



# Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

## Dispatches

### 26 November 2021

*The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia provides a forum for the study, promotion and debate of defence and security issues.*

*Dispatches* is a weekly collection of news of interest, including posts to social media by the Institute. Links to articles are checked at the time they are put into *Dispatches* but may be unavailable at a later date or in some countries other than Canada.

Everyone is encouraged to submit links and other content to be included in *Dispatches*. Submissions and feedback are welcome anytime. Email to [RUSINSDispatches@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINSDispatches@gmail.com). Comments to articles can be from members or non-members of RUSI(NS). Any comment in *Dispatches* is the sole opinion of the author and does not necessarily represent the views of the Canadian Department of National Defence or other government department, the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia.

If you wish to receive *Dispatches* at a different address (i.e., not your work address), please inform RUSI(NS). Past editions of *Dispatches* may be requested by contacting RUSI(NS).

The December 2021 issue of *Home Dispatches* is being put together. Contributions of commentaries, anecdotes, etc., from the membership would be welcome.

#### **Events:**

There is no RUSI(NS) event scheduled for December. Enjoy the holidays!

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email RUSI(NS) by noon Thursday. RUSI(NS) events are by invitation. If you are interested in attending and have not been invited, email [RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com). RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice – email RUSI(NS) if there is a question of an event occurring.

**29 November**, Monday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Assistant Commissioner Neil O'Rourke, Arctic Region, Canadian Coast Guard, presenting "Arctic Region Implementation and Successes." 1300-1500, via Zoom. Registration is required. To register, email RUSI(NS) by close-of-business Thu, 25 Nov. As subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker 29 November 2021 Registration. Participation is limited and later registrants may have to be put on a waiting list. If after registering your availability changes and you are no longer able to attend, please advise RUSI(NS) as soon as possible so your spot can be re-assigned. Zoom instructions will be emailed to registrants by end-of-day Fri, 26 Nov. If you have not received them by end-of-day 26 Nov, please check your spam folder and, if necessary, email RUSI(NS).

**New: 6 December**, Monday - Naval Association of Canada invites RUSI(NS) members to their December event with Dr Andrea Charron, speaking on NORAD Renewal. 19:00 - 21:00 Eastern time. To register: <https://nac-o.wildapricot.org/event-4461475>. See content at end of *Dispatches*.

**New: 9 December**, Thursday - Navy League of Canada Maritime Affairs Luncheon with RAdm (ret'd) Simon Page, PSPC ADM Defence and Marine Procurement. 12:15-1 pm. See poster at end of *Dispatches*.

### **Publications:**

Except where otherwise indicated, publications are available on request to [RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com).

RUSI(NS) Presentation “Royal Canadian Navy – Globally Deployed for Strategic Effect” by Rear-Admiral Brian Santarpia, 27 October 2021  
[https://rusi-ns.ca/royal\\_canadian\\_navy/](https://rusi-ns.ca/royal_canadian_navy/)

RUSI(NS) Presentation “Casualty Identification Program” by Dr Sarah Lockyer, 20 October 2021  
[https://rusi-ns.ca/casualty\\_identificaton\\_program/](https://rusi-ns.ca/casualty_identificaton_program/)

Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association *On Watch*, 17 November 2021 edition  
[https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw\\_message2.aspx?chno=94aadb4d-e61c-4790-92ab-81e62624c8d1](https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=94aadb4d-e61c-4790-92ab-81e62624c8d1)

Edmonton United Services Institute President’s *ENews*, November 2021.

*Maritime Engineering Journal* Fall 2021  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/corporate/reports-publications/maritime-engineering-journal.html>

**New:** Military Institute of Windsor *Communiqué*, Volume XXXIX Number 11 December 2021.

Royal Alberta United Services Institute *Dispatches* November 2021  
<https://rausi.ca/component/acym/archive/87-rausi-dispatches-november-2021>

Royal Alberta United Service Institute *News* October-December 2021  
<https://www.rausi.ca/news/publications>

Royal Canadian Naval Association Admiral Hose Branch *Scuttlebutt*, November 2021 Edition.

Royal Canadian Naval Reserve *Link*, Vol 29, No 1, 2021  
<https://issuu.com/lencre-reservenaval-link-navalreserve/docs/link-2021-vol29-navalreserve>




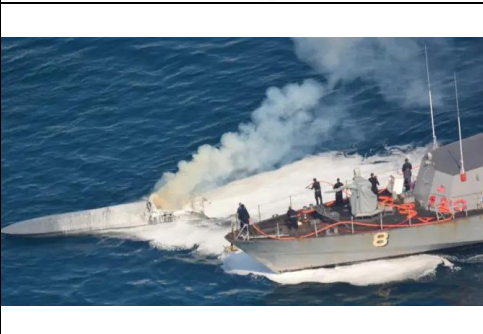
Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Quarterly Newsletter*, Volume 20, Issue 3, October 2021.

**New:** Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Occasional*, Volume 9, Issue 4, 22 November 2021.

Veterans Affairs Canada *Salute!*, October 2021.

**Tweeted by @RUSI NS:**

RUSI(NS) tweets may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something tweeted or retweeted, email [RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com).

