







RCN Flag Officers assume key leadership roles during NATO exercise - Steadfast Defender

DND/RCN

Two Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) Flag Officers have assumed key leadership roles for Exercise Steadfast Defender 21, the first in a new series of long-planned NATO exercises to enhance Alliance security.

Twenty Allies from North America and Europe are participing. The exercise will help improve the interoperability of Allied forces and practice military mobility throughout Europe.

The RCN's Rear-Admiral Steven Waddell, currently on exchange as Vice-Commander of the United States Second Fleet, is the Maritime Component Commander for the exercise and is working alongside Canada's NATO partners aboard the Blue Ridge-class command and control ship United States Ship Mount Whitney.

Standing NATO Maritime Group One (SNMG1), currently under the command of the RCN's Commodore Bradley Peats from flagship *HMCS Halifax*, is participating in the maritime operational and tactical-level live exercise (LIVEX), running from May 20 to 30.

The LIVEX, which is taking place

off the coast of Portugal in the Eastern Atlantic, will demonstrate the ability of Allied maritime forces to execute Joint Force Command Norfolk's mission of protecting strategic lines of communication in the Atlantic.

Steadfast Defender 21 is also the first large test of NATO's adapted command structure and involves two new commands: one focused on logistics, Joint Support and Enabling Command, based in Germany, and the other focused on the Atlantic, Joint Force Command Norfolk, based in Virginia. It offers the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) an opportunity to gain understanding of these commands, as well as the new Standing Joint Logistics Support Group.

As a founding NATO member, Canada remains committed to the Alliance and continues to strengthen defence relationships in NATO as well as with European states. The multinational character of the exercise reflects Canada's commitment to NATO and ally and partner nations on both sides of the Atlantic.

The CAF exercises with NATO to protect Canada and its allies, and to promote global security, both as a capacity-building partner and as a leader.





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Commander Mark O'Donohue, Commanding Officer of HMCS Calgary, is ready to clip his crew.

HMCS CALGARY

Over the May long weekend, 17 members of *HMCS Calgary* and five members from Combined Task Force 150 made good on their promise to shed their hair in support of the ship's official charity Calgary Foothills Burn Unit.

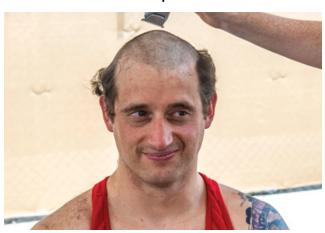
After a busy operational counter-narcotics program, where *Calgary* made 14 drug busts to date off the Coast of Oman, the Operation Artemis team lost their locks, beards, and mustaches in the plus 40-degree heat alongside in Bahrain

The fundraiser has garnered over \$5,000 thus far and remains open to donations until *Calgary* leaves the Operation Artemis area of operations in mid-June.

To support the crew in their fundraiser go to Go Fund Me page: gofund.me/6461bffb



S1 Caci after the first swipe of his locks.



An HMCS Calgary sailor mid shave.



A member of CTF 150 braces for her hair cut by Commodore Daniel Charlebois.



Chief Petty Officer First Class Edward James, Coxswain of Combined Task Force 150, braves his hair removal by Commodore Daniel Charlebois, Commander of CTF 150.



Facial hair was also part of the event with Chief Petty Officer First Class Mark Chambers doing the honour.

matters of OPINION

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It's not a Waste of Time

Chinenye Ewelike

Safety Programs Officer, MARPAC FSE

Here is an all too familiar scenario, one where employees think reporting and documenting hazards is a waste of time:

Why do I have to report unsafe acts and conditions to my supervisor? The important thing is these situations are corrected immediately; my colleagues and I ensure that we correct them as soon as they are noticed. So there is no point in documenting them by completing hazard identification reports. Why waste the time that could be used for other tasks?

The only issue is these corrected unsafe conditions keep reoccurring.

The other day Joe and I corrected a situation where someone had precariously placed two heavy boxes on the top shelf. We removed the heavy boxes and placed them in a safe location. The next day, the heavy boxes were back to the unsafe position.

