

A CH-148 Cyclone helicopter and a CP-140 Aurora maritime patrol aircraft fly over HMCS Winnipeg as part of a photo exercise in the Asia-Pacific Region during Operation Neon on Nov. 15. Photo by Sailor First Class Valerie LeClair, MARPAC Imaging Services





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### **Capt Jenn Jackson** TF20 PAO

Today marks the beginning of Trident Fury 20 (TF20). It is a joint and multinational naval exercise that will continue until Dec. 13 off the coast of western Vancouver Island, as well as in the vicinity of Constance Bank, and the southern Gulf Islands.

TF20 provides an opportunity for the Canadian Armed Forces to maintain operational readiness to deploy on joint operations in a rapid and effective manner alongside allies and other government organizations.

from the Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Air Force, U.S. Navy, and U.S Coast Guard.

"Trident Fury 20 provides a full spectrum of air and sea tactical warfare training, with the aim of enhancing Canada's ability to respond to offshore threats and unlawful acts from within a coalition environment," says Commodore Angus Topshee, Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific and embarked Exercise Commander. "This exercise includes an array of events to enhance individual unit training and combat readiness including live fire, seamanship, maritime It will include participation interdiction operations, anti-submarine warfare, surface warfare, air defence, mine counter-measures, and small boat defence."

In addition, TF 20 supports predeployment training for HMCS Calgary, which is scheduled to depart for Operations Artemis and Projection in early 2021.

Even with the focus on Calgary's pre-deployment training, TF20 also supports the Royal Canadian Navy's domestic role. At home, maritime defence and security is the navy's first priority, helping ensure that Canada's maritime approaches are effectively monitored and protected.

"As virtually every Canadian depends on international maritime trade either for employment or for consumer benefits, exercises such as TF20 help ensure the continuing flow of goods by demonstrating our operational presence in the Northeastern Pacific," adds Cmdre Topshee. "This is integral to the mission of the Pacific Fleet and through close cooperation with CAF Health Services and the Fleet Support Medical Unit, Pacific Fleet ships have sustained that role throughout 2020."

In order to safely proceed to sea in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, members embarking on Pacific Fleet ships observed a pre-sail protocol designed to mitigate the risk of bringing the virus on the ship. The protocols involved quarantine periods and COVID-19 testing.

"We kept a close eye on the increasing number of cases on the island in the month preceding the exercise, and increased and adapted our protocols dynamically on the advice of our Health Services staff," says Commodore Topshee. "These measures are constantly evolving as they are based on the latest scientific evidence and aim to ensure our sailors remain safe, healthy, and able to complete their mission throughout TF20 and into 2021."



Capt(N) Sam Sader, **CFB** Esquimalt Base Commander, joined Samantha Krzywonos and Leta Martin, members of the **Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre Board** of Directors, to recognize Dr. Bonnie Henry for her kind and steadfast leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her guidance assisted the MFRC in finding safe ways to continue to provide support to our military members and their families during these challenging times. The MFRC honoured Dr. Henry for her dedication by presenting her with a beautiful framed art piece by L. Gibbs that included a plaque that reads: Thank You Dr. Bonnie Henry for leading the way to keep our Military Families safe.

Photo by Corporal Jay Naples, MARPAC Imaging Services

### **Sailors aid injured**

#### **Peter Mallett** Staff Writer

The discovery of an injured Barred Owl turned a relaxing hike into a rescue mission for Sailor First Class Madison Crawford and S1 Joseph Walker.

The two were trekking along the Nanoose Bay coastline when they spotted the bird on the ground.

"We had been hiking for about a half an hour when we came across an injured owl located well off the trail and under the tree." said S1 Crawford. "I noticed the owl moving in a clearing at ground level and initially thought it was scavenging on the ground for some animal but that was not the case."

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He dropped a GPS (Global Positioning System) pin to mark their location on his cell phone and then called the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre in nearby Parksville, B.C.

The centre dispatched a volunteer but they couldn't find the sailors.