<p>"Only dead Canadians will shock us out of our appalling complacency" <a href="https://theline.substack.com/p/matt-gurney-only-dead-canadians-will">https://theline.substack.com/p/matt-gurney-only-dead-canadians-will</a> Need more investment in capabilities to undertake missions, domestic &amp; away, that CAN🇨🇦 expects (hopes?) its @CanadianForces to undertake. Otherwise there will be failures &amp; no-can-do</p>	
<p>Borders and the New Geopolitics - Reimagining a Canadian National Security Strategy Report No. 7 <a href="https://www.cigionline.org/publications/borders-and-the-new-geopolitics/">https://www.cigionline.org/publications/borders-and-the-new-geopolitics/</a></p>	
<p>"As more military troops head to B.C., experts call for civilian disaster response solution" <a href="https://globalnews.ca/news/8381464/experts-civilian-disaster-response-bc/">https://globalnews.ca/news/8381464/experts-civilian-disaster-response-bc/</a> @CanadianForces is a last resort to domestic emergencies; should be teamed with robust civil emergency preparedness &amp; response. #OpLENTUS</p>	
<p>The Naval Association of Canada @navalassn 22 Nov tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Dr Dan Middlemiss offers some thoughts on Australia's Shipbuilding plans and possible implications for Canada's CSC program. <a href="https://navalreview.ca/2021/11/analysis-of-australias-naval-shipbuilding-programs-some-possible-implications-for-canada/">https://navalreview.ca/2021/11/analysis-of-australias-naval-shipbuilding-programs-some-possible-implications-for-canada/</a> (Analysis of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Programs: Some Possible Implications for Canada)</p>	 <p>Credit: Google Images (Picture source BAE Systems)</p>
<p>Center for International Maritime Security @CIMSEC 24 tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Part 2 of @TBardenwerper89's series on maritime drug enforcement is now out for @CIMSEC. It provides a primer of the various challenges facing the maritime legal system and @USCG's drug enforcement mission. #WriteFightWin (Pushing or Overstepping? Legal Boundaries in the Fight Against Maritime Drug Smuggling, Pt. 2 <a href="https://cimsec.org/pushing-or-overstepping-legal-boundaries-in-the-fight-against-maritime-drug-smuggling-pt-2/">https://cimsec.org/pushing-or-overstepping-legal-boundaries-in-the-fight-against-maritime-drug-smuggling-pt-2/</a>)</p>	

"#Arctic mobility makes tracks"

<https://canadianarmytoday.com/arctic-mobility-makes-tracks/>

@CanadianArmy Domestic Arctic Mobility Enhancement (DAME) project to procure vehicles (plus infrastructure) suitable for use in CAN North



### MND at HISF

Anita Anand @AnitaOakville 20 Nov tweeted: We live in a time of relentless change. In our world of flux, our challenge is to constantly anticipate, adapt, and act. In my first major speech as Minister of National Defence at the @HFXforum, I outlined how I believe Canada can be a force for stability in such a time. 🇨🇦



First, for Canada to be a force for stability, our institutions must be in order. There is a crisis of culture and confidence in our Canadian Armed Forces. Addressing it is my top priority. For our military to be effective, our troops must feel safe, protected, and respected.

Second, we must ensure that our @CanadianForces have the resources they need. Our government's fully-costed defence policy, Strong, Secure, Engaged demonstrates our commitment to the CAF. We have pledged to grow our defence spending by more than 70% between 2016 and 2027.

Third, we must continue to defend our continent, our allies, and the rules-based international order. Rather than giving up on a system that has kept us and the world safe and secure, we reaffirm our commitment to it. This is what our Canadian maple leaf represents.

The world is facing complex and pressing security challenges, and Canada is no different. Canada's path forward is clear. We will continue to be a reliable partner to our allies in support of our highest values – democracy, freedom, and human rights. 🇨🇦 #HFX2021

### Tweets by Tod Strickland, Commandant, Canadian Army Command and Staff College, on Leadership

Tod Strickland @Todstrick 18 Nov tweeted: Points I should have learned as a junior officer (a thread):

1. Learn your craft. Take an interest in your own self-development. Recognize your weaknesses and work to improve them. Doing this will help you be a better member of a combined arms team.
2. Study logistics and command and control. Bluntly put, this is where issues always pop up that could be avoided. Understand how command relationships work, and how sustainment actually is designed to function. This will prevent needless friction.
3. Learn how to communicate - orally, in writing, and visually. Learn how your audience takes in information and work to deliver it appropriate to them.
4. Think before you speak. I learned this the hard way, and made the mistake multiple times. See number 3.



5. Continuously learn. You need to be able to bring more than your training to the table. Seek out opportunities to grow and develop. Operate outside of your comfort zone and profit from your people's experiences. You don't know what they might teach you.
6. Accept that change is normal and is actually the only constant. Things are always evolving, situations are never static, and we all need to be adaptable. Inculcate the mindset in your people...
7. Ask "why" and offer the reason to your people without them having to ask you. If you want to get folks to use their initiative appropriately, they need to understand the why behind an intended action. It helps get buy-in
8. Be curious and stay attuned to the world around you. We talk about an area of interest all the time, but rarely address what that really means - this is the part of the environment you need to pay attention to. Doing so enables you to anticipate tasks and plan ahead.
9. Manage your time. This is hard, there are always competing demands. Prioritize. Build in rest. Give people warning of when you are going to be needing their time. Make this a habit.
10. Build your network and learn from one another. It sounds trite, but it is true. The friends and connections you make now will enable successful outcomes later...

**Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia:**

RUSI(NS) postings may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something posted or commented, email RUSI(NS) by noon Thursday.