Later that day, one of the boxes fell, injuring Jane as she was picking up some items from the lower shelf. She was off work for two days as a result of the sustained injury. She was then placed on modified duties for about a week. The supervisor and UGSO had to conduct an incident investigation and complete a DND 663.

It's clear reporting and documenting hazards is not a waste of time.

The hours lost from injuries and the operational disruption due to workplace accidents can be calculated in terms of financial loss and injuries that could result in compromised quality of life for employees.

Hazard identification and reporting is a process to evaluate if a situation, item, or thing has the potential to cause harm. It should be performed during the purchase of equipment and implementation, before task performance, during task performance, during formal and informal inspections, and after incidents - near misses, minor events, and injuries.

Documenting and reporting hazards provides an opportunity for leadership to discuss with their team during safety briefs, so they are made aware of the hazards and the corrective actions. The hazard report also serves as a tool for the supervisor, UGSO, and the workplace health and safety committee to evaluate, analyze, and controll the risks associated with the workplace. Additionally, documenting and reporting identified hazards is a requirement of the DND/CAF General Safety Program.

Documenting and reporting of identified hazards should be an integral part of the individual and workplace culture in order to promote safety in the workplace. Reach out to your UGSO for information on how to properly document and report identified hazards in your workplace.









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HOSTS







Capt(N) Kevin Greenwood, CD ret'd Capt(N) Clive Butler, CD, ret'd

SPECIAL



RAdm Angus Topshee, OMM, MSM, CD Commander MARPAC, A/CNS (P&T)



Capt(N) Jamie Tennant, CD Commander Sea Training Group

INAUGURAL WEBINAR

TOPIC:

LINKING INDIVIDUAL TRAINING (IT) TO OPERATIONAL READINESS

17 June 2021 DATE:

TIME: 1030 (PST) - 1130 (PST)**AUDIENCE:** Naval Warfare Officers **LOCATION: NWO Mariner Professional**

Currency Program MS Team

AGENDA:

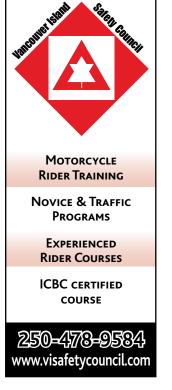
- Opening Remarks/Kick off: RAdm A. Topshee, A/CNS (P&T)
- Linking IT to Operational Readiness: Capt(N) J. Tennant, CSTG
- NWO Mariner Professional Currency Program: Capt(N) ret'd K. Greenwood NFS(P) Capt(N) ret'd C. Butler, NFS(P)
- Modernization of NWOPQ: Lt(N) T. Workman, NTDC(P)
- Close-Out

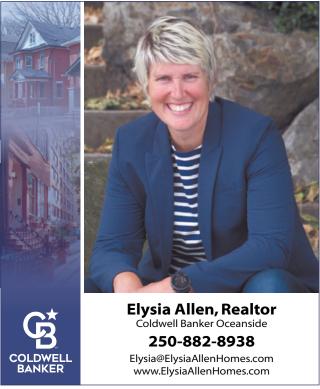
TO JOIN THE WEBINAR ON THE 17TH OF JUNE, VISIT THE BELOW LINK:

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Example of the new DND 404 Driver's Licence.

DND 404 Driver's Licence no more reference to sex

DND

To make Canadian Armed Forces institutions more inclusive sex designation has been eliminated on the DND 404, the military's driver's licence.

Starting June 1, all new DND 404s will be issued without sex identification on them. Current versions will remain valid until their expiry date. Anyone who wishes to exchange their current version before its expiry date for a new version without a sex identification can do so by requesting this to their local Road and Vehicle Safety Section (RVSS). Their RVSS will process a regular DND renewal request and a new DND 404 will be issued.

