



## Groundbreaking at 14 Wing Greenwood

Soon, soldiers and civilians taking training at 14 Wing Greenwood in Nova Scotia will be studying in a new \$8.85-million training facility.

The three-storey building, with a footprint of approximately 1950 square metres, will house a wide variety of specialized spaces. Facilities will include more than 20 classrooms, a library, music rooms, a first-aid training room, a lecture theatre, offices, a firearms training simulator and weapons storage space.

DCC awarded the project to Roscoe Construction (1985) Limited on August 27.



Less than a month later, on September 22, the project kicked off with a sod turning ceremony—and one of the happiest people to see that silver shovel go into the ground was Melinda Nycholat, (902-765-1761) site manager for the Greenwood program.

Nycholat was particularly eager to get the project underway because of one specific feature of the site: its very high water table. That required a special raised foundation incorporating crushed rock, and Nycholat wanted to make sure there was lots of time to lay the foundation before winter set in.

All is going according to schedule, she reports, with the building due to open in late October 2005.



The construction management team for this project consists of Nycholat and project coordinators Ray Lamb and Kenda Hudson (both can be reached at 902-765-1761). Lamb is the primary person responsible for the day-to-day management of the contract, with assistance from Hudson as site engineer. Nycholat will oversee the overall implementation.

**Caption:** Pictured above and at left are pictures taken at the groundbreaking ceremony with DND and DCC personnel.

## 17 Wing Winnipeg Preserves Prairie Heritage

Before Europeans settled the Canadian West, an ecosystem known as tall grass prairie (TGP) dominated the landscape. In Manitoba alone, TGP covered an estimated 600,000 hectares. Today, less than 300 hectares remain in the province.

A decade ago, DND learned that a 100-hectare parcel of land behind the range backstops at the St. Charles Rifle Range in Winnipeg is one of the province's last major areas of undisturbed TGP.

The land has never been broken for farming. Not only that, but it's a particularly rare type of TGP called lake bottom TGP, which grows in the sediment left behind by ancient Glacial Lake Agassiz.

Since the mid-1990s, DND has worked to preserve the St. Charles Rifle Range TGP as a vital ecological resource. For

instance, DND has set limits on vehicular and human traffic through the site and each spring, the department conducts a controlled burn to rid the site of invasive species such as aspen.

As a result of growing interest in the TGP, in 2002, DND initiated a management committee for the site. The St. Charles Range Environmental Advisory Group, also known as the SCREAG, includes members from local academic institutions, federal and provincial government departments and local environmental groups.

SCREAG advises the Wing Commander on the management of the TGP. Over the past two years, Mark Dettman, DCC Environmental Coordinator at 17 Wing Winnipeg, has actively assisted DND with the overall management of the TGP at the

St. Charles Rifle Range through the coordination of the committee's meetings, aiding in the annual burns and performing background research on different management strategies and technologies.

"Conservation of sites like these are important," Dettman notes. "It's satisfying to see how the department has embraced its protection."

DND, assisted by DCC, has recently worked closely with World Wildlife Fund Canada to manage the site. On September 13, DND and WWF hosted an open house at the range that was attended by DND and WWF personnel, SCREAG members, grass roots environmental organizations as well as the local press. During the open house, the partners unveiled a large, bilingual sign, funded by WWF, that informs visitors of the site's significance.

## Corporate Planning Session September 28–29, 2004



Continuous improvement, innovation and developing a strategic human resources vision were key topics at DCC's planning session in September. Senior managers met in Ottawa for two days as part of DCC's annual planning process.

The group, pictured here is: from left to right, Steve Karpyshin, Director, Western Region, Dave McCuaig, Director, National Operations Group, Angelo Ottoni, Chief Financial Officer, Shawn Bindon, Special Assistant to the President, Ross Welsman, Area Engineer, Atlantic Region, Ross Nicholls, President, Russ Perrie, V.P. Operations, Randy McGee, Director, Ontario Region, Stephanie Ryan, Planning and Communications Officer, Mike Darrow, Director, Atlantic Region, Ron de Vries, V.P. Contract and Client Services, Marc Lanteigne, Director, Quebec Region.

### Kids are Key

Does spending the weekend winter camping with 20 kids sound like fun? For Patricia Baker, DCC Site Manager at ASU London, it's all in a day's "work" in her role as a volunteer with a local Scouting troop. Her troop of boys and girls aged 11 to 15 plans 10 camps a year, and she helps them develop the skills they need. "When they start at 11 with the little tasks, by the time they're 15, they've learned a lot," says Baker, who was a Brownie and a Guide as a child. Her troop also takes on community projects, such as an environmental project that saw them haul 500 abandoned tires out of a ravine.

Richard Allie, Manager of Contract Services at headquarters in Ottawa, is involved with three camps a year as senior leader of a Cub pack. There are also weekly meetings where the Cubs, aged eight to 10, participate in activities to earn badges and stars. He spent four years in the Scout movement as a child and became a parent volunteer in 1997, because he loves being outdoors, being with kids, and passing on knowledge such as the camping skills he gained as