**Royal Navy submarines and special forces in underwater race against Russians to recover crashed £100m F-35 fighter jet with top secret stealth technology from the bottom of the Mediterranean**

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10214377/Navy-rushes-recover-100m-F-35B-jet-sea-bed-pilot-ditched.html>

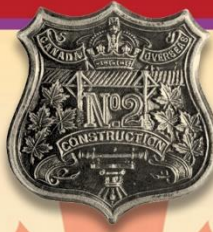
"In March, the US Navy used the (Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage System - FADOSS) to lift a Canadian helicopter from the sea."

Towed pinger locator system, deep water remote-controlled vehicles, underwater lift bags, Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage (winch) System. Specialized kit. One wonders what equipment the Canadian Armed Forces has to recover aircraft lost at sea (especially in deep water).



Are you a descendant of the historic No. 2 Construction Battalion?  
We want to hear from you!

Remembering  
the



No. 2 Construction  
Battalion



To register and learn more, visit our website or call:

[www.no2-cef.ca](http://www.no2-cef.ca) | 1-833-407-7214

Last week in *Dispatches* there was a media release from RUSI(NS) member John Boileau and the No. 2 Construction Battalion Apology National Advisory Committee titled "Search started for descendants of unique First World War unit." The text in its entirety was posted to RUSI(NS) on Facebook.

### Italian Coast Guard to Expand its Fleet with Green Multi-Role Vessel

<https://www.maritime-executive.com/corporate/italian-coast-guard-to-expand-its-fleet-with-green-multi-role-vessel>

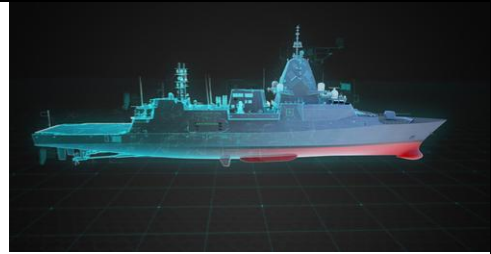


Interesting to read about other state's multi-role vessels, and to think about how they might compare with the Canadian Coast Guard vessels to be built to a variant design of the Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship project.

The article has a "hospital area" in the ship. Whether the facility is actually a hospital (what requirements must a capability meet to be categorized as a ship hospital?) or that is a translation would be interesting to know. Maybe the facility is just a sizable sickbay.

**BAE Systems sends UK's Type 26 frigate design data to Australia**

<https://www.navaltoday.com/2021/11/23/bae-systems-sends-uks-type-26-frigate-design-data-to-australia/>



"Collaboration will also continue with global combat ship partners in the UK and Canada. A variant of the Type 26 reference ship is also in the design phase for the Royal Canadian Navy, and the three programs are sharing common data."

To paraphrase: "Design Separation," a massive undertaking whereby teams in the original ship designer company transfer design information, drawings, data, videos, diagrams and tools to a team of engineers at a builder to establish a new design capability for complex warships in the foreign state.

Has design separation happened for the Type 26-based Canadian Surface Combatant project ships to be built by Irving Shipyards, Halifax?

**U.S. Begins Exercise Off Japan with Canadian, German and Australian Navies**

<https://news.usni.org/2021/11/23/u-s-begins-exercise-off-japan-with-canadian-german-and-australian-navies>



"The exercise will include enhanced maritime communication tactics, anti-submarine warfare operations, air warfare operations, replenishments-at-sea, cross-deck flight operations and maritime interdiction maneuvers'..."

Canada, it seems somewhat quietly, is increasing its defence and security involvement in the Indo-Pacific region. Appropriate to focus there; need foreign policy to back that up.

**US Navy Opens Seabee Base To Help Relieve LA Port Congestion**

<https://gcaptain.com/navy-seabee-base-port-congestion/>



Now there's a novel military provision of assistance to civil authorities. Does Canada have the equivalent of 'Joint Use Agreement' that would allow the Canadian Armed Forces to support commercial supply chain logistics when activated for emergency use? Could also be an interesting test of Canadian military base (Her Majesty's Canadian Dockyards) capabilities to handle major logistics activities in support of military deployments at home and overseas.

### JTF-A Attended 2021 Tri-Party Staff Talks in Norfolk

<https://mapleleafnavy.com/jtf-a-attended-2021-tri-party-staff-talks-in-norfolk/>

FRONTIER SENTINEL, running for about 15 years now, is a major regional live defence and security exercise to practice interoperability between the Canadian Armed Forces, US Navy and US Coast Guard. The exercise is a significant way, along with leadership meetings, staff talks and planning, to ensure a combined (team) Canadian-US approach to responses to threats to the continent ('homeland' in US terminology). The RCMP, CBSA, FBI and many other acronym organizations have participated, with events ranging from the southern North Atlantic to the Great Lakes. The exercise can be quite complex, with terrorism as a strong element in scenarios. As an example of the complexity, see: "Frontier Sentinel 2012 – Multi-jurisdictional Exercise or Ship Raising Event?" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/frontiersentinel2012/>).



RUSI(NS) recently tweeted an article about a US Coast Guard evaluation of the ARKTOS amphibious craft in the Arctic, and questioned what research and development is being done by the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) into advanced vehicles to operate up North (see:

[https://twitter.com/RUSI\\_NS/status/1461283063699320835](https://twitter.com/RUSI_NS/status/1461283063699320835)).