This change to the DND 404 will not affect the card as a valid piece of federal government identification since it is not used as a primary identity document. Nor will it affect the licence's status under the Canadian Driver Licence Agreement, which means it will con-

tinue to be recognized by provincial and territorial jurisdictions, and by law enforcement officers across Canada. There will be no impact on provincial or territorial driver's licence qualification exchange programs, or on the recognition of CAF driver qualifications abroad.

The provincial and territorial driver's licence qualification exchange program allows recently retired or currently serving military members to transfer their DND 404-related qualifications onto their civilian provincial/territorial licence without additional training or testing.

In general, most, if not all, military driving qualifications that have an equivalent class for a civilian driver licence are granted by the jurisdiction. However, each province and territory has its own process, so interested members should check the specific requirements of the province or territory in which they reside.



Share your thoughts on the five proposed designs for the National Monument to Canada's Mission in Afghanistan

Veterans Affairs Canada and Canadian Heritage have revealed the five concepts for the National Monument to Canada's Mission in Afghanistan. Canadians are invited to view the concepts and complete the short survey to help choose a design before June 9 at www.Canada.ca/survey-monument-afghanistan.

In August 2019, teams of professional

artists, landscape architects, architects, and other urban design professionals were invited to provide their credentials and examples of prior work. In summer 2020, a jury composed of experts in the fields of arts and urban design and representatives from key stakeholder groups shortlisted five design teams to each create a design for the Monument.

The National Monument to Canada's Mission in Afghanistan will recognize the commitment and sacrifice of the more than 40,000 Canadians who served there, and the support provided to them by Canadians at home, as well as the families whose lives were changed by the mission.

A jury of experts and stakeholders will consider the survey responses when selecting the winning design, which will be announced in the fall.

For more information on the monument, https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/afghanistan-monument

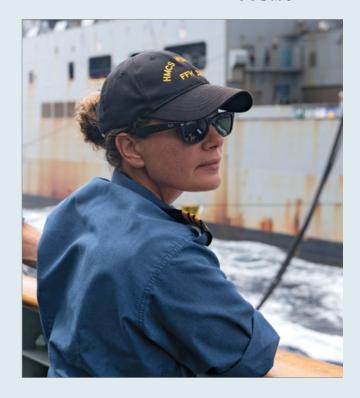


WOMEN WHO LEAD DOCUMENTARY

ON RCN IN



ADRIAN JUR!C FILMS



Peter Mallett

Staff writer

Vancouver-based filmmaker Adrian Juric has included a Royal Canadian Navy officer in his upcoming documentary Our Time Has Come: Women Who Lead.

Commander (Cdr) Amber Comisso, 42, joins a half dozen other successful working women in the film that focusses on gender equality and the unique ways women lead at the highest levels of the organizational

world. "I was truly honoured and excited that he chose me to tell part of a larger story of the struggle of gender equity to Canadians," said Cdr Comisso. "I really do think it's important for young women to see someone successful in the navy, and research shows for so many

women, seeing is believing." She currently works as F3, Canadian Fleet Pacific, and is preparing for the upcoming Task Group Exercise involving HMC Ships Winnipeg and Regina running May 28 to June 11. Her clip was filmed at the Wardroom, with a sneak peak recently released on LinkedIn.

"Young women, especially those in their teens, need to see women who have done big things in the world in order to go after success themselves," says Juric. "My goal with this film is to introduce them to female leaders who fit this description, women who might inspire them enough to pursue leadership roles of their own one day."

His cousin, Kara Osborne, a retired army intelligence officer, recommended Cdr Comisso. It was her impressive accomplishments over 23 years in the navy, and her roles as mother of two and service spouse, that prompted him to reach out to her.

She recently completed a posting as HMCS Winnipeg's Executive Officer, part of which was a five-month deployment to the Asia-Pacific region on Operations Projection and Neon. She previously held the title of National Military Co-Chair of the Defence Women's Advisory Organization, which advises Canada's military on systemic barriers concerning women and gender equity.

During the filming, Juric asked her several provocative questions on gender: What are the distinctive qualities and characteristics that make women effective leaders? Who embodied those qualities for you when you were young? When did you first become aware of yourself as a leader and what unique qualities do female leaders bring to organizations in which they serve?

