By proudly walking in Pride parades the RCN sends a loud and clear message that we welcome everyone and support all our members. We were especially honoured to be led this year in the parade by our new Commander RCN, Vice-Admiral Ron Lloyd; as well as Commodore Luc Cassivi, Director-General Naval Staff Requirements; and Chief Petty Officer First Class Tom Riefesel, the RCN's Chief Petty Officer," adds Cdr Johnston. "Tangible proof of the navy's support and commitment to Pride and diversity can hardly get more powerful than that."

As a member of the LGBTQ community himself, Cdr Johnston says he is "immensely proud of the navy's, and indeed the entire CAF's, real and palpable commitment to diversity and inclusiveness."

"Having served in the Reserve Force for 38 years, as well as work-

ing in business almost as long, I have seen a huge amount of very positive change in our culture and I can honestly say I think we are in the vanguard as an employer," he says.

The CAF is committed to preventing discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identity through education and awareness programs, ensuring that all LGBTQ members are seen as a valued and integral part of the CAF and that they enjoy the same rights as any other person to work in a harassment-free workplace.

As an example, CFB Halifax recently set up a Positive Space Initiative, a workplace diversity program originally created by the Ontario Public Service, and sanctioned by the Treasury Board for the Federal Public Service in 2013.

"The overall goal of the Positive Space Initiative is to enhance the work experiences of LGBTQ employees by creating a safer, more tolerant, open-minded environment," explains Stephanie Cranham, Acting Manager, Human Resources Planning and Programs. "It engages volunteer champions who promote diver-

sity in the workplace. Through staff training, general professional development opportunities and awareness campaigns, the Positive Space Initiative aims to prevent inappropriate behaviour so people can feel safe in their workplace."

Currently, federal departments and agencies are free to adopt the initiative and develop their own guidelines based on the original concept.

According to Commander Wayne DiPersio, Chief of Staff at CFB Halifax, senior leadership is fully on board. "Promoting diversity and inclusiveness in the workforce is not only the right thing to do and in line with the ethics and values of the CAF, but it also contributes greatly to the creation and maintenance of a healthy, happy and productive workforce, which in turn produces dividends in the form of efficiency and operational output."

In Pride events and diversity programs all across the country, sailors from both Regular and Reserve Force units, and civilians, are showing their deep respect for Canada's diverse population, and proving they value its reflection within their own ranks.



Photo by Cpl J.W.S. Houck
The colours fly over CFB Halifax, along with the Pride flag.



Photo by MCpl Precious Carandang
HMCS York's band plays during Toronto's Pride parade on July 3.

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