A retired CCG colleague advised: ARKTOS has been around with CCG since the mid-80s. I last saw "Arktos Beta" when we transported it North and dropped it off at Resolute in 1995. Originally two were to be built for the Polar 8. The company continues to engage CCG, post USCG trials as recently as 2019, I believe. The craft are extremely slow and weighty/bulky versus their carrying capacity. The air deployable model recently developed may be more a suitable option for the future. As a response craft, speed and rapid deployment are important factors. As a polar survival craft on board a large vessel/platform the survivability and utility aspects can be seen and speed is not as critical but, simple and rapid deployment is an essential requirement.

Staff from the company provided: ARKTOS

Developments has been in operation for over 20 years in the US Beaufort Sea and the Caspian Sea, Kazakhstan as evacuation craft for offshore oil platforms. The company is developing a smaller size of craft that can be used by RCN, CCG and USCG in the Arctic, and that would be deployable





by a 20 tonne crane/davit (AOPV, icebreakers, etc.) and is CC130J transportable.

And our CCG colleague noted: R&D is under objective 6 of the third pillar of CCG's current integrated business and HR plan, and there are personnel assigned.

The 2020-21 Canadian Coast Guard Integrated Business and Human Resource Plan is at: <https://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/publications/corporation-information-organisation/ibhrp-piarh/docs/ccg-ibhrp-mpo-piafh-eng.pdf> and has as an objective "Advances Arctic scientific research by providing support to government agencies, and industry operating in Canada's Arctic."



### **Other Sources:**

#### **#Afghanistan**

Modern War in an Ancient Land - The United States Army in Afghanistan, 2001-2014

<https://history.army.mil/html/books/059/59-1/>

U.S. Army Center of Military History, two volumes

#### **#cyber operations**

The Art of Camouflage, Stealth and Misdirection

<https://defence.frontline.online/article/2021/1/17094-The-Art-of-Camouflage%2C-Stealth-and-Misdirection>

#### **#deception**

We're Only Deceiving Ourselves

<https://wavelroom.com/2021/05/12/were-only-deceiving-ourselves/>

#### **#Indo-Pacific**

Water Wars: Japan Makes Major Defense Spending Pledges While China Increases Incursions in the South China Sea

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/water-wars-japan-makes-major-defense-spending-pledges-while-china-increases-incursions-south-china>

#### **#information operations**

'Information Disorder' Is Biggest Social Danger, Commission Warns

<https://www.defenseone.com/threats/2021/11/information-disorder-biggest-social-danger-commission-warns/186912/>

and

Aspen Digital Commission on Information Disorder Final Report

[https://www.aspeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Aspen-Institute\\_Commission-on-Information-Disorder\\_Final-Report.pdf](https://www.aspeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Aspen-Institute_Commission-on-Information-Disorder_Final-Report.pdf)

## #procurement

Can We Learn from Successful Procurements?

<https://defence.frontline.online/article/2021/1/16364-Can-We-Learn-from-Successful-Procurements%3F>

## #submarines #Arctic

Nuclear or bust: Canadians face uncomfortable choice for new submarines

<https://www.hilltimes.com/2021/11/17/nuclear-or-bust-canadians-face-uncomfortable-choice-for-new-submarines/328408>

Article available to RUSI(NS) members on request.

## #wargaming


Getting the Most out of Your Wargame: Practical Advice for Decision-Makers

<https://warontherocks.com/2019/11/getting-the-most-out-of-your-wargame-practical-advice-for-decision-makers/>

## Other:

# MESSAGE

from the Minister of National Defence



November 25, 2021

Today, Prime Minister Trudeau announced the appointment of General Wayne Eyre as Canada's new Chief of the Defence Staff. I extend my congratulations to General Eyre as he officially assumes command as Chief of the Defence Staff, continuing the work he began in an acting role in February.

This is a critical time for Canada and the Canadian Armed Forces. Canada has always striven to be a force of stability around the globe, and our armed forces have consistently played a key role in this mission. We know that there is currently a crisis of culture, and of confidence, in our Canadian Armed Forces, which has resulted in broken trust. Rebuilding that trust is crucial.

General Eyre will continue to build and oversee cultural change in the Canadian Armed Forces in a positive and enduring way, ensuring that our military better represents the Canadians it serves, while maintaining our commitments to our partners and allies around the world. He and I will continue to work together to build a military where all members feel safe, protected, and respected, wherever they are, whatever they are doing.

General Eyre will also continue to work with me as our government makes significant investments in our Canadian Armed Forces as outlined in our Defence policy, *Strong, Secure, Engaged*. This twenty-year roadmap ensures that our military can meet the challenges of our world's evolving security environment. This plan allows Canada to continue to be a reliable partner in defending the rules-based international order around the globe.

Over the past two years, we have been reminded just how crucial our Defence Team is to the fabric of our nation. Whether by working to save lives in long-term care homes, supporting provinces and

territories in responding to national disasters, or defending Canadian interests around the globe, every day our Defence Team puts service before self and represents our country's highest values.

Again, let me congratulate General Eyre on his appointment. I look forward to working with him as we tackle the important issues facing the Canadian Armed Forces, now and in the future.

The Honourable Anita Anand, PC, MP  
Minister of National Defence



November 25, 2021

To all members of the Canadian Armed Forces and wider Defence Team – Hello, Bonjour, Kwey.