In her response, she made reference to the Winnipeg's command team as they managed the tragic loss of crewmember MS Duane Earle, who accidentally went overboard as the ship

was returning home last December. Having three different leadership styles on the ship - herself, the Commanding Officer and Coxswain - helped the ship's company get through

the crisis, she says. She didn't hold back on showing her emotions.

"For those people who wanted to cry, they saw the XO crying and they knew it was okay. I wish at the beginning of my career someone had said to me 'be true to yourself' and lead authentically and break the

mould. It's powerful to send out these messages to young women, very powerful."

When completed, Juric hopes his documentary will spread widely to inspire the next generation of young women to step forward onto the leadership path. He believes women are still underrepresented at the senior levels of most organizations, and feels strongly that positive role models are essential to the advancement of women and to society as a whole.

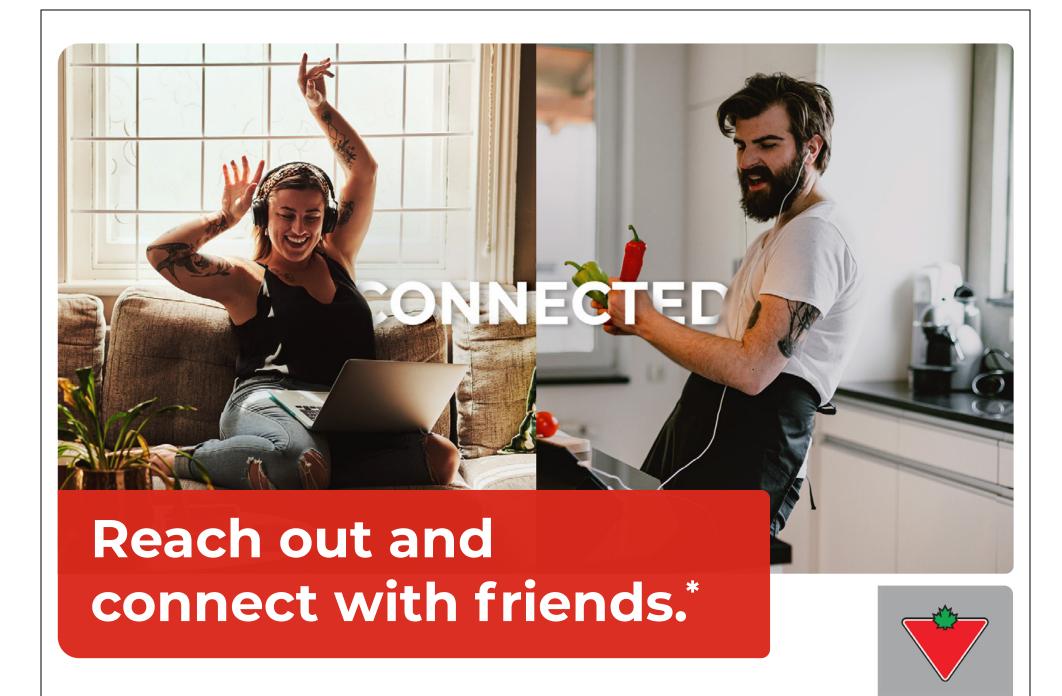
Cdr Comisso echoes this, saying there is a huge appetite for celebrating women's achievement in the Canadian Armed Forces as it tries to realign military culture for future generations.

"I truly believe a diverse military that reflects Canadian society is an incredibly valuable tool and that diversity and inclusion is our best asset," she says. "It promotes better decision making, innovation, recruiting, and employee satisfaction. All of these things benefit the military as an organization and get us to a point where we truly understand why diversity will make us better."

The fully edited version of the film is expected to be released later this year. The sneak preview of Cdr Comisso's interview is currently available at:

https://vimeo.com/541045971

Sample clips from other interviewees can be viewed: www.adrianjuric.com.