After some back and forth with the Recovery Centre, the sailors decided to carry the bird to the nearest roadway. S1 Crawford had volunteered at the Rocky Point Bird Observatory's Pedder Bay Banding Station and knew how to handle the owl. He picked the bird up by its legs, supported its chest, and tucked its wings in for the journey.

"It seemed like the right thing to do and we had the time to help. The bird was very docile and easy to handle once gripped, although it took a bit of care to pick it up off the ground."

Upon reaching Powder Point Road 30 minutes later, the sailors met up with the volunteer and a commissionaire from Canadian Forces Experimental and Test Ranges. The injured owl was placed in a crate and taken to the Recovery Centre.

Sadly, the owl didn't survive. Derek Downes, Animal Care Technician, said the owl had to be euthanized due to its injuries that included a compound fracture to its wing. The injury had partially healed but a portion of the humerus

Food donations will also be

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December 18 at Township

of Esquimalt Public Works

branch of the public library.

Yard and the Esquimalt

was still protruding. "The owl was also ema-

ciated, which tells me it had been on the ground for an extended period of time, slowly starving," said Downes. "Sadly, in cases like this there is no reasonable prospect for flight or successful survival in the wild."

S1 Crawford was saddened to hear the news about the owl's fate, and noted the rapid decline of owl populations in many parts of Vancouver Island. He did not realize the extent of the owl's injuries but it made sense since the bird didn't put up much of a fight when he was picked up from the forest floor.

Despite the outcome, Downes was quick to congratulate the sailors for their efforts.

"Even though the outcome is obviously not what anyone wanted, it is still extremely commendable what Madison did for the owl," said Downes. "If he had not rescued this owl it would have continued to starve and slowly, arduously perish and that is a terrible fate for any living creature."

For more information about the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre and their work visit their website: www.niwra.org/



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### **Infantry Padre Expands Sentinel Program** on Vancouver Island

### **Captain Jeff Manney** Public Affairs Officer,

39 Canadian Brigade Group Amid the dysfunction wrought by COVID-19 - masked faces, separation from loved ones, a persistent atmosphere of anxiety - it

can be hard to see many positives. But they're there, and thanks to people like Padre Ken Nettleton of the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), they're increasing in numbers.

These particular positives can be found in the Sentinel Program, a peer care and support initiative created by the Royal Canadian Chaplain Services in 2007. Taking advantage of the extra personnel made available through Operation Laser, the Canadian Armed Forces' (CAF) response to the pandemic, and in conjunction with Op Laser, Padre Kenneth Lo Nettleton trained a cadre of more than 40 Sentinels throughout Army Reserve units on Vancouver Island. They now join more than 3,000 already across the country.

"One of the motivating factors of enlisting in the CAF is the desire to serve others,' says Padre Nettleton. "So it's not surprising that many members would want to take this opportunity to be trained as a Sentinel."

Soldiers who have completed the Sentinel program are considered "trained, supervised

non-professionals.' Padre Nettleton says their role is to act as an "overwatch" within their units: keeping an eye out for those around confirmthem. ing that someone is struggling with personal issues, and then working with the unit chaplain to access the resources available for them. "Next to our fami-

lies, the people that know us best are

those we work with. The unique circumstances of military life, whether stressful or mundane, often make soldiers particularly close. It is in these moments that we unwittingly, casually, and deliberately let people see who we really are and where we are struggling.'

Fellow unit member Sgt Ian MacPherson is one of Padre Nettleton's protégés and he is determined to be there for his troops.

"There's a peace of mind that comes from being ready for anything. The most serious situation in which I ever had to help some-



one, I was completely unprepared. It was pretty frightening. So what I like most about the role is knowing how to get resources to those in need," he said.

Sgt MacPherson, a Sentinel to several fellow soldiers already, says the key is being available. "That means being approachable, and able to listen, because sometimes that's all it takes. We are here to help. Keeping it in doesn't help anyone, asking for help doesn't hurt anyone."