This message is sent to you from the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people, who have been stewards of these lands for millennia. I recognize that their culture and presence have nurtured and continue to nurture this territory to this day.

I was asked to continue to serve as Chief of the Defence Staff, and I have agreed to do so.

I take on this substantive role with my eyes wide open, knowing the rough road that lies ahead and the challenges that come with this position — particularly as we work to reconcile the troubling elements of the CAF's past and present, in order to build a better institution, all in the face of a deteriorating global security environment.

There will be no ceremony given the circumstances. We don't need one. Instead, we need to focus on the important work that lies ahead, for all of us. This appointment changes nothing in my approach.

Still, I wanted to take a moment to connect with you and to reaffirm my commitment to you – the incredible people who put on the uniform every day, and the many outstanding public servants who are part of the broader Defence Team family.

I am truly inspired by your selfless service to Canadians at home and around the world.

The world is more dangerous today than it has been at any other time since the Cold War. We continue to face a number of threats and challenges, both foreign and domestic. Both internal and external. To our country, there are those who seek to cause harm to us and to damage our institutions and their effectiveness.

The Canadian Armed Forces will continue to work with our allies and trusted international partners to counter aggression and destabilizing forces around the world – in Central and Eastern Europe, in the Indo-Pacific region, and in our own continental waters. Global crises, like the situation that unfolded in Afghanistan last summer, will continue to demand our attention – we must be ready.

Here at home, challenges such as climate change are altering the way we prepare for and conduct operations — and the type of operations we carry out. Hundreds of you are now supporting emergency flood relief efforts in British Columbia — at the end of a busy year in which many of you were deployed to help fight wildfires in B.C. and Manitoba, to support forest-fire evacuations in remote communities in Ontario and to mitigate flooding in Yukon.

And all this work has been done in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic — which we all know has not been kind to the CAF. We have all experienced the pandemic's negative impact on our personal lives and our operational readiness.

At the same time, we continue to grapple with a crisis of confidence in leadership emerging from a failure to evolve our internal culture.

This culture change is — along with continuing to deliver operationally, while rebuilding our readiness and modernizing the CAF — the core of reconstitution efforts that will drive our priorities going forward.

There are positive aspects of our culture – the desire for one to be part of something bigger, the willingness to put oneself into harm's way to protect others and the selflessness of putting aside one's own needs for the good of the country that we must retain and indeed celebrate.

It is the exclusionary aspects inherent in parts of our culture that we are addressing to ensure current and future members are safe, valued and able to focus on their most important task, protecting Canada and Canadians. We must retain, and be able to attract, talent from all segments of Canadian society. Canadians must see themselves in their armed forces – our future depends on it.

At the heart of everything we do is our people.

You are key to our operational effectiveness. And if we are to succeed as an organization — to be the military Canada needs and deserves — every member of the Canadian Armed Forces and broader Defence Team must feel welcomed, supported, empowered and inspired to bring their very best to the table each and every day.

I acknowledge that for many of you, this has not been your experience.

I recognize that our failure to adequately address misconduct within the CAF has resulted in significant harm to survivors, and eroded trust in the Chain of Command.

I also recognize the demoralizing effect that this is having on people at all levels of our organization.

We can, must, and will do better.

My promise to you is this: On my watch, we will approach this transformation of our culture with openness, humility, compassion and a determination to learn and improve. We must seek to improve our institution every day.

This is our challenge. This is our opportunity for a better, brighter future.

There will be mistakes and missteps along the way – that invariably comes with change. But moving forward is imperative. The status quo is *not* an option.

We all have a role to play, and we all must ensure our professional conduct aligns with the CAF's core values and principles — first and foremost, respect for the worth and dignity of every individual.

Those who choose not to — those who will not uphold these values and principles — have no place in our armed forces.

I am deeply thankful to everyone working to effect real change, who offer their time, who continue to engage, and who have pushed for this change by helping us understand their diverse perspectives and lived experiences.

The last nine months have been difficult. They have been fraught with unrelenting operational demands, uncertainty and crises; making them some of the most challenging days of my career.

I have struggled to find balance, and there have been missteps as I pushed myself to listen, learn and consult broadly, before acting — sure of one thing, above all else: That I don't have all the answers.

But together, we will change the direction of this institution. We will not reach the end of this journey on my watch, but we have begun, and we will continue.

A life of service can be immensely rewarding — but it is never easy. Never easy on those of us who wear the uniform — and those who support us at home.

Our loved ones, families and families of choice know, feel and experience the stress that service to Canada can create.

Many of you have spoken to me about the challenges of affordable housing for you and your families, stress compounded by rising cost of living and our operational tempo.

I know my own family has felt the stress and worry that comes with service — I know they often wondered if I would return from deployments, and if so if I would return whole and healthy.

To my own family: It is clear that my taking on this role adds to the burden you have borne over the years — but this is one more mission for us, and likely my final one. I thank you for your love and your own service to our country behind the scenes.

And to the outstanding people of the Canadian Armed Forces and broader Defence Team: Canada needs you now, more than ever.

As we confront these challenges, we must rise above the toxicity of our times and remember why we serve. We must always be there for Canada and Canadians.

As we challenge ourselves, as we struggle, learn and grow, I ask each of you to continue to do what so many of you do each and every day.

Take care of yourselves and continue to look out for one another.

Continue to carry out your duties to the very best of your abilities. Continue to defend Canada and Canadians. And continue to take well-deserved pride in your service. These will be sources of stability in times of great change. You are amongst the very best sailors, soldiers, aviators and public servants in the world.