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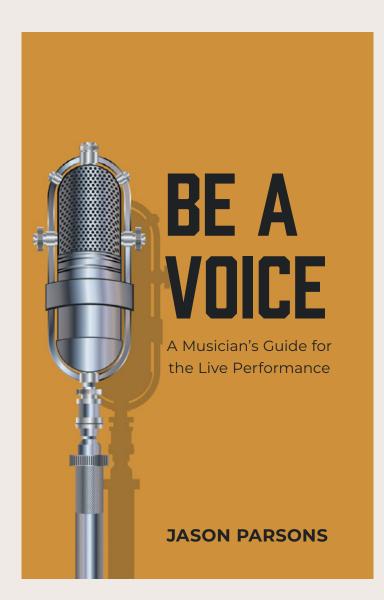
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RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR WROTE THE BOOK ON ROCKIN' LIVE



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https://books.friesenpress.com/ store/title/119734000178269963/ Jason-Parsons-Be-A-Voice

Peter Mallett

Staff Writer

A new book by a Royal Canadian Navy sailor is inspiring musicians to seek perfection in their live performances and to "never be an echo of someone else."

Author PO1 Jason Parsons is an accomplished live music producer and performance coach. By day he is a Human Resources Administrator in the Base Orderly Room (BOR) at CFB Esquimalt.

During the past year, as the COVID-19 pandemic raged, the music industry morphed into a state of hibernation and live concert gigs all but dried up. Instead of remaining idle, PO1 Parsons wrote his self-published book *Be A Voice: A Musician's Guide for the Live Performance*.

"It's an offering of invaluable lessons about the music industry and live concerts, whether you are a seasoned musician or just at the beginning of your musical journey," he says.

PO1 Parsons has served over 17 years in the navy, but he is also a former rock musician who once found success on the big stage in Nashville, TN.

"Although pursuing a career in music is an exciting and rewarding venture, it also comes with its fair share of rejection and obstacles. The live performance is critical to the success of any music artist and this book will inspire you to never be an echo of someone else."

MELFORT TO MUSIC CITY

PO1 Parsons, 47, grew up in a musical family in Melfort, Saskatchewan. He experimented with guitar and drums in high school, playing in several local rock bands. One of those bands was Surrender, an acoustic rock band that released their debut EP, *You and Me*, in 1997. Within six weeks of its release the song reached No. 4 on the Indie (Independent) Top 40 charts in the United States.

There were many live performances to follow after the band's act was picked up by a producer in Nashville, but their fame was short lived.

So he began studying Live Performance in the late 1990s in Nashville and then underwent formal training as a Live Music Producer in 2011. In 2014 he launched Jason Parsons Productions.



PO1 Jason Parsons

He has managed to find success in both the music industry and military. He admits it was difficult to keep his hand in the music industry when deployed; working on land has made it possible to balance the two.

He was posted to the BOR in April but worked as an HR Administrator in Base Information Services since 2009.

"I have also served on board ships, I have worked with the Army and Air Force, and I have experienced both domestic and international operations," he says.

INDY ON THE ISLAND

Over the years, he has taught at many music industry workshops and conferences. A multitude of established and independent musicians across Canada have benefited from his instruction. In addition, PO1 Parsons has shared the platform with many industry greats including the late world renowned Canadian producer and songwriter icon Ralph Murphy (1944 to 2019), Ryan Guldemond, lead vocalist of Mother Mother (Universal Music Canada), and Bill Henderson, lead singer of the legendary rock band Chilliwack.

When the pandemic kicked in, it may have put the breaks on the local concert and pub music scene, but not on PO1 Parsons' desire to teach others. The book took him six months to complete.

"During the pandemic, I encouraged my clients to continue writing and rehearsing. Then I decided to take my own advice and publish what I teach in book form. I truly believe this book lays the foundation for any artist who intends to pursue a career in music. I did not write it for myself, I wrote it to help other musicians find success."