Interested in becoming a Sentinel? Talk to your unit Padre.

### **DECEMBER 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

On Dec. 3, Defence Team members from all across the country will celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

reminded of our responsibility to better understand disability issues. We are also called to promote the rights and wellbeing of persons with disabilities in our communities. Our support is important so they can continue to make great contributions to the Defence Team and to all Canadians communities.

This year, the Defence Team is commemorating the day under the theme: "Not all disabilities are visible".

This theme allows us to open the discussion on the different challenges

babcoc

encountered by the community. For every person with a visible disability, there are approximately four people with an invisible one. Disabilities can be cognitive, developmental, intellectual, mental, and physical. Invisible disabilities include learning disorders, hearing impairments, chronic pain, sleep disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, mental illness, and numerous other health-related conditions. All of these conditions can disrupt every-

The past few months with COVID-19 have brought many challenges, forcing us to rethink the way we are doing things in our everyday life. This is even truer for persons with disabilities. On Dec. 3, people can join a conversation with Ashley Sullivan, National Deputy Co-Chair of the Defence Advisory Group for Persons with Disabilities (DAGPWD), and Paul Jones,

DAGPWD member, about the challenges and advantages faced by persons with disabilities during COVID-19 and how we can all be allies for them, especially for those with invisible conditions.

To join the discussion: Date: Thursday, Dec. 3 Time: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. (ET) Location: MS Teams Live Events Link: https://bit.ly/IDPDJoin

Please note: you cannot connect via DWAN or your T-DVPNI enabled laptop.

Len Bastien **Defence Champion** for Persons with Disabilities, Assistant Deputy Minister (Information Management), and **Defence Chief Information Officer** 



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On this day, we are

day activities.

November 30, 2020



Participants in this year's National Workplace Charitable Champaign Tug-awar held at the Naden Athletic Center volleyball court on Nov.18. Photos by S1 Mike Goluboff, MARPAC Imaging Services, Esquimalt

## The Great NDWCC 2nd Annual Tug-of-War

### Margo Cutcher NDWCC Coordinator

Cold and an overcast sky could not dampen the spirits of Defence Team members as they clenched a lengthy rope to tug-fight for charity.

Seven teams met on the volleyball court outside the Naden Athletic Centre Nov. 18: defending champions Base Commander Executive, Base Administration, Naval Personnel Training Group (NPTG) HQ, three teams from Naval Fleet School (Pacific), and a NDWCC Team joined by Dave Ramsey from the United Way of Greater Victoria.

"This event is supposed to be fun, but the real reason we're doing this is for a great cause, our National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign," said Capt(N) Sam Sader, CFB Esquimalt Base Commander.

Two teams were sponsored by local businesses Max Furniture and Ali Baba Pizza, growing the fundraising pot to over \$3,500. Competition was fierce, but in the end NPTG HQ emerged with the first place victory.

Capt(N) Sader presented the coveted Tug-of-War trophy to Capt(N) Jason Boyd, A/SLt Balijet, A/SLt Miller, MS Harvey, and MS Dent.

He also recognized Personnel Support Programs staff for organizing the logistics and ensuring the event could go ahead safely in the current pandemic environment.

"We are well into our National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign and we've had a number of events, despite all the challenges with COVID-19 this year. I'm so proud of the way the Formation has come through," said Capt(N) Sader. "This is what we're known for here in the community – for being tremendously generous despite all the challenges. We all have to be proud of this and I thank you

for being part of it." The Defence Team can continue to donate by e-Pledge, credit card, or Paypal until the end of February 2021.



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## Stress Management and Support on board HMCS Winnipeg

### **S1 Aaron Henry** Contributor

I have learned so much as a Sentinel while deployed on Operations Projection-Neon on board Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) Winnipeg. Sentinels play a key role in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) by helping members of the ship's company connect to community and CAF resources that would provide them with help from various stressors or situations we all face in our work or in life in general. Sentinels on board HMCS Winnipeg promote mental health and personal well-being during our unique deployment through various creative means. Many ranks and trades are represented amongst our Sentinel team of 26. Training usually takes a half day to complete but the sail gave us an opportunity to meet weekly for further training and group discussion. Becoming a Sentinel has helped us to connect more with our fellow shipmates in meaningful ways. We have assisted them in managing their stress over this challenging deployment.

