



DCC Project Managers: Certified and Supporting DND

Throughout all phases of the project delivery process, from planning to design to construction, DND project leaders demand skilled, competent support. DCC specialized personnel are open to offering DND advice on project objectives, on managing resources, on monitoring performance and on much more.

To ensure DND has the level of support it requires, an increasing number of DCC project managers have become certified Project Management Professionals (or PMPs, for short).

Rob Surgenor, for example, is a senior contracting officer (613-998-0058) at DCC who got his PMP in May 2002. "Working in the area I'm in, there are a lot of tools to use, but having the

PMP standardizes the processes and helps us understand the underlying philosophies and principles of project management."

For Surgenor, having the PMP helps him work with DND clients. "They've been going through the same process so we're all on the same platform, talking the same language and having the same concerns, directions and goals."

PMP certification is becoming standard at DCC, and now some 15 of its staffers have achieved it. At DCC, PMP candidates gather in "study groups" that meet weekly over lunch. They go over material, take turns reviewing sections, study practice tests and generally help each other make it through.

One becomes a PMP by passing a rigorous exam process set out by the US-based Project Management Institute. The PMP certification was the first in the world to get ISO 9001 recognition. The exam itself takes four hours and consists of 200 questions.

To qualify to even write the exam, you need 7500 hours of work experience as a project manager (or 4500 if you have a four-year degree). And once you have your PMP, you have to maintain it through either a recognized course or through self-directed study.

For Surgenor, having the designation not only deepened his understanding of his own field, but helped him understand how his most important clients see things.

Award-Winning Environmental Work for DRDC

Working with Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC), DCC's environmental experts have played a major role in a project recognized by the US government as "compliance project of the year."

The award was presented on December 3 at the annual conference of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program, a part of the US Department of Defense.

For DCC, the project began when DRDC Valcartier asked for help at CFB Shilo. As a result of a proposal submitted to DRDC in 2001-02, DCC assisted with

a major research project at the training range in Shilo to characterize the levels of specific contaminants after years of training activities. As a follow-up to the Shilo project, DCC identified the need for characterization at 4 Wing Cold Lake, and initiated a similar characterization effort with DRDC.

"Apparently some ranges have already closed on the US side because of public pressure over contamination," says Hans Mooij, the environmental program manager with the DCC's Western Regional Office (780-495-2555), who attended the SERDP session in Washington, DC.

The award was presented to the research scientists from DRDC Valcartier. DCC was invited to the award ceremony along with 4 Wing Cold Lake.

A major part of the job involved working with drilling crews to install and develop a large number of groundwater sampling wells. DCC also assisted with collecting range soils, biomass, groundwater and surface water samples, and then managing all samples centrally. Subsequently, DRDC asked DCC to follow up on additional well data recording and field sampling activities at Shilo.

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DCC employee Derek Lougher-Goodey (*left*) has been awarded the NATO Medal and the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal for his work as a contract manager with DND's National Support Element in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He is presented here with his medals by DCC president Ross Nicholls (*right*). Both medals have also been won by DCC employees Jean-Francois Simard, Shawn Bindon, Paula Clarke and Steve Kukulka.

The Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada (ACEC) will be working with DCC in its capacity as the contracting agency for Construction and Property Services at DND's Infrastructure and Environment Group. An MOU was signed on October 9. From left to right are Ross Nicholls, BGen Steve Irwin (director general of Construction and Property Services) and Claude Paul Boivin (ACEC president).



The Learning and Career Centre at Gagetown, New Brunswick, opened on October 30. Pictured at the ribbon cutting are, from left to right, J Stewart, Dir CHRSC(A); LGen J Couture, ADM (Hr-Mil); G Carpentier, DGLPD; and Col B McLeod, Comd 3ASG. Also visible in the back is LCdr R Durrent, 3ASG Sr Chaplain.

Defence Minister John McCallum was on hand to open the Firefighting Training Facility in Halifax on October 23. This was one of two such facilities that DCC was involved in, handling project management, tendering, contracting and commissioning of construction.

What's New at DCC

DCC On the Move

Brent DiBartolo DND's ADM for infrastructure and environment, and a DCC board member, is now the assistant secretary for labour relations and compensation operations at Treasury Board Secretariat.

Ron deVries, DCC vice president of Contract and Client Services, was recently appointed president of the Canadian Public Procurement Council, which supports the public procurement community across Canada. DCC works to build close ties with the contractors and consultants who are contracted to work for DND. Other organizations with which DCC maintains close ties are the Canadian Construction Association, the insurance industry, the Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and the Canadian Design-Build Institute.

Mike Griffin (613-371-7197) started work on October 10 as a DCC project manager. He provides service to Defence

Research and Development Canada, which is part of DND. This means that he manages major construction programs. Before coming to DCC, he was an engineer with the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency. Trained as a civil engineer, Mike comes from a military family and was raised in Ottawa.

When Canadian troops deploy outside the country, they need someone to hook up the utilities. This is a new area for DCC and a new area in particular for **Hans Gardner** (613-293-5210), who joined DCC on September 6 as a special projects officer. His job is to develop procedures to support deployed operations, as well as to arrange training of DCC site representatives, who are starting to handle many of the quality control and contract administration details involved in being deployed long-term in foreign countries. There are, for example, two site reps in Bosnia, and Hans himself will be going there next year.

Community Awareness

Helping those in need—DCC is sponsoring a family through the Shepherds of Good Hope, an Ottawa charity. Employees donated food for their Christmas dinner and purchased gifts with money raised through different activities throughout the year.

United Way 2002—The DCC head office and Ottawa site office raised \$11,000 for the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign.

On behalf of all us at DCC, we'd like to wish you and yours a joyous holiday season, and look forward to working with you throughout 2003.