PHOTOGRAPHER CAPTURES CANDID DIVER SHOTS

Peter Mallett

Staff Writer

A military veteran has turned an impromptu photo shoot of Fleet Diving Unit (FDU) Pacific clearance divers in training into a gift for the unit.

AB (Retired) Michael Cranmer captured action shots of the dive team when out for a walk near the breakwater at Ogden Park late last summer. Divers were operating from their boat "Abalone" about 50 yards offshore.

"It was complete coincidence the divers happened to show up while I was out there for a walk with my wife, but conditions that day were perfect for photos and the results were impressive," he said.

One shot is of Abalone silhouetted in the Strait of Juan de Fuca with the Olympic Mountains in the background.

"That one was a keeper," says Cranmer.

He plans to create a photographic collage and give it to the dive unit.

"It was a spontaneous day-in-the-life shot of a Clearance Diver. I was there, they were there, and I happened to capture a moment with my camera that nobody else did. It seemed like pictures worth keeping and ones that could tell a larger story or be a keepsake for the divers to have."

Cranmer knows all about life in the navy. He served from 1981 to 1987 as a Naval Weapons Technician. The 58-year-old says sailing aboard ships such as the Mackenzie-class destroyer HMCS Qu'appelle was an experience of a life time.

After serving seven years, he embarked on a career as a transport truck driver. He currently drives for Thrifty Foods and has been with them for the past 30 years.

His father introduced him to photography in his teens

and while attending high school he joined the camera club.

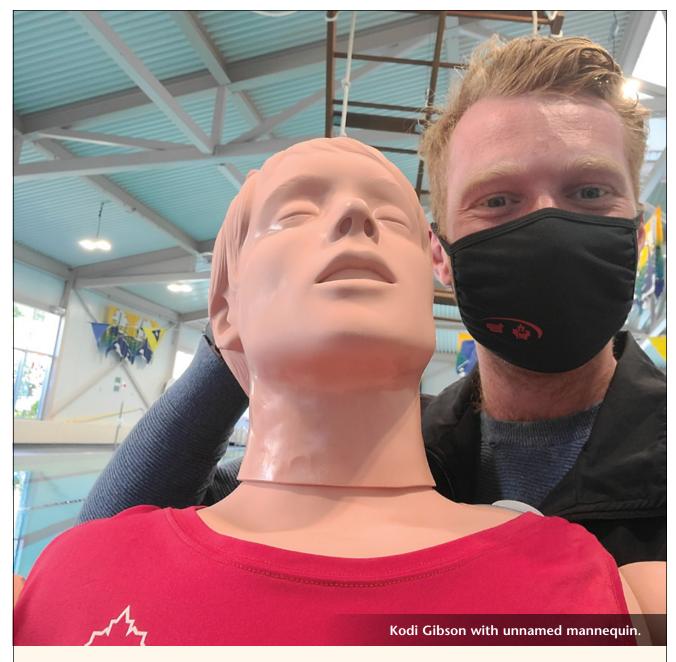
"The school had its own darkroom and I got proficient at developing film," he says.

One career highlight was as a part-time sports photographer with the Victoria Shamrocks lacrosse team in the mid-90s as their team photographer.

These days, his trucking job takes up most of his time, but he always carries a camera, just in case.

"I thought these images of the divers turned out really great and it would be so nice to share them with the people involved. The images might make a good conversation piece or keepsake for the divers to have down the road, and is also my way of letting them know that I am among many people in the community who really do appreciate the work they do."





You decide - name the Naden gym mannequin

Peter Mallett

Staff Writer

Navy ships have Oscar, the person overboard dummy. The Naden Athletic Centre has...well, an unnamed, nongendered mannequin used in the pool for water-rescue training.

Kodi Gibson, facility supervisor, and Ron Boyce, Aquatics Supervisor, want a moniker for their dummy, and are looking to the Defence community for ideas.

"As humans, we have a tendency to want to name everything whether it's an inanimate object like a car, a beloved stuffed animal, or a life-sized mannequin," says Gibson. "After Personnel Support Programs staff got into a debate over what to name the new mannequin, we figured it was best to let the community decide."