Throughout this deployment I and a fellow Sentinel, Master Sailor (MS) Erik Stirler, took on the challenge of promoting healthy ways for our shipmates to manage their stress and anger



during the deployment. We first accomplished this by delivering a Stress Management professional development presentation at a Command Update Brief; this presentation was so well-received that the Commanding Officer, Commander Mike Stefanson, asked us to deliver the same presentation to every mess on board. This helped to raise awareness of health and wellbeing among our fellow sailors, soldiers, and aviators.

The stress management presentation focused on the need to regularly do a self-evaluation of our stress levels. Exercise, relaxation techniques, sleep hygiene, spiritual practices, and hobbies and pastimes were strategies that we presented to help manage stress levels. Some of those stressors include having little sleep due to shift work, sea sickness due to rough seas, being away from families and friends, and the challenge of being confined to ship throughout the deployment. The presentation also emphasized the need to seek further help from the Padre or our deployed medical professionals, like the Physician's Assistant (PA) or the Medical Technician, if we are not able to cope using these strategies. We also discussed the need for a supervisor to be aware of the stress faced by their subordinates so they are empowered to take

action to help them manage it appropriately.

MS Stirler took on the task of reminding our shipmates that anger is a normal stress reaction. There is a lot of stigma attached to the idea of being angry. The challenge is learning how to be constructive and not destructive with our anger. For example, we used constructive anger to aggressively and effectively respond to a fire, flood or casualty emergency exercise on the ship. This positive anger was crucial to the successful completion of Intermediate Multi-ship Readiness Training (IMSRT) during our first five weeks at sea. MS Stirler's main focus was the negative effects of destructive anger on our fellow sailors, soldiers, and aviators. Regular self-assessment helps decrease the chance of negative anger affecting our health, work performance and interpersonal interactions with our fellow ship mates, and learning to manage your anger through positive means is important. Throughout this deployment our shipmates dealt with anger in different ways. Our Sentinel team along with help from the PA, created a quiet space called the Chill Zone to give members an opportunity to proactively manage their stress through the practice of solitude. The Chill Zone is a place where members can detach from screens, read a book, write in a journal, pray or meditate, and do so in a private place.

Without a doubt, management of stress and anger in an operational environment is paramount to the success of any mission; however, *HMCS Winnipeg's* deployment was unique and asked more of the ship's company than is typical – to deploy for months at sea without the ability to leave the ship.

Through a coordinated effort by the ship's Command Team, as well as the medical, spiritual and stress management support offered on board, *HMCS Winnipeg* took on that challenge and won.



Order your dinner by December 10, 2020 Phone: 250-478-1828 or website: rcl91.ca



## **Beloved Naval Centenarian**

ONE OF VICTORIA'S MOST BELOVED NAVAL VETERANS, CDR (RETIRED) PETER CHANCE CELEBRATED HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY VIRTUALLY LAST WEEK

Peter Mallett Staff Writer

n Nov. 24, to celebrate the milestone occasion and his over 30-year naval career, the Naval Association of Canada - Vancouver Island (NAC-VI) organized a Zoom call with about 50 people. Bill Conconi, NAC President, served as host, and LCdr (Retired) Paul Seguna emceed the event.

It included a photo montage of his career coupled with important historical events that involved Chance. Signed birthday certificates were virtually presented from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Governor General of Canada Julie Payette, and the Township of Sidney.

Congratulatory letters from the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia Janet Austin, and Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy, Vice-Admiral Art McDonald were read by LCdr (Retired) Gerald Pash and Bill Conconi respectively.

Chance also received video well wishes from RAdm Bob Auchterlonie, Commander Maritime Forces Pacific, and Capt(N) Sam Sader, Base Commander.

