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# LOOKOUT

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Sylvia Vink, Poppy Chairperson for the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 172, pins a poppy on the uniform of PO2 Maxime Brassard, Personnel Coordination Centre. PO2 Brassard was one of seven first poppy recipients at this year's Remembrance Day poppy campaign launch on Oct. 28.



Sylvia Vink pins a poppy on the uniform of MS William Sherman, Personnel Coordination Centre.



## POPPY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

On Friday, Sgt (Ret'd) Shawn Gaudet, Sergeant At Arms of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 172 in Esquimalt, raised the poppy flag to mark the start of this year's Remembrance Day poppy campaign.



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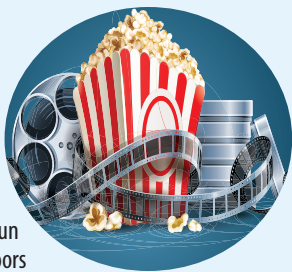


### UPCOMING EVENTS

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## Unintended time capsule revealed in mud

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

A massive cleanup of Esquimalt Harbour's seabed continues to reveal a cache of historical artifacts.

The multi-year \$160-million Esquimalt Harbour Remediation Project began in late 2015 and involves removing contaminated silt from the seabed, created by over 150 years of commercial and naval operations within the harbour. The purpose of the remediation is to clean up the historical contamination from various areas of the harbour, with an end goal of improving the overall health of marine species in the area.

As the massive dredging operation, covering 354 hectares, continues, employees from Formation Safety and Environment (FSE) have been taken aback by the diversity of items found locked in the thick layer of muck.

"We were completely caught by surprise and did not expect this," said Duane Freeman, who is the Branch Head in charge of FSE.

Two large display cases at FSE house service medals, uniform buttons, straight edge razors, rings, cigarette lighters, plates, cutlery, and several IDs. Not on display were the remains of hundreds of boots. There is no exact count of the number of items recovered, but most date from the 1980s back to the turn of the century, says Freeman.

One of the first discoveries was a coffee mug that belonged to VAdm (Ret'd) Gary Garnett almost 30 years ago when he was Commander of the Second Canadian Destroyer Squadron. His name and squadron of his ship were

still visible on the mug.

Freeman says the cold water temperatures and layers of accumulating silt have helped to preserve many of the found items. To expand on his point he displays a military identification card noting the card was likely from the mid-1950s and belonged to Norman John Boulton of HMCS Cornwallis, whose name and picture are still legible.

The dredging operation was carried out by a giant crane barge. The large crane equipped with a bucket was guided by GPS technology and scoops out every square-metre of designated area on the chart, and then places it onto the deck of another barge.

Before disposal, a machine sorted artifacts from the muck and then workers sorted through the contents.

"We had no idea we were going to end up with all of these artifacts, but now the question is what do we do with them? What comes next?" says Freeman.

Ideas include a travelling display or a permanent one somewhere on the base.

While the items are of historical interest they also reveal attitudes of the time with regards to the environment.

"It speaks to a different time when it was normal for sailors to throw things off the ship; throwing them over the side was just an expedient way to get rid of things," says Freeman point-



Duane Freeman, from Formation Safety and Environment, displays a diver's knife found during dredging operations in Esquimalt Harbour.

ing to the mounting pile of boots and soles recovered.

"Littering is something of the past. Today and sailors have an active solid waste management program and policies that prevent this type of behaviour."

Freeman said the shift in mindset about the harbour's environmental health began in the early 1990s. A 1992 study on Esquimalt Harbour revealed contamination through 25 chemicals including PCBs and metals - arsenic, mercury, lead, cadmium.

The Esquimalt Harbour Remediation Project is part of a 15-year Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan established in 2005 to address federal contaminated sites presenting the

highest health and ecological risks.

The Department of National Defence is currently remediating the seabed in areas adjacent to A, B, C and Y Jetties, ML Floats, and contaminated areas of Lang Cove. Future remediation projects will address additional contaminated sea beds near D, F and G Jetty, along with recent cleanup by Public Services and Procurement Canada adjacent to the Esquimalt Graving Dock.

The remediation project is concurrent with DND's A/B Jetty Recapitalization Project, an effort to replace the nearly 70-year-old jetties with structurally sound, larger, and more versatile berthing facilities.



Formation Safety and Environment staff are researching details about several items found during dredging operations, including several discarded service medals like the one displayed (left), and engraved straight edge razors used for shaving.





# Preserver's final farewell

**Ryan Melanson**  
Trident Staff

As current and former sailors, along with friends and family, gathered to say goodbye to HMCS Preserver after nearly five decades of service, RAdm John Newton made it clear Oct. 21 was not a day for sadness.

"There's no sadness in my mind today, only celebration of 46 years of world-class capability sailing the globe," said the Commander of Maritime Forces Atlantic to the crowd gathered on the jetty, Preserver in the background.

The day marked the paying off ceremony of Preserver, the last of the Royal Canadian Navy's Protecteur-class auxiliary oiler replenishment ships.

When Preserver was commissioned in Saint John, New Brunswick, on Aug. 7, 1970, it and sister ship, HMCS Protecteur, were an example of cutting-edge technology and modern underway replenishment procedures.

As RAdm Newton described it, "They allowed our navy to act big. These ships gave the navy global reach, sustainability, fast deployment when called to action by the government, and a great utility in coalition for food, stores and

fuel, which were and are always in short supply."

Among the crowd were a few who made up the very first crews to board the ship. RAdm Newton mentioned retired sailor Gerry Curry, who made it a point to be there see the ship out, just as he saw it 'in' back in 1970.

"I spoke to Gerry and what I took from his words is that Preserver inspired him from the first time he stepped aboard it in 1970, and it continued to inspire him throughout his career and into retirement, like it did for so many."

The ship deployed and supported Canadian and allied task groups on missions around the world through its life, beginning in the Cold War years and continuing well into the 21st century. Some of those were highlighted during the paying off, including UN peace-keeping efforts in Cyprus, enforcing sanctions in the former Yugoslavia in 1994, the response to the crash of Swissair Flight 111 in 1998 off Peggy's Cove, and Operation Apollo in 2001, in support of American operations in Afghanistan.

"We can all take something from the stories of accomplishments and operations and friendship that get told when a member retires, and for just a



Photo by Corporal J.W.S. Houck, Formation Imaging Services, Trinity  
**HMCS Preserver's last Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Commander Vicky Marier returns the colours and naval jack to Rear-Admiral John Newton at the conclusion of the ship's Paying-off Ceremony.**

few hours we slow down enough to celebrate a shipmate, or in this case, a ship itself," RAdm Newton said, before encouraging those in attendance to share their own stories and a few laughs about their times on board.