The contest runs from May 31 to June 17 with the name announced on June 18 after a thorough review of submissions by a panel of judges.

The winning entrant will receive a free fitness consultation and personalized fitness plan designed by PSP staff, a Health Promotions swag bag, and an official certificate of recognition to be displayed at the Aquatics centre.

The mannequin is so life-like "it actually looks like a human being," says Gibson. It stands about five feet tall and weighs 100 lbs when filled with water.

It was bought because of COVID and a need to train in the pool without a real person in need of rescuing.

To enter the contest provide a name suggestion in the comments section on the NAC's Facebook posts promoting the contest. Alternatively, you can email your suggestions to Kodi.Gibson@forces.gc.ca



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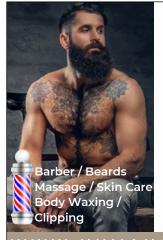


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Kevin Zalba

Arena and Grounds Manager, PSP

A/SLt Wen Guo
Base Administration

It seems like fate that Kevin Zalba would spend his civilian career managing an arena. The former sailor, who joined at 17 in 1981, served 22 years in the navy, retiring as a Petty Officer Second Class.

While he loves the navy, he loves hockey even more.

"I played hockey my whole life and was always around the rink as a kid. I played at a higher level and always enjoyed the competitive nature of being on a hockey team. When I retired from the navy and this position became available, I jumped for this opportunity because I love hockey and I wanted to provide a great facility for people who love hockey too."

Zalba is the Arena and Grounds Manager at the Personnel Support Programs (PSP), leading a team of 13 staff members. His main responsibility is to keep the Wurtele Arena and sports fields in great shape for the military and Greater Victoria community to use.

"I love working on our ice; we have the best ice in the city and working with an amazing PSP team makes me want to come to work every day of the year."

In addition to the arena, Zalba and his team also take care of the baseball diamonds, outdoor volleyball field, soccer fields on Colville Road, and the tennis court in dockyard.

"My passion for sports motivates me to maintain high standards in all our facilities and various sports fields. I want the best facilities for our members and will do whatever I can to achieve that."

The job has come with additional rewards. In 2019, the base hosted the World Junior Hockey Team offering the arena for their practice as they prepared for the World Junior Hockey Championships in Vancouver and Victoria. His second memorable moment was championing the Memorial Banner that hangs at center ice; a tribute to

fallen members who made a significant impact to the military sports scene. Lastly, a dream for any hockey fan, he celebrated when the new Zamboni arrived after many years of waiting.

"Getting the new Zamboni allowed us to enhance the arena so that it meets the standards of hosting international competitions."

He is quick to credit his wife Michelle for his success in the navy and with PSP.

"I am the kind of person today because of my wife. She inspired me to be the best person I could be. She has the perfect combination of outstanding work ethic and tenacity to handle the ups and downs of being a military spouse. Without Michelle's support, I wouldn't be in a position to be here and serving CFB Esquimalt community."





My passion for sports motivates me to maintain high standards in all our facilities and various sports fields. I want the best facilities for our members and will do whatever I can to achieve that."

- Kevin Zalba, Arena and Grounds Manager, PSP



BMQ GRADUATION CEREMONY

Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) course R0250E graduation ceremony at Work Point on May 25.

Photos by Sailor First Class Mike Goluboff, MARPAC Imaging Services, Esquimalt



Master Corporal Michael Badowski (left) presents S3 Matthew Wellington with the Jody Mitic Trophy award for the Small Arms Firing Highest Score.



PO2 Christopher Cooper (left) presents S3 Nathan McCowan with the Lieutenant-Colonel Arsenault Trophy award for the Highest Score for Physical Training.



PO2 Christopher Cooper (left) presents S3 Raven Goddard with the Lieutenant-Colonel Arsenault Trophy award for the Highest Score for Physical Training.



PO1 Richard Hussey (left) presents S3 Luke Gage with the Best Improvement award.