"I am overwhelmed, delighted, and over the moon with being able to interact with all my friends and receive well wishes from so many people," said Chance, who also noted his email inbox had been flooded with over 75 birthday greetings and messages of support.

During the event, Capt(N) (Retired) Kevin Carlé



announced, on behalf of the CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum, that the museum's permanent Battle of the Atlantic display is to be named the Peter Godwin Chance Gallery in his honour

"I am stunned by this news. I hadn't the slightest idea this would be happening ahead of the ceremony. It's a great honour to be recognized in this fashion and I am completely flabbergasted," said the centenarian.

He was born in Ottawa on Nov. 24, 1920, and served in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Battle of the Atlantic in ships of the Royal Navy and Canadian Navy. These included HMC Ships St. Laurent, Skeena, Seacliff, Ottawa and Gatineau. After the war, he went on to serve in RCN ships, ranging from frigates

and destroyers to a cruiser and carrier. He commanded HMC Ships Outremont and Sioux in those years.

He was on board when Skeena ran aground off Iceland and sank during a fierce storm on Oct. 24, 1944, with the incident claiming the lives of 15 sailors.

Chance still lives independently at his home in Sidney but says he has been missing in-person interaction with his friends and lunch at his favourite ocean-side restaurant. He is eagerly waiting for the isolation and physical distancing requirements brought about by the COVID-19 to end.

He has written detailed accounts of his time aboard Skeena, the Battle of the Atlantic, and his impressive naval career in his biography entitled *A Sailor's Life*.







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## AN EVOLUTION UNLIKE ANY OTHER:

# **TRANSFERRING ESSMS IN THE TIME OF COVID-19**

**Captain Chelsea Dubeau** HMCS Winnipeg PAO

The morning of Aug. 31 was a hot one in Pearl Harbor. The Combat Systems Engineering Officer aboard HMCS Winnipeg stood on the flight deck, ready to give a safety brief. Another successful Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise had just wrapped, where Winnipeg's Combat Systems Engineering (CSE) department figured quite significantly in the many gunnery exercises that took place.





Lieutenant (Navy) Julien St-Aubin led the **Combat System Engineering department** in transferring two empty Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile canisters and embarking three Warshot ESSMs while in Pearl Harbor.

For Lieutenant (Navy) Julien St-Aubin, the coming CSE evolution had been months in the making and it was not like any other he had done. In fact, on that day his team did something that hadn't been done in many years: led the evolution of transferring two empty Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile (ESSM) canisters and one spare Telemetric ESSM from Winnipeg, and embarked three Warshot ESSM from HMCS Regina. The ammunition transfer was part of Winnipeg's prep-

arations in advance of its deployment on Operation Projection-Neon.

#### Ammunition safety protocols in normal times

Ammunition safety protocols, including the regulation of procurement, storage, transportation, inspection, maintenance, authorized modification, issue, use, and disposal of all ammunition and explosives with the Department of National Defence and the Canadian

Armed Forces are managed through the Director Ammunition and Explosives Regulation (DAER). What this means is that under normal circumstances Winnipeg's CSE team would only play a supporting role to the subject mat-ter experts identified by DAER, who would be on-site in Pearl Harbor and led the transfer, comprised primarily of Canadian Forces Ammunition Depot (CFAD) Rocky Point staff.

"The Royal Canadian Navy's ship staff members haven't been in command of this type of evolution for decades," said Lt(N) St-Aubin.

### COVID-19 times, a little different

But the circumstances at play were anything but normal. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, flying

CFAD staff out to Hawaii to oversee the missile re-arm, as is typical, was impossible.

"As the Pacific Fleet was directed to honour our commitment to participate in RIMPAC during a global pandemic, knowing most if not all auxiliary support would become a struggle, ship's staff were asked to conduct staff checks in order to support the potential missions mandated to Winnipeg," said Lt(N) St-Aubin. "This prompted me to liaise with both the CSEO of HMCS Regina and CFAD staff to find out if *Winnipeg's* ship's staff could potentially load missiles ourselves.