For LCdr Vicky Marier, the final Commanding Officer of Preserver, the day was about reflecting on the difficult job handed to her and her crew to prepare the ship for its decommissioning. And while she gave a heartfelt thank you to those who helped make Preserver the outstanding ship it was through the years, she focused a special shout out to those who served under her command and marched off the ship for a final time at the ceremony.

"Without them, I

would not have been able to accomplish the mission that we set out on," she said, adding a reference to the ship's motto as she prepared to say goodbye to the tanker ship.

"If a frigate is the eyes, ears and hands of the Royal Canadian Navy, then surely Preserver was the heart of our fleet."

Official aspects of the paying-off ceremony included a sail-past from HMCS Ville de Quebec and the ceremonial passing of the commissioning pennant along the deck. The crew then marched off the ship, followed by their Commanding Officer. The commissioning pennant, jack and ensign were presented to LCdr Marier, who then in turn presented them to RAdm Newton.

With the paying off official, the crew marched past the Guard of Honour and down the jetty, to loud cheers from all those in attendance.



Photo by Corporal J.W.S. Houck, Formation Imaging Services, Trinity  
**Crew members hand along the final pennant during the Paying-off Ceremony of HMCS Preserver.**

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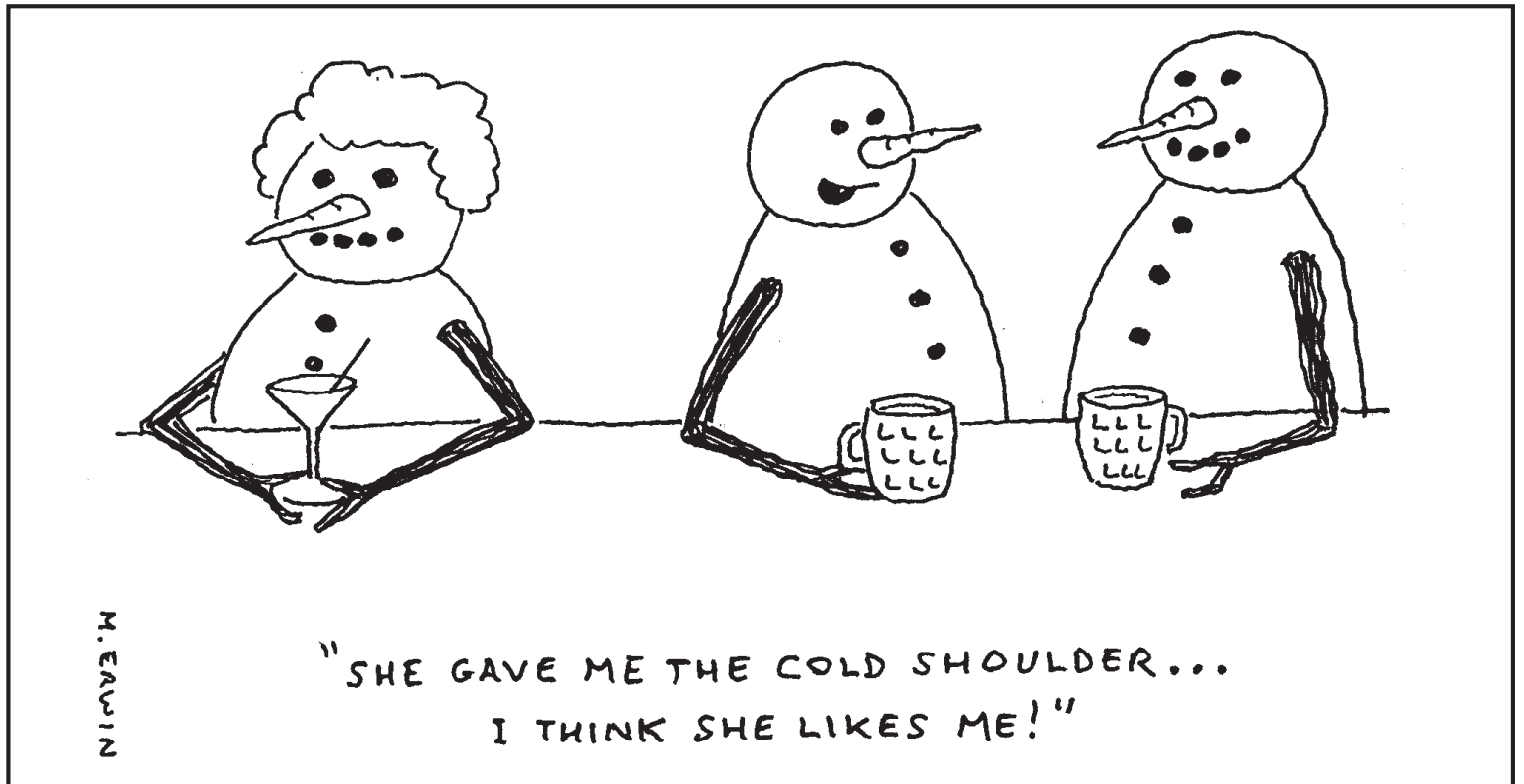


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## WHAT SAY YOU



**OS Jazz Campbell**  
Contributor

People around the world listen to hip hop; some even wear those telltale saggy pants and extra-long gold chains. Dressing the part and mimicking the thuggish lyrics of Snoop Dogg are fun to do, but understanding the hip hop culture and its roots is something most people know little about.

So where did it all begin, that bass drum sound that makes you feel like rapping, the deep vibration, and cool dance moves? By all accounts hip hop culture started in the South Bronx, New York City four decades ago.

African American music has either directly or indirectly descended from Africa through its tribal rhythms and chants. The music genre of hip hop, or rap music, formed in the 1970s when block parties became popular

with African American youth in the South Bronx.

With the music came the dancing part of the culture - break dancing, a "power move" that requires spinning and/or rotating that can be done in multiple rounds. The originators of this dance were the Rock Steady Crew in 1977, with founders Jimmy D and Jojo.

I learned about hip hop directly from some of the originators when I took an interest in the dance as a way to impress girls at age 12.

It was 2001. My father was a musician playing lead guitar in the musical Godspell, which was about Jesus Christ teaching young followers religious lessons through song and dance. It was a Saturday night and I had nothing to do in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, so I took my father's invitation to the show. At intermission the curtains went down and a young kid glided across the stage doing the Michael

Jackson backslide; the audience went crazy and my interest in dance solidified.