Serve ethically, morally and professionally.

Serve with humility, an open heart and an open mind.

Serving alongside you — including now, as your Chief of the Defence Staff — is one of the greatest honours of my life.

For this, and for everything else you and your families sacrifice to keep the CAF strong and our country safe, you have my enduring gratitude.

Thank you. Merci. Miigwetch.

General Wayne Eyre  
Chief of the Defence Staff

### **Naval Association of Canada 6 December Speaker Event - NORAD Renewal**

The Canadian-U.S. Permanent Joint Board on Defense has been in existence for over 80 years. This binational board of experts provides advice to the prime minister and president on how best to defend North America. The pressing topic today is North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) modernization and the renewal of its aged radar sensors in the Arctic.

The North Warning System, a series of unmanned, long- and short-range radars dotting the North American Arctic and Greenland in support of air defense and frontier control, is reaching its end of serviceable life. The American and Canadian defence industries are racing for a chance to provide both militaries with the latest technology to replace the old radars. But to what ends? More sensors are not the magic solution to “modernizing” NORAD. Sensors are but one very small part of a wider effort to reconsider what it means to defend North America — beyond technology and the North Warning System.

December speaker Dr. Andrea Charron will examine this wider effort.

Dr. Charron holds a PhD from the Royal Military College of Canada (Department of War Studies). She obtained a Masters in International Relations from Webster University, Leiden, The Netherlands, a Master's of Public Administration from Dalhousie University and a Bachelor of Science (Honours) from Queen's University. Dr. Charron worked for various federal departments including the Privy Council Office in the Security and Intelligence Secretariat. She completed her post doctorate at Carleton's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs and is now Associate Professor and Director of the Centre for Defence and Security Studies (CDSS) at the University of Manitoba.



### **Transcripts, MND at Halifax International Security Forum:**

President of the Halifax International Security Forum Peter Van Praagh and Minister of National Defence Anita Anand deliver remarks at the Welcome Session of the 2021 Halifax International Security Forum  
Minister of National Defence Anita Anand participates in a Halifax Chat with Liberal MP Andy Fillmore at the 2021 Halifax International Security Forum

*Available on request to RUSI(NS).*

Keynote address by Minister of National Defence Anita Anand to the Halifax International Security Forum

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/11/halifax-international-security-forum-opening-keynote.html>

**Lloyd's Register** Foundation Heritage & Education Centre

<https://hec.lrfoundation.org.uk/>

Some interesting content such as Ships Plans and Survey Reports and Wreck Returns.

## **Security Affairs Committee Synopsis**

### **A Form of O Canada**

The Canadian Coast Guard is undergoing a renaissance, with several classes of ice capable ships including icebreakers being built or acquired. This is important as Canada is the only country in the world that keeps its icebreakers going all year long. The first season is our normal winter in the south; Canadian icebreakers work in the Great Lakes region, the St Lawrence, around Newfoundland and the Gulf of St Lawrence as well. The second season is in Canada's North during the summer and the shoulder seasons as part of the necessary re-supply of northern communities. More recently, the Coast Guard has participated with the Canadian Armed Forces in northern exercises, especially those exercises requiring the skill sets and equipment of virtually all departments. These have grown over the last few years and should be enhanced by the opening of the ship refueling centre at Nanisivik in Northern Baffin Island in 2022, hopefully. Originally Nanisivik was supposed to be much more than just a refueling station but as per most things in the North it has been downsized although alongside refueling will be a bonus. There is an old airfield about ten to twelve kms south of the harbour that might be worth upgrading. Imagine a joint forces base in the North, what a concept with a naval base, a useable airfield and maybe an army training base in one location with positioned equipment built for the Arctic. One can only hope it is not too late.

Speaking of the Arctic and Offshore Vessels, they were built to include extra bunkering, so it will be possible to have a RCN AOPV refuel a Coast Guard vessel or vice versa as the case may be. Interoperability should be almost automatic but there are concerns about inter-departmental conflicts. If Canada is to secure its own North, joint operations between departments will be vital for the future. The lack of government direction will hamper the effectiveness of any local initiatives, not to mention inter-agency rivalry such as navy versus coast guard or older thinking about the role of organizations.

Last year, a Chinese "adventurer" sailed through the North West Passage with little or no issue or interference by the Canadian government. Given Communist China's actions in other locations, this will be seen as an opportunity to interfere. Canada has done little to stop individual civilian small craft from exploiting our lack of means to manoeuvre in our Arctic waters. This activity continues to grow. Other increasing activity is the growth in cruise ship traffic which is regulated, however Canada's ability to assist in a major incident is lacking. Currently there is only one seasonal lifeboat available in the North that is permanently stationed in Rankin Inlet. Canada has been sleepwalking towards a loss of sovereignty in these issues. Nor has Canada really responded to Russia's undertaking to create a Russian Arctic Fleet that will eventually include up to thirty vessels including submarines, nor the buildup of dual-purpose airfields. It should be noted that Russia intends to exploit the changing climate to better utilize the North East Passage. Most of these facilities are for Arctic patrol and search and rescue and since they are within Russia proper, they are entirely right to do so in preparation for a larger amount of shipping in the future. China has conducted exploration of a third route as well as they also see the opportunities in the North for shortening the distance to Europe and North America.