"CFAD staff provided a lot of additional training and mentorship to both myself and my Fire Control Technicians; from understanding the composition of the ESSM canisters - including areas of concerns such as hard points for transport and inspection of the various connections to key observations for the installation onboard HMC ships, which are crucial for system operability."

CFAD staff walked Winnipeg's CSE team members through several missile embarkations until they were ready to setup, crane aboard, and install several ESSM canisters themselves.

"CFAD staff wanted to ensure that not only did we install the canisters correctly by following their meticulous procedures, but also that we did it with safety in mind. There are many moving parts and personnel involved in the manipulation of the canisters them-

selves," said Lt(N) St-Aubin. The safety brief was delivered and Lt(N) St-Aubin's team set to work as the three canisters were first craned off of Winnipeg. It Will this evolution be repeated Even though this was a temporary capability, its training value cannot be underestimated. "Our ability to do these things and

piece."





"OUR ABILITY TO DO THESE THINGS AND ADAPT, LIKE BEING ABLE TO TRANSFER ESSM WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OTHER UNITS, IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW OUR TECHNICIANS CAN QUICKLY LEARN A SKILL AND THEN PUT IT INTO PLACE AND MAKE IT HAPPEN SAFELY." - CPO2 JENSEN

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Members of Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) will be supporting the Christmas Daddies Telethon and giving back to their community during the annual Navy Divers' Run on Dec. 5. Mona Ghiz, MARLANT PA

## FDU(A) gears up for Christmas Daddies

Since 198

#### **Ryan Melanson** Trident

Newspaper

Members Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) are getting set to continue a long-running tradition that focuses on fitness, camaraderie, and giving back to the community.

Despite the continu-

ing challenges presented by COVID-19, the annual Navy Divers' Run in support of the Christmas Daddies Telethon will still be taking place this holiday season.

FDU(A) personnel will run 50 kilometres on Dec. 5, completing laps around the unit's main building in Shearwater, rather than taking the event out into the community as usual.

"There are a handful of activities we do as a unit that really mean a lot to us and that we wanted to hold on to this year. This is one of them; so, we came up with some responsible ways to make this event happen," said LCdr Neville Lockyer, FDU(A)'s Commanding Officer.

"We've been working hard to find ways to do our jobs in the face of COVID and accomplish all that we would normally accomplish, while still abiding by all the risk mitigation measures and staying safe. As divers, we have no problem facing a challenge, and this is just another challenge."

With the divers staying close to their home base for the run, they also had to think outside of the box in terms of donations, and reaching members of the community to encourage them to contribute to the on the web at https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/.

fundraiser. The unit has established a Go Fund Me page for donations and will be doing the majority of canvassing virtually.

Since first getting involved with the telethon in 1983, the men and women of FDU(A) have brought in more than \$313,000 in donations through the Navy

Divers' Run. Previous iterations have taken place through the streets of Halifax to Truro, and even across Halifax Harbour as a swimming event.

"We're an extremely busy group of people, but this is one of the ways each year that we can come together, do something good for others, and have some fun and enjoy the camaraderie at the same time," LCdr Lockyer said. "It's a great event for us. It's a worthy cause, we're helping out families and kids, and it feels good to be involved, so we wanted to make sure we could continue that this year."

Money raised for Christmas Daddies is used to provide toys, gifts, food, and other items for less fortunate children in the Halifax area, with distribution handled by The Salvation Army. According to the organizers, the telethon was able to help 14,000 Maritime children with funds raised from last year's event.

To support Christmas Daddies and the Navy Divers' Run, visit https://ca.gofundme. com/f/navy-divers-50K.