I signed up for as many hip hop classes as I could. Urban dance instructor Jake Evans took me under his wing. He also educated me on the hip hop movement. With the Internet at my fingertips I looked up the people he mentioned, like Timothy 'Popin Pete' Solomon and Stephan 'Mr. Wiggles' Clemente. I asked them directly about the culture and how it started, and they actually took the time to explain it to me.

Clemente talked of the gang violence in the Bronx when he was a kid. He said it was so bad he had a curfew established by gang members. To ease the stress of street violence in their neighborhood kids started throwing house parties.

Clive 'Kool Herc' Campbell, born in Jamaica, said he pioneered the hip hop movement in his house. He looped short percussion breaks and mixed them with two turntables so people (later named break-boys and break-girls) could dance.

All of this caught the attention of corporate media wishing to capitalize on hip hop for financial gain. Who could forget about Soul-Train? The first television series devoted to dancers. Don Cornelius, the host of the show, brought on many acts ranging from Michael Jackson to James Brown. The philosophy of the show was to unite men and women through the use of music.

Fifteen years later I am still dancing hip hop. But I've taken it a step further by teaching dance moves to children, and explaining the roots of the culture they so enjoy, just like my teacher taught me.

## Correction

Image by LS Ogle Henry,  
MARPA Imaging Services

**Leading Seaman Michael Fortin was awarded the Operational Service Medal – Expedition for Operation Caribbe by Capt(N) Steve Waddell, Commander of Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, during Base Divisions at Naden Drill Shed, Sept. 27.**





# Motocross enthusiasts geared up for Fleet Club movie

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

MS Pierre Lacombe wants fellow motocross, BMX, and mountain bike enthusiasts to mark Nov. 18 on their calendars.

On that day the Pacific Fleet Club will screen *Moto8 The Movie*. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at [www.pitboard.ca](http://www.pitboard.ca) or at the door.

The movie features spectacular aerial footage of some of motocross' top riders doing jaw dropping tricks, stunts and jumps on their mechanical rides.

The screening will serve as a fundraiser for Canada's Motocross of Nations (MXON) team, and an opportunity to bring the dirt bike community together.

"I want to get all the MX, BMX and mountain bike community in Victoria together in one room for the first time," says MS Lacombe, who owns Pit Board Industries / Pit Board Racing with his wife Isabelle. He also works as a naval electronic sensor operator aboard *HMCS Calgary*.

He became engaged in MX racing four years ago in 2012 when his children Antoine, 12, and Leone, 16, started their involvement in the sport.

He started out designing racing outfits for his children, but gradually expanded his uniform-making ability into a cottage industry.

The hand-made racing gear was eventually sold to local BMX and motocross teams and clubs in Victoria, then on provincial teams, and now the national MX team.

In the summer, Kourtney Lloyd, Team Canada MXON manager, contacted MS Lacombe for custom-made jackets and pit shirts for the team's mechanics and pit crew. The items were for their Sept. 24 Moto Cross of Nations event in Maggiorra, Italy, one of the sport's most important competitions.

"They liked my designs so much they immediately ordered 40 jackets," says MS Lacombe. "They even painted my design on the riders' helmets. So my design got way more exposure during the event than I had ever dreamed it would."

With such prestigious approval from a national team, the sailor anticipates international sales are just around the bend.

"I have been working this business based on three principles: honour, leadership and ethics," he says. "I will sacrifice profit to ensure those principles remain intact; this is the course I choose and Pit Board Industries is sticking to it."

**MOTO8**  
THE MOVIE



Photo by Moto8 The Movie.  
**Above:** A rider performs a stunt during the making of the movie *Moto8*.



Photo by James Lissimore Photography  
**Inset:** Moto X riders (left) Kaven Benoît, Tyler Medaglia and Shawn Maffenbeier show off team apparel designed by MS Pierre Lacombe of Pit Board Industries.

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Capt(N) James Cotter, Canadian Defence Attaché and Capt(N) Michael Davie, Commanding Officer of RCN Naval Force Readiness, visit the Korean Special Forces Museum in Chinhae, Korea.



Capt(N) Cotter signs the guestbook at the museum.

## Milestone achieved in Korean-Canadian defence relationship

**Capt Jenn Jackson**  
MARPAF PA Office

It has been more than 60 years since the armistice was signed bringing an end to the Korean War in 1953. In all that time, the Royal Canadian Navy has not had the opportunity to train on the Korean Peninsula with the Republic of Korea Armed Forces.

That chance finally materialized Oct. 15-23 during Clear Horizon 16, a multi-national mine countermeasures exercise hosted by the Republic of Korea (ROK) Navy in Chinhae, and Busan, Korea, and surrounding coastal waters.

Clear Horizon 16 also provided an occasion for Captain (Navy)

Michael Davie, Commander of Naval Force Readiness, to meet with senior ROK Navy Commanders to discuss future collaboration between the two navies.

Capt(N) Davie and Capt(N) James Cotter, the Canadian Defence Attaché to ROK, observed demonstrations of the mine counter-warfare operations that formed the basis of Clear Horizon 16. Embarked on ROKN Chunwangbong, the naval captains were able to watch demonstrations of a U.S. Aerial Mine Countermeasure mine search, ROK mine sweepers sweeping for mines, an ROK mine hunting vessel detonation, explosive ordnance disposal dive team pouncer

operations, which included divers from Canada, ROK, Philippines, Thailand and the U.S., and an EOD underwater detonation conducted by ROK and Pilipino divers.

The demonstration day also included a press conference with members of all major Korean media outlets. Capt(N) Davie was able to address those gathered.

"Today's level of globalization means any crisis in this region would be felt not only militarily, but also by the civilian population—both here in Korea and around the world," said Capt(N) Davie.

"Canada's goal in participating in Clear Horizon 16 is to help with the coordination of allied

forces to ensure there is a capability available to counter that threat."

Being able to effectively counter mines in the water around the Korean Peninsula is not only important to the ROK, but also to the global economy. Sea mines were effectively used during the Korean and Cold Wars, resulting in loss of ships and use of sea lanes. A blockage of sea lanes around Northeast Asia would have a devastating effect that would be felt commercially throughout the world. This threat highlights the need for like-minded nations to work together to continue to develop effective and integrated procedures for the detection and removal of mines from coastal

waters.