Canada has not charted the Canadian North effectively; it is a sorry state of affairs and one that if we do nothing someone else will.

Also in question is whether our overall security agencies are organized for the present circumstances of infiltration by outside intelligence and police agencies as described by CSIS, whether the Canadian government has given sufficient resources to battle cyber-warfare and whether there is enough bite in legislation to encourage private businesses to report attacks and more importantly enable private businesses to access the necessary training and data bases to better help themselves. The RCMP is due for some reformation as well - perhaps it is time for the federal police to become federal police and get out of community policing completely and allow provinces to develop provincial police. This would allow the federal police service to concentrate on cross provincial border crime, espionage, international trafficking, infiltration, major financial crimes, cooperation with international agencies, etc. The real issue is how they all coordinate these security agencies. Canada needs to become better equipped to handle major crime as it goes cross many boundaries both geographical and in capability.

### **Belarus**

The Lukashenko regime has been hoisted on its own petard as they now have an increasing number of refugees and immigrants caught within the country. The regime's efforts have failed and they now find themselves having to "beg" the EU to let them into the EU. The EU is not sympathetic at relieving Belarus from its responsibilities. Minsk is now full of refugees being housed and cared for by Belarus. There are also indications that Moscow is not pleased either as Russia was also thought to be at least partially responsible for these circumstances which may have affected the approval of North Stream 2 pipeline to Europe. Belarus will also be further sanctioned because of their actions. The EU is not happy with many aspects of Poland's current government though it has supported Poland and Lithuania in this matter. How this will end is another question but there are notable losers and that is the immigrants and refugees. It is also clear that no country should get away with using the least fortunate as pawns and there have to be consequences.

Iraq has re-patriated more than 400 Iraqi citizens from Belarus and Minsk is stating that it has returned at least 100 more according to Aljazeera, but there are still thousands of refugees within Belarus' borders. Lukashenko tried to get the EU to accept 2000 while Belarus might return 5000 more to their place of origin. It is now known that at least 12 refugees have succumbed to the weather and conditions. The border remains tense with Lithuania and Poland. One French report from France 24, stated that more than 1000 kms of border fencing have gone up on the EU border. It is further complicated by the EU's issues with Poland and its current government which is not meeting EU standards in governance and in the judiciary. Thus far the EU is supporting Poland in this area. This matter will likely continue, but it seems Minsk is moving toward removing these refugees to their home countries.

### **Russia**

The Russian regime's greatest failure is its Covid response as nearly 9.5m folks have been sick with over 260k losing their lives but more importantly the death toll per day is over 1200 daily with over 33k getting sick per day officially. Despite lockdowns the numbers are continuing to increase as the regime's efforts to get people to vaccinate is falling on deaf ears. One has to admit Russia's disinformation campaign has been so good that much of it has returned to Russia as skepticism about the Sputnik V vaccine. The reluctance for people to get it has virtually stopped any possibility of Russia getting the pandemic under control.



Speaking of other types of out of control, the regime has vastly increased its attacks on even Russian information firms and journalists and even researchers, and tagging organizations or individuals as a foreign agent. The Economist has a series of articles on the issue of the regime crackdown which is worth the read. This is not new news, the crackdown on political rivals, oligarchs or financiers of various sorts, foreign internet firms, news outlets individual journalists and anyone else who happens to get in the way of the regime have been dealt with in some fashion. The latest is to get the individuals or key folks in an organization to flee the country. Seems to work, at least for now. Mr Putin used to have a popularity rating of over 80% but now it is suggested that it is now in the low 30s as a percentage. The overall measure is a continuation of a downward trend which may not end well.

There are 12 Russian armies, three in the Western Military District (MD), 1<sup>st</sup> Tank, 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Combined Arms Army (CAA), three in the Southern MD, including 8<sup>th</sup>, 49<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> CAA, two in the Central MD including 2<sup>nd</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> CAA and lastly four in the Eastern MD including the 5<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> CAA. According to multiple media outlets in the Ukraine and the US, elements of both the Western and Southern MDs are now at the Ukraine borde with 100k troops with equipment. Much of this equipment is pre-positioned. Both the US and the Ukraine are stating that a Russian attack is possible in the near future. Keep in mind there are also 45k rebel troops of varying capability in the rebel-held Donbass and more Russian troops in occupied Crimea. There is also reason to doubt this information as it would lead in all likelihood an all-out conflict which could rapidly get out of control which is not desired by anyone in their right mind.

As I write that last paragraph, I am reminded about the circumstances that lead to the First World War in Margaret MacMillan's book "The War that Ended the Peace" where a series of incidents coupled with military agreement and treaties led to an almost accidental opening of the conflict. Could it happen; the answer is yes it could.

## **China**

China is still undergoing the effects of Covid. They have never seemed to really have the situation completely under control contrary to many pronouncements. Lock downs continue in much of the country. It should be noted that China continues to be opaque about the effects of the disease overall as well as being less than helpful throughout the pandemic to discover how this occurred in the first place. China has consistently proven untrustworthy in these efforts to better understand the course of the virus. It is likely that they will continue to conduct themselves in a manner that will make future similar events more likely.