The 57th Annual Christmas Daddies Telethon will be broadcast on Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on CTV, with a livestream

There are a handful of activities we do as a unit that really mean a lot to us and that we wanted to hold on to this year. This is one of them." LCdr Neville Lockyer, FDU(A) Commanding Officer

### BASE ADMINISTRATION



with a \$5,000 fundraising

The NDWCC is a yearly

campaign, running from

October to January, held on

all bases across the country

to raise money for various

"One of the benefits

offered by NDWCC is the

ability to ensure your dona-

tion goes to the charity of

your choice," explains S1 Barkauskas. "There are hun-

dreds of organizations that

are able to receive dona-

tions through the NDWCC

and this lets members

choose a charity or a cause

that means something to

He is the point of com-

munication between the

NDWCC organization,

the command team, and

them on a personal level."

goal.

charities.

## BASE ADMINISTRATION'S Charity Champion S1 Barkauskas



### National Defence Workplace Charity Campaign (NDWCC) Representative

#### **2Lt Jamie Boparai** Base Administration

It's no surprise when the National Defence Workplace Charity Campaign (NDWCC) kicks off each year. But what was surprising this year was the environment that it had to operate under.

Even so, when tapped on the shoulder by the Base Administration's Executive Officer, Sailor First Class Barkauskas jumped at the opportunity to represent the unit as the NDWCC Representative.

"I knew it was going to be challenging this year with COVID-19. But I wasn't going to be persuaded from taking up the challenge."

He even upped the ante

his seven sectional representatives within Base Administration.

"I ensure our sectional reps are current with ongoing events, campaign information, canvassing efforts, and tracking donations. We have a great team this year and they are helping make it a lot fun."

While the NDWCC offers an online service to donate through e-transfers or deductions directly off payroll, generally, a large portion of donations come from fun and creative events organized by the unit and section reps.

"Unfortunately, COVID has made this year's fundraising efforts much more challenging. Ideas that may have been successful in other years are sometimes not viable because of provincial health restrictions and physical distancing measures. Parties, socials, and bake sales are just not practical this year."

While some might see this as daunting, S1 Barkauskas and his team were excited about the possibilities of trying new and unique tactics.

"I worked with our sectional reps to create new ideas and fun ways to raise money. We did a 50/50 raffle and auctioned off the Coxswain's parking spot, both of which were very successful. We were even able to get permission for members to donate to get nail and facemask chits."

These chits allow mem-

bers to temporarily stray from the dress regulations and paint their nails in unique and fancy patterns, as well as wear a face covering of their choice with interesting and colorful designs.

Unsurprisingly, Base Administration has blown past their goal of \$5,000 with time still remaining in the campaign.

"One thing that continues to surprise me is our members' enthusiasm to help the cause. People are constantly coming to me to bring new ideas and volunteer their time to organize events and help track donations."

S1 Barkauskas is employed as part of the unit's Basic Training List while he waits for his Weapons Engineering Technician trade training.

"I joined in 2011 as a Hull Tech, but with the amalgamation of the Electrician and Marine Engineer trades [now called Marine Tech] I thought I would try something new."

His former trade is specialized in mechanical systems maintenance and operations while his new trade is focused on the combat systems on board ships.

"I am excited to begin my training in the New Year," say S1 Barkauskas. "But at the same time I am pleased to have been selected to help organize and run such an important campaign while I wait for my training."



Rates starting at **\$213** per night midweek (Sun - Thurs) and **\$231** per night on weekends (Fri & Sat).

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## Naden Band keeps Christmas Concert alive

### **Peter Mallett** Staff Writer

The show will go on for the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy and their 42nd annual Christmas Concert.

Despite the cancellation of numerous holiday events across Victoria. the 34 full-time military musicians will continue their traditional fundraiser to benefit the Salvation Army Toy Drive. But instead of performing in front of sold out crowds at the iconic Royal Theatre, their festive musical montage will be recorded at the Chiefs and petty Officers' Mess and will be broadcast on CHEK TV Dec. 19 at 8 p.m. The concert can also be seen on the Naden Band and Salvation Army Facebook pages, and can be found later on YouTube.