With this historical milestone achieved during Clear Horizon 16, Canada and other nations are well positioned to continue to work together to limit the effect mines could have in Northeast Asian waters, as well as establishing a framework under which future collaborations between these nations will become smoother and more effective in responding to any international crisis in the region.

It is intended that Clear Horizon 16 will become an annual event and that future iterations will grow to involve more nations and more assets each year, increasing the coordination and capabilities of all participating nations.



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**NOTE:** Please submit your Unit's qualifying names directly to Vicki Kellsey by the day after EACH deadline (3, 10, 17 Nov) – draws will happen at noon each Friday following the deadline.

For more info, please contact Vicki Kellsey, Campaign Coordinator, (250) 363-2595.



# SHIP'S WHEEL RETURNS HOME

**Darlene Blakeley**  
Navy Public Affairs Ottawa

An historic part of Canada's naval past has returned home after nearly 100 years.

The ship's wheel from HMCS Niobe, one of Canada's first two warships, has been acquired by the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

Niobe saw active service in the First World War and its crew members played a significant role in responding to the 1917 Halifax Explosion.

The Canadian War Museum purchased the wheel from the Camden Shipyard and Maritime Museum in New Jersey with the support of the National Collection Fund, which was created to acquire and conserve artifacts of significance to Canada's heritage.

The acquisition came as the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) marked Niobe Day, celebrated annually on Oct. 21.

"The process to acquire Niobe's ship's wheel took place over the past year after the museum in New Jersey approached us to see if we wanted it," says Jeff Noakes, Second World War historian at the Canadian War Museum. "We are excited to have it back in Canada."

Noakes says the acquisition of the wheel is "one of those fascinating stories about how objects like this can go around the world and then come back to Canada."

The Canadian War Museum also has one of the ship's wheels from HMCS Rainbow, the second of Canada's first two warships.

Niobe's wheel requires conservation work before it can be displayed. At over 158 kilograms, with a diameter of two metres, the wheel also needs a custom-made stand.

"This was the largest remaining artifact from Niobe," Noakes says. "We had a rare opportunity to acquire something of importance to Canada's naval

history. We were in a position to take advantage of the opportunity and are thrilled that we will be able to preserve the wheel for present and future generations."

Launched in 1897, Niobe served with the Royal Navy until 1910. That year, it was purchased by the newly formed Naval Service of Canada, which became the RCN in 1911.

Niobe arrived in Halifax on Oct. 21, 1910, making it the first Canadian warship to enter Canada's territorial waters. Niobe was the main sovereignty patrol and training vessel on the East Coast before seeing active service early in the First World War. By 1915, requiring extensive repairs, it became a depot ship in Halifax.

On Dec. 6, 1917, the Mont Blanc, carrying a cargo of explosives, collided with the Imo in the Halifax Harbour. When a fire broke out on the Mont Blanc, Niobe's Acting Boatswain Albert Charles Mattison led a rescue attempt of six men in the ship's pinnace, a small steamboat. As the men approached Mont Blanc, it exploded, killing them instantly, destroying the pinnace, damaging Niobe, and devastating much of Halifax.

For their rescue efforts during the explosion, Acting Boatswain Mattison and Stoker Petty Officer Ernest Edmund Beard were posthumously awarded Albert Medals, both of which are also part of the Canadian War Museum collection.

Following repairs, Niobe resumed its duties as a depot ship, but was sold as surplus after the war and scrapped in the United States in 1920. The wheel was displayed at the Merchantville Country Club in New Jersey before being donated to the Camden Shipyard and Maritime Museum.

"There are certain objects on a ship that represent its heart and soul – like the ship's wheel or the ship's bell," says Rick Sanderson, Director of the Naval Museum of Halifax. "We have Niobe's bell here, and other objects from the ship are located in different parts of the country."

In fact, Sanderson helped identify an anchor uncovered in Halifax Dockyard in 2014 as being one of Niobe's from when it was a depot ship post-1916.

"It's important these objects, as pieces representative of the RCN's beginnings, be kept in the country as much as possible," he adds. "It was ideal that the Canadian War Museum could take Niobe's ship's wheel – it's a very positive development for the navy."

*For their rescue efforts during the explosion, Acting Boatswain Mattison and Stoker Petty Officer Ernest Edmund Beard were posthumously awarded Albert Medals.*

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# Vancouver moves on to next port of call