The biggest issue in regard to China within multiple media outlets was the disappearance of the Chinese Olympic tennis sta, Peng Shuai who accused Vice- Premier Zhang Gaoli, a former member of the Chinese Communist Party's ruling elite, of sexual assault. He was 72 and she was 32 at the time of the incident. She made the comments about the incident on social media which has been taken down since. She disappeared for a short period but Zhang has not been seen at all. It has become a sensation in China because it does involve the current ruling elite. Although played down, Chinese citizens appear to be fully aware of the corruption of the CCP's elite. It is particularly embarrassing as Zhang was Vice-Premier when the current scheduled winter Olympics was awarded to Beijing. An embarrassing international incident just before the winter Olympics would be considered a massive "black eye" for Beijing. These Olympics are already under considerable fire because of the CCP's cultural genocide actions against Tibetans and Uyghurs as well as the quashing of pro-democracy advocates in Hong Kong, not to mention its threats of war against Taiwan. The US President has also stated that they are considering boycotting some aspects of the games. It was interesting to see Enes Kantor of the NBA calling out fellow athletes about their support for firms using slave labour and

calling for a full boycott and removal of the games from China. It has not gone over well but seems to have taken on a life of its own. This is not over yet.

Much has been made of late of China's Peoples' Liberation Army Navy becoming the largest navy in the world but tonnage tells a different story. The Chinese navy's recognized fleet is about two million tons while the US Navy runs over 6 million tons. While China has more hulls; they are less capable ships of varying degrees of capability. China's maritime outlets are also easily shut within the first island chain. China has major difficulties beyond the coastline. It is something to consider. This is not to say China has not increased its capabilities but there is in no danger as yet of China replacing the US Navy. It also doesn't take into that the US will likely have a lot of friends as well. Neither the navy nor air force is fully modernized. One has to wonder how much Xi will be willing to lose to try to take Taiwan.

This is all for now although the world has many issues; can we say Ethiopia as one example and there are many more?

## SAVE THE DATE

On behalf of our Vice-President Maritime Affairs, Mme Louise Mercier,  
You are cordially invited to attend our

### **Virtual Maritime Affairs Lunch**

where we are pleased to host as our guest speaker  
Rear Admiral (Ret'd) Simon Page  
ADM Defence and Marine Procurement  
PSPC,

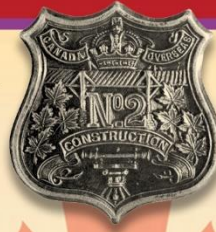
December 9th 2021  
12:15-1:00

Login Details to be provided with registration  
We await your kind reply to RSVP at  
[cmarch@navyleague.ca](mailto:cmarch@navyleague.ca)



**Are you a descendant of the historic No. 2 Construction Battalion?  
We want to hear from you!**

*Remembering  
the*



*No. 2 Construction  
Battalion*



**To register and learn more, visit our website or call:**

**[www.no2-cef.ca](http://www.no2-cef.ca) | 1-833-407-7214**

### **Search started for descendants of unique First World War unit**

Are you a descendant of a member of No. 2 Construction Battalion, also known as “The Black Battalion”? If so, the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia (BCCNS) wants to hear from you and involve you in a milestone event next July.

During the First World War, Black men who wanted to serve King and Country were usually rebuffed when they tried to join the Canadian Expeditionary Force. At the time, unit commanding officers had the authority to accept or reject recruits as they wished. Most chose not to accept Black men, using a variety of excuses.

Despite the discrimination and racism they faced, a few hundred Black men succeeded in enrolling. But more wanted to join. Eventually, pressure from Black community leaders and others convinced the government to accept more Black men.

But there was a catch—a segregated unit would be created. And, although the soldiers were Black, the officers were white. The one exception was the unit chaplain, Honorary Captain the Reverend William Andrew White, one of only a handful of Black Canadian officers during the war.

On July 5, 1916, No. 2 Construction Battalion was established at Pictou, Nova Scotia. As the province had the largest Black population at the time, it was thought it would be the best place to form the unit. When initial numbers of recruits proved disappointing, authority was given to recruit nationally.

No. 2 sailed to Britain in March 1917 and deployed to France in May as a 500-man strong company. The unit spent the rest of the war in the Vosges Mountains of southeastern France, where it assisted companies of the Canadian Forestry Corps in timber operations.

Lumber was a very critical commodity during the First World War, more so than in later wars. It was used for revetting the sides of trenches, duckboards for the bottom of trenches or across muddy terrain, artillery gun platforms, railway ties, ammunition boxes, accommodation huts and many more uses.

When the war ended, the unit returned to Canada and was disbanded in September 1920. The Black Battalion faded into history—unsung.

Over the years, members of the Black community lobbied the federal government for some form of recognition for the men of No. 2 Construction Battalion. On March 28, 2021, then Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan announced the intention of the government to apologize to the descendants of the members of the unit for the racism and discrimination they had faced.

As a result, a No. 2 Construction Battalion Apology National Advisory Committee was formed to assist the government in planning the events associated with the formal apology. Its members come from across Canada and include representatives of the Black Cultural Centre, descendants of the men of the unit, serving CAF members, historians and others with an interest in redressing the discrimination the men of the unit faced.

A series of events is planned for July 5-9, 2022, with the main apology ceremony scheduled for Halifax on July 9, 2022.

Battalion members are listed at [www.bccns.com](http://www.bccns.com). You or someone you know could be a descendant. If so, please email BCCNS at [contact@bccns.com](mailto:contact@bccns.com) to learn more.

Contact

John Boileau

Phone: 902-832-2111

Email: [johnboileau@bellaliant.net](mailto:johnboileau@bellaliant.net)