"Our annual concert is a huge event for us and a highly popular one on Victoria's social calen-

dar," said PO1 Matthew McCrady, Naden Band Operations and Production Manager. "The band is trying to preserve as many traditions as possible and add a dose of normalcy to an extraordinarily abnormal year."

Their performance is being filmed by local production company Roll. Focus. Productions, who recently filmed online performances by the Victoria Symphony. PO1 McCrady noted that the band and its contractors have adapted the program to feature its small ensembles to adhere to physical distancing and all other provincial regulations.

The musical line-up includes a selection of traditional Christmas carols, multi-cultural songs, including an Israeli song for peace, and a performance by the Drum Group that combines Naden Band members with personnel from the Defence Aboriginal Advisory Group.

"Even though our audience can't be physically present with us this year, we really want to recreate the atmosphere and energy of a live show so that it feels like they're there with us," said PO1 McCrady. "When we perform we draw on the energy of the audience during our performances and that often pushes us to new places in our music making."

The annual concert also serves as a toy drive for underprivileged children, with concert goers dropping off toys at admission. Since people can't donate toys at the concert this year, the band is encouraging people to donate at the CHEK Christmas Drive-Thru event on Douglas St., Dec. 9 to 11 from 4 to 8 p.m. and Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to noon.

More information about the concert and how to donate will be shared through Naden Band, CHEK TV, and Salvation Army social media.





Photo by Cpl André Maillet, MARPAC Imaging Services



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## **Awards and Presentations**

Presented by Capt(N) Sam Sader, Base Commander Nov. 19. Photos by S1 Mike Goluboff, MARPAC Imaging Services, Esquimalt



Chief Petty Officer Second Class Susan Acting Sub-Lieutenant Zhao Li is Frisby, accompanied by son Jaxson awarded the MARPAC Bravo Zulu Frisby, is awarded the Clasp Bar to the Certificate of Achievement. Canadian Forces Decoration (CD1).





**Petty Officer** Second Class Josee Sulyma, accompanied by a family member, is awarded the **Canadian Forces Physical Fitness** Award for Aerobic Excellence Certificate.



Lieutenant-Commander (Navy) Judith Corporal Justin Harris is awarded Harlock receives the Base Commander the Base Commander Bravo Zulu Bravo Zulu Certificate of Achievement. Certificate of Achievement.

Grimard is awarded the MARPAC

Bravo Zulu Certificate of Achievement.





Chief Petty Officer Second Class Marc Petty Officer Second Class Justin Morrison is presented the certificate of Duties and Responsibilities of a Petty Officer following his promotion.



Anna Yang, accompanied by friends, is awarded the Base **Commander Bravo** Zulu Certificate of Achievement.



Corporal Patrick Bain, accompanied by family members, is awarded the Base **Commander Bravo** Zulu Certificate of Achievement.



Nicholas Prozorovsky-Halsall, accompanied by Raymond Halsall, is awarded the MARPAC Bravo Zulu Certificate of Achievement.



PO2 Justin Morrison, accompanied by a family member, is promoted to his current rank.



S1 Alexi Chirkov is promoted to his current rank by Cdr Colleen O'Brien, CAF Transition Unit BC Commanding Officer.



PO1 Tracy Dickerson, from Personnel Coordination Centre (Pacific), was awarded the Special Service Medal for Operation Reassurance and Exercise Resolute Response by Cdr Benjamin Seaby, Commanding Officer PCC(P).

## **Awards and Presentations**

### **Naden Band Spirit of Excellence Award**

Photos by S1 Kendric C.W. Grasby, Canadian Armed Forces

Captain (Navy) Martin Drews, Commanding Officer Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Breton, speaks on charity efforts at Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Breton.



**Naval Fleet School (Pacific) Awards** 

Cdr Annick Fortin, Commander Naval Fleet School (Pacific), handed out certificates to the graduates of Sonar Op RQLS 5's Course 0004 on Nov. 17.





S1 Jake Baxter



S2 Nichelle Collett







S2 Wyatt Fehler



S2 Joel Michaud



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  Queen size mattress with box spring hardly used like new: \$300
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