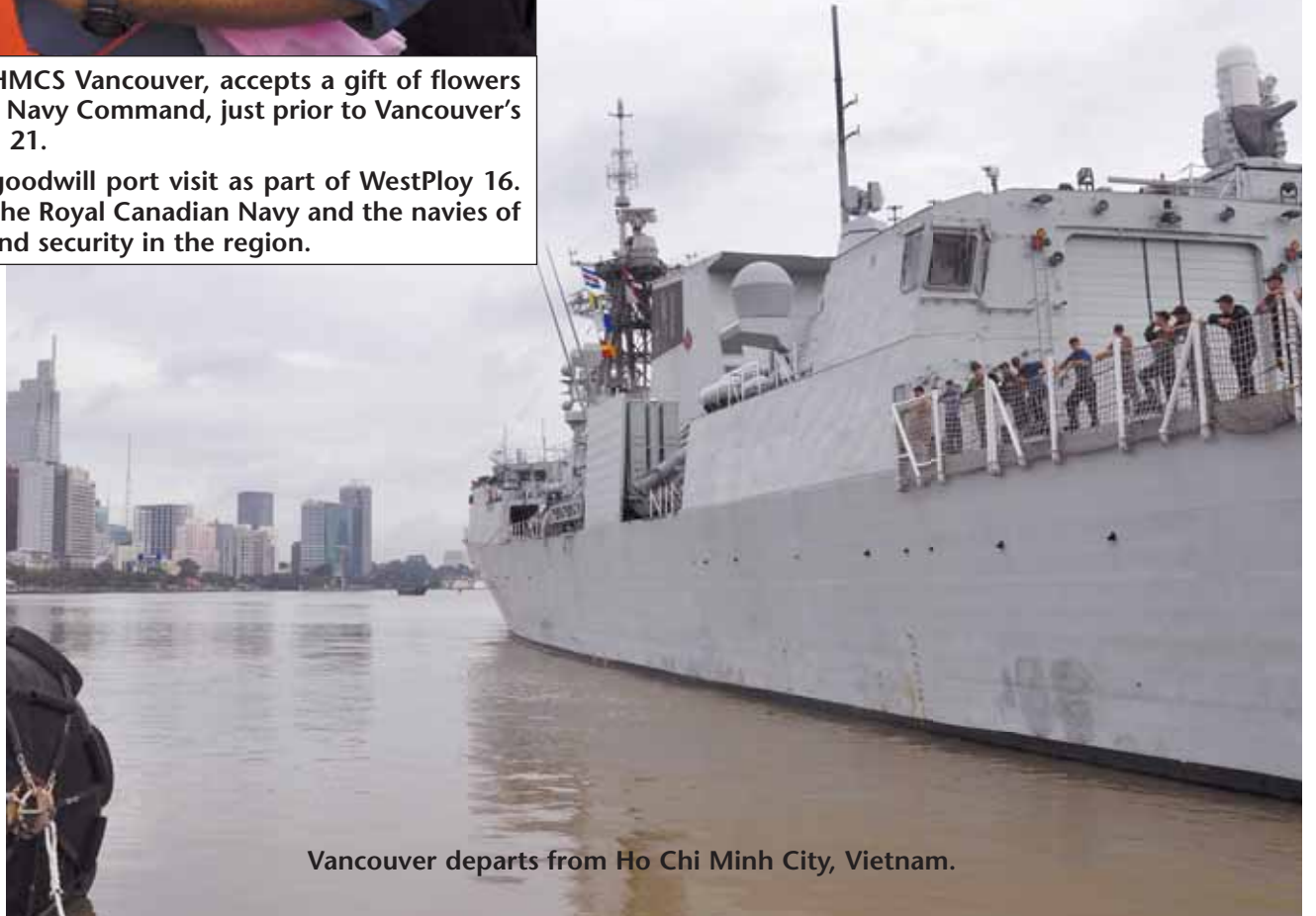


Commander Clive Butler, Commanding Officer of HMCS Vancouver, accepts a gift of flowers from Captain (Navy) Ha Xuan Xu, Chief of Regional Navy Command, just prior to Vancouver's departure from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, on Oct. 21.

Vancouver was in Ho Chi Minh City to conduct a goodwill port visit as part of WestPloy 16. WestPloy is aimed at building strong ties between the Royal Canadian Navy and the navies of Asia-Pacific countries while also promoting peace and security in the region.



Able Seaman Geoff Goemans (centre) hauls in a line on the quarterdeck of Vancouver in preparation for departure. Next port of call is Brisbane, Australia.



Vancouver departs from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Photos by Lt(N) Paul Pendergast, MARPAC Public Affairs

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# New officer in charge

Photo by MCpl Brent Kenny, MARPAC Imaging Services  
The Commander of Canadian Fleet Pacific, Commodore Jeff Zwick (right), and Lieutenant Commander Jeff Chura (left), sign the official certificates where LCdr Chura assumed command of the Naval Security Team Oct. 26.

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<div><p><b>LAST FRIDAY   9PM</b></p><h3>FANTASTIC FRIDAYS</h3><p>LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH!</p><p>Bring in Your Swipe2Win Tickets for a Chance to</p><h2>Win \$5,000 Cash</h2></div>	<div><p><b>SATURDAYS   8PM</b></p><p>Swipe2Earn FREE Entries Daily at the Promo Zone</p><h3>Hi-Lo Game Show!</h3><p>YOU COULD WIN UP TO \$2,500 CASH with \$500 Minimum Guaranteed</p></div>	<div><p><b>SUNDAYS   2PM</b></p><h2>DOUBLE YOUR JACKPOT</h2><p>Earn Ballots for Every Jackpot You Hit During the Week</p><p>WE MATCH THE JACKPOT UP TO \$1,000 IF YOUR NAME IS DRAWN</p></div>

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Submariner LS Laura Allan checks some wiring aboard HMCS Victoria.



October is Women's History Month in Canada and the annual event is celebrated at the base through the efforts of the Defence Women's Advisory Organization (DWAO).

DWAO strives to provide a voice that contributes to policy makers, project leaders and other stakeholders on women's issues and concerns in a way that integrates them into policies and programs.

For more information on MARPAC Defence Advisory Groups or Employment Equity enquiries please contact the HR Planning and Programs Office at 250-363-7856.

# Women's History Month

BART ARMSTRONG | CONTRIBUTOR

This year the Governor General's award ceremony in commemoration of the Person's Case will be celebrated Nov. 15 in Winnipeg. Six Canadian women will be honoured for advancing gender equality. They will take their place among 205 already honoured with the recognition.

The event honours the "Famous Five" (Emily Murphy, Louise McKinney, Nellie McClung, Henrietta Muir Edwards, and Irene Parlby) and the 100th anniversary of Manitoba women

gaining the right to vote.

Two trail blazers from the Canadian Armed Forces have also earned the recognition: the Air Force's Lieutenant Colonel Shirley Robinson (1992) and the Navy's Lieutenant Commander Marie Louise Fish (2010).

Another military trail blazer dates back to the Canadian Women's Auxiliary Corps Non Commissioned member in the Second World War, my own, now-deceased, mother Cathryne Armstrong (1979).

Today, we are at the end of Women's

History Month for this year. October was chosen because of the Persons Case through the efforts of my mother, Cathy Blazkow, and Lyn Gough, still in the Victoria area.

The great country and western singer Randy Travis once said that "it's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, it's what you leave behind you that really matters."

Let's look around and see the incredible accomplishments of the thousands of women today, in uniform and in so many other areas of life.

## The Famous Five

Bart Armstrong  
Contributor

In March of 1916, the Edmonton-based Royal North West Mounted Police gathered up a number of clerks, stenographers, maid-servants, housewives and some vagrants and marched them into court charging all with being prostitutes.

Word got to the local chapter of the Council of Women who dispatched two members to ensure the women were fairly treated. But the crown attorney pleaded the two observers could not possibly be expected to stay; it would offend their dignity to hear such "vile" evidence.

The observers left and reported what happened to Emily Murphy, a staunch supporter of women's rights.

She said if the men could not

stomach the women hearing such evidence, perhaps they, rather than the women, needed to leave the courthouse.

She then marched into the offices of the provincial Attorney General, a man she had done battle with in the past. Knowing of her tenacity, he agreed the men had to come out of the room. But to accomplish this he would have to put only women in the room. So he made Murphy a police magistrate, the first in the British Empire.

In her early trials as a judge a lawyer challenged her finding his client guilty. He claimed Murphy was unable to pass judgment, and, in fact, could not even sit at the bench since she was "not a person" as defined in an old British case of another century.