CPO2 Stephane Melancon (left) presents S3 Andrew Roth with the Royal Canadian Legion Trophy (Best Spirit of Comradeship) award.



Lieutenant-Commander Christopher Maier, Commandant Naval Fleet School (Pacific) (left), presents S3 Colten Hudson with the Commandant's Trophy award for Highest Overall Score.



MARPAC PROMOTION

Lieutenant (Navy) Michael Dery (center), is promoted on May 26 to his current rank by Captain (Navy) Christopher Peschke (left), Chief of Staff of Maritime Forces Pacific (MARPAC), and Lieutenant-Commander Anthony Wright (right), Senior Public Affairs Officer of MARPAC, following the completion of his Basic Public Affairs Officer Course.

Photo by Sailor 1st Class Sisi Xu, MARPAC Imaging Services, Esquimalt





Photo by Corporal Simon Arcand, CAF Photo

Sailor First Class (S1) Vincent Hébert (left) and S1 Bo Cao load the 25mm cannon with simulated ammunition for a firing exercise on May 3.

Commander Corey L.E. Gleason (right), Captain of Harry Dewolf, observes the action during a 25mm cannon firing exercise on May 6.

Corporal (Cpl) Mackenzie Birks, Master Warrant Officer Ian Manson, and Cpl Carl Chouinard, 12 Wing Shearwater members, stow the anemometer aboard the ship during Phase 4 Shipboard Helicopter Operating Limits on May 23.

S1 Alexandre Laquerre remotely operates the 25mm cannon on May 4.



Photo by Corporal Simon Arcand, CAF Photo



Photo by S1 Justin Spinello, AETE IDS, CAF Photo

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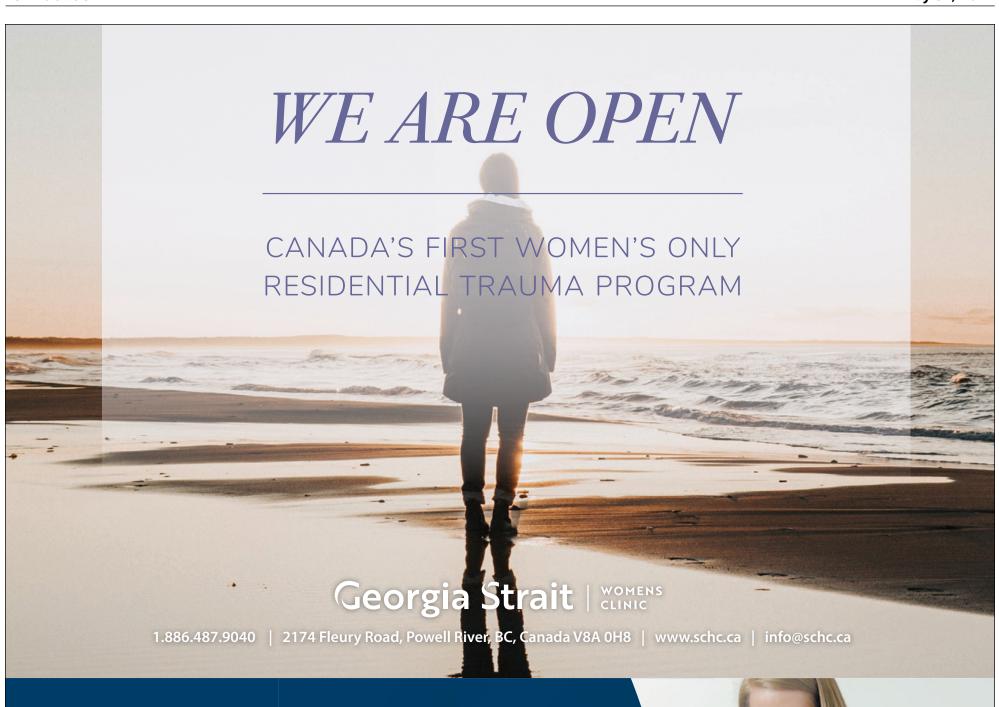






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