This would lead to the historic gathering of five very prominent women, later to become known as the Alberta Five or the Famous Five. The women were Emily Murphy,

Louise McKinney, Nellie McClung, Henrietta Muir Edwards and Irene Parlby.

Their arguments were heard at the local, provincial and federal levels. It would take some 13 years after Murphy was first appointed a judge for the matter to be resolved by the highest court in England.

On Oct. 18, 1929, Lord Sankey, Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, announced the decision of the five lords that women were persons. The decision forced the Canadian federal government to allow women to be appointed to the Senate or to any public office in the land.

In 1979 the government was reminded of that year - the 50th since the famous case was heard. The government then decided it would recognize the case, and each year on the anniversary of the Oct. 18, 1929, decision from England, Canadians who promote gender equality would be awarded a medal called the Persons Award.

Peter Mallett  
Staff Writer

Just three months after *HMCS Victoria* was commissioned into the Royal Canadian Navy in December 2000, the ban on women becoming submariners was lifted.

The small living space had kept them out of the Oberon class submarines because of privacy concerns, but the change in submarines brought a change in mindset, and so the hatch was opened to both genders wanting their Dolphins.

Fast forward 16 years and one can find a handful of women, such as LS Laura Allan and PO2 Stephanie Wheaton, working in the 70 metre-long submarines.

As the only female Electrical Technician onboard submarines, LS Allan works in a cramped engine room in the aft of the sub, ensuring the two diesel generators, and two 240-cell lead acid batteries are operating in top condition. Her job requires her to be physically fit, which she has developed from competitive powerlifting in her free time. The 31-year-old submariner can deadlift 355 lbs and lives

by the mantra "nothing is impossible."

At the other end, in the control room, PO2 Wheaton, 34, supervises junior non-commissioned members in all external voice, radio teletype and data circuits, and provides real-time tactical information in support of operations to the command team, as the Senior Naval Communicator. Naval communicators are the IT department for the submarine and use hi-tech systems to encode and decode signals.

The women are two of 10 out of 275 submariners in the Canadian Submarine Force across Canada, but neither feels they are ground breakers for their gender.

"I don't really see myself as a pioneer or someone for others to look up to. I am all about doing my job and doing it well," says PO2 Wheaton.

"I don't see myself like that either," adds LS Allan. "I don't want to be the person who gets promoted or is deemed successful because I am a woman. I want to be the person that people respect for the work I do in the workplace."

Working underwater for extended periods is not for just anyone. It takes a certain mentality to work in close quarters with 50 members of the crew, in a space no

bigger than the average house.

"It's tight, cramped, and often hot and tense in the engine room, and you also need to deal with the constant smell of fuel, exhaust and body odor," says LS Allan.

But despite all of that, she says the boat is home to her, and her crewmates are like family.

"I enjoy being a submariner, and have a lot of respect for the people I work with. I have never had an issue being onboard with any one of them."

Her path to the navy was not a clear one in her early life. Building boats at age 16, she developed an interest in electrical work and the challenges it brought. After earning her high school diploma, she began her electrician's apprenticeship. During her apprenticeship, she investigated the Royal Canadian Navy and the possibilities of a career as an electrical technician. She joined in 2009, doing her basic training at Saint-Jean before returning to the West Coast.

"I never really saw myself in the military, but when I was learning how to become an electrician I thought it might be a way to see the world and travel," says LS Allan.

For PO2 Wheaton, the drive and determination to wear the uniform began at age 20. Her first ship was *HMCS Montreal* as a junior naval communicator. The thought of submarine service percolated for a few years as she eyed the Victoria-Class submarines in Halifax's HMC Dockyard.

In 2007 she became the fifth female submariner in the country.

"Nobody ever said to me you shouldn't be here or made me feel uncomfortable," says PO2 Wheaton. "I was more into proving to myself that I could be a valuable member of the team and get the job done."

LS Allan is single and spends much of her spare time training for powerlifting competitions. PO2 Wheaton is married to a sailor and has one child, with another on the way.

"I have accepted the fact that some of my career goals are briefly being put on hold, I am looking forward to being back next year and fulfilling my duties aboard *Victoria*," she says.



Submariners PO1 Stephanie Wheaton and LS Laura Allan in front of HMCS Victoria.

## #BecauseOfHer

Who's shaped your history?

Share your story on social media using the hashtag #BecauseOfHer. Show how extraordinary women – past and present – have influenced your life by sharing a status update, picture or video.

Share profiles of notable Canadian women and show the whole country the countless ways that women have contributed to our country.



### Local award recipient, Emily Carr (1871 – 1945)

"The men resent a woman getting any honour in what they essentially consider their field... So I have decided to stop squirming, to throw any honour in with Canada and women."

– Emily Carr

Emily Carr's legacy to Canadians includes breath-taking, iconic images of the indigenous culture and landscape of Canada's northwest. In 1927, Carr's painting excellence captured the eye of Group of Seven artist and founder Arthur Lismer. It wasn't until after her death that her renown soared, and her place in Canadian history and culture was secured.

For a complete list of recipients of the Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case go to: [swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/gg/receipient-en.html](http://swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/gg/receipient-en.html)



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# Military celebrates 25 years of support to military families

DND

The Canadian Armed Forces celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Military Family Services Program – a program built by families for families.

The program, established in 1991, forms the backbone of the family-based approach to service delivery. In partnership with Military Family Resource Centres across the country,

and Military Family Services outside Canada, services are delivered to meet the unique demands of military members and their families.

Canada's support to military families has evolved over the years and keeps evolving in order to meet the unique needs of modern military families.

The Military Family Services Program supports military families in three ways: through Military Family Resource Centres

located at bases, wings and units across the country and Military Family Services outside Canada; through the 24/7 Family Information Line at 1-800-866-4546; and online at [www.family-force.ca](http://www.family-force.ca)

Military families are at the core of a modern, professional military force, influencing recruiting, retention, morale, performance, reputation, operational readiness, and operational sustainability.



Photo by MCpl Brent Kenny, MARPAC Imaging Services

Commodore Buck Zwick, second from right, presents Samantha Krzywonos, Military Family Resource Centre Board Chair, and Jackie Carlé, from the Esquimalt MFRC, with an award in honour of the Military Family Services Program 25th anniversary, at MARPAC Headquarters D-100. Cmdre Zwick is accompanied in the photo by Chief Petty Officer First Class Robert Spinelli, Captain (Navy) Steven Waddell, and CPO1 Derek Kitching.

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## Canadian Forces Housing Agency recognized for continued innovation

DND

The Canadian Forces Housing Agency (CFHA) was awarded Gold level certification for Excellence, Canada's Excellence, Innovation and Wellness (EIW) Standard, as well as a Canada Award for Excellence. Amongst its numerous achievements, by creating centralized services, CFHA's innovations help reduce the need for maintenance, facilitate the upgrade of the homes, and improve socialization between those who live in the units.

The Agency has been progressing steadily towards providing enhanced quality of service through innovation, customer focus, and organizational health since the reception of the EIW Silver level certification in 2014. As CFHA strives towards achieving the next and final level of EIW certification by 2018, the focus is on providing members of the Canadian Armed Forces and their families with excellent customer service and the best housing options to meet their needs.

The award highlights the Agency's dedication to providing the Canadian Armed Forces with safe, modern homes and innovative accommodations. CFHA has been invited to officially receive the honour at the 2016 Performance Excellence Summit and Canada Awards for Excellence in Toronto on Nov. 1.

CFHA is a Special Operating Agency that manages the National Defence housing portfolio on behalf of DND. This portfolio is comprised of approximately 12,000 homes and provides housing services for members of the Canadian Armed Forces and their families.



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# Parliamentarians spend 24 hours under the waves in HMCS Windsor

**Ryan Melanson**  
Trident

A 24-hour adventure under the waves in *HMCS Windsor*, one of Canada's four Victoria-class submarines, was the highlight of a visit to the East Coast by four parliamentarians from Oct. 12 to 13.

The politicians made the trip as part of the Royal Canadian Navy's Canadian Leaders at Sea (CLaS) Program. For nearly a decade, CLaS has been embarking government officials, community and business leaders, and other strategic stakeholders on board HMC ships and submarines to showcase the skill sets and equipment the navy employs in defence of Canada.

Guests included Liberal Members of Parliament Marwan Tabbara and Chandra Arya, as well as opposition Members Pierre Paul-Hus and Cheryl Gallant, both of whom sit on the House Standing Committee on National Defence. They were accompanied by Rear-Admiral John Newton, Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic.

The submarine with embarked guests submerged more than 100 metres under water, and guests dined in the boat's small messes alongside personnel, and slept on metal racks alongside submarine trainees and Mark 48 heavy torpedoes.

MPs also got a small taste of the slow-moving game of hide

and seek that is submarine warfare, with Halifax-class frigate *HMCS St. John's* and a CH-124 Sea King helicopter participating in a short exercise about 20 kilometres offshore.

*Windsor* closed within 2,000 yards of the warship at periscope depth, giving everyone a chance to observe the "adversaries" from the search periscope, before the participants took turns listening to *St. John's* acoustic signature through the boat's newly advanced AN/BQQ10 sonar, the same system employed by the newest submarines in the U.S. fleet.

Sitting at the fire control system, they then learned how visual, acoustic and other points of data are combined to accurately track nearby vessels and plot possible attacks.

As part of the simulation, *Windsor* fired off a green flare, a signal indicating a torpedo attack against *St. John's*. There was no harm done, but in reality the boat's torpedoes would have no issue breaking the back of a frigate.

"The torpedo will find and sink whatever is out there, guaranteed. It's been proven time and time again," said Lieutenant-Commander Peter Chu, *Windsor's* Commanding Officer.

Later, the visitors witnessed the crew run through a comprehensive set of pre-diving checks before plunging below into their natural

hidden state below the waves.

"It becomes incredibly calm," observed Marwan Tabbara while the submarine was submerged, compared to the way *Windsor* rolls with the waves at periscope depth.

It's one of the many reasons submariners prefer to stealthily submerge as much as possible, though the boat did surface again in the evening so their guests could experience a "snort", drawing in air and recharging the battery while running the diesel engines.

Before leaving the boat to continue their tour of CFB Halifax sites, each visitor was presented with an Honorary Submariner card, an *HMCS Windsor* coin, and even a dolphin badge like the ones worn by submariners around the world.

"I really encourage them all to carry these with pride and to show them off whenever they can," LCdr Chu said. "It's an experience they'll remember for the rest of their lives, no doubt."

The parliamentarians' time at CFB Halifax also included a number of other stops to help illustrate the full picture of Maritime Forces Atlantic. These included glimpses into the navy's future, such as a static tour of the CH-148 Cyclone helicopter at 12 Wing Shearwater, N.S., as well as a walkthrough of Irving Shipbuilding's Halifax Shipyard where work on the first Arctic Offshore Patrol Vessel is well under way.

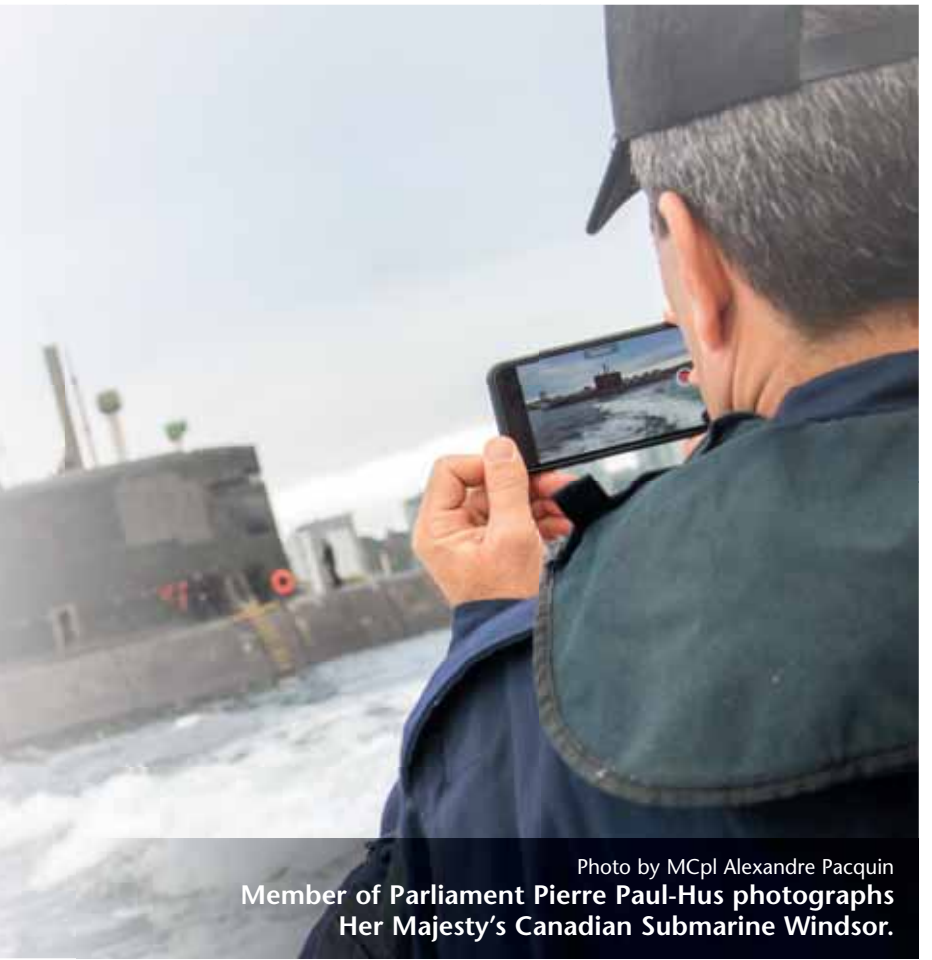


Photo by MCpl Alexandre Pacquin  
Member of Parliament Pierre Paul-Hus photographs Her Majesty's Canadian Submarine Windsor.



Photo by MCpl Alexandre Pacquin  
Members of Parliament Chandra Arya, Marwan Tabbara, Pierre Paul-Hus, and Cheryl Gallant suit up for their Canadian Leaders at Sea program at Canadian Forces Base Halifax on Oct. 11.

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# Bravo Zulu

## MARPAC Awards Ceremony

Captain (Navy) Steve Jorgensen presented promotions and awards at MARPAC Headquarters Oct. 11.  
Photos by MCpl Brent Kenny, MARPAC Imaging Services



MS Dylan Morris is promoted to his current rank by Capt(N) Jorgensen and WO Jason Hiltz.



Lt(N) David Dalzell receives the Canadian Forces Decoration First Clasp.



PO1 Michael Surette receives the Canadian Forces Decoration First Clasp.

# Bravo Zulu

## HMCS Victoria

HMCS Victoria's Officer in Charge, LCdr Menno Folmer, and PO1 Johannes Janssen, Chief of Operations, presented promotions and decorations to a few crew members.



LS Dylan Gallant is promoted to his current rank.



MS Mike Bowles is presented the Canadian Forces Decoration.



MS Denis Delisle is presented the Canadian Forces Decoration.



PO2 Naomi Mihalcheon is promoted to her current rank.



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# Bravo Zulu

## PLQ Course 0084 Graduation

Reviewing Officer Captain (Navy) Michael Knippel presented certificates and awards during the Primary Leadership Qualification Course 0084 Graduation ceremony Oct. 19.

Photos by MCpl Brent Kenny, MARPAC Imaging Services



Bdr Victoria Baker receives her Graduation Certificate.



LS Carle St-Jacques receives his Graduation Certificate.



LS Nathan Charbonneau receives his Graduation Certificate.



MS Andrew Detombe receives his Graduation Certificate.



MCpl Andrew Dimis receives his Graduation Certificate.



Cpl Mark Dixon receives his Graduation Certificate.



MCpl Jemma Flannery receives her Graduation Certificate.



Cpl Francois Godère receives his Graduation Certificate.



LS Kennedy receives her Graduation Certificate.



MCpl Ryan Kristy receives his Graduation Certificate.



MS L'Heureux receives his Graduation Certificate.



MS Brandon McLeod receives his Graduation Certificate.





LS Michael receives her Graduation Certificate.



MS Mike Oliver receives his Graduation Certificate.



MCpl Emily Parizeau receives her Graduation Certificate.



MS Julie Perez receives her Graduation Certificate.



MCpl Grant Russell receives his Graduation Certificate.



MCpl Adam Thompson receives his Graduation Certificate.



LS Cole Wood receives his Graduation Certificate.



LS Greg Dalrymple receives his Graduation Certificate from Cmdre Marta Mulkins.



Cpl Stewart Dorrance receives his Graduation Certificate from Cmdre Marta Mulkins.



LS Christian Hamann receives his Graduation Certificate from Cmdre Marta Mulkins.



LS Adrienne Hyde-Sawatsky receives her Graduation Certificate from Cmdre Marta Mulkins.



LS Adrienne Hyde-Sawatsky receives the Top Student Award from CPO2 (Ret'd) Dale Crew.



MCpl Grant Russell receives the Primary Leadership Qualification Drill Award from CPO2 Ken Simoneau.



MCpl Andrew Dimis receives the Formation Chief Petty Officer's Award from CPO1 Gilles Gregoire.



# Bravo Zulu

## Sports and Athletic Awards Ceremony

The Fourth Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt Sports and Athletic Awards Ceremony was held at the Chief and Petty Officer's Mess Oct. 21. Attendees were joined by special guest, Former National Hockey League Player, Geoff Courtnall, and Base Commander, Captain (Navy) Steven Waddell.

Photo by Cpl André Maillet, MARPAC Imaging Services



LCdr Ian Meredith accepts the Male Most Dedicated to Sport Award on behalf of winner LCdr David Dallin from Geoff Courtnall.



LS Bailey Toupin receives the Female Most Dedicated to Sport Award from Geoff Courtnall.



A/SLt Sam Kehler receives the All Star Performance Male Award from Geoff Courtnall and Base Commander, Capt(N) Waddell.



MS Michelle Howell accepts the All Star Performance Female Award on behalf of winner Lt(N) Adelaide Fearnley from Geoff Courtnall and Capt(N) Waddell.



Cpl Daniel Johnson receives the Breakthrough Athlete Male Award from Capt(N) Waddell.



Lt(N) Julien St-Aubin accepts the Breakthrough Athlete Female award on behalf of winner Lt Megan St-Aubin from Capt(N) Waddell.



A/SLt Stephen Coates receives the Sportsmanship Male Award from Ursula Mjolsness (left) and Penny Blanchard, Sports and Fitness Manager.



Lt(N) Malorie Aubrey receives the Sportsmanship Female Award from Ursula Mjolsness (left) and Penny Blanchard, Sports and Fitness Manager.



Tritons Ball Hockey coaches MS Adam Parsons and MS John Helpard accept the 2016 Breakthrough Team Award on the team's behalf from Commanding Officer Canadian Submarine Force, Capt(N) James Clarke.



PO1 Lee Westwood accepts the Top All Round Team Performance Award on behalf of the Pacific Badminton Team from Danielle Sutherland, Senior Manager Personnel Support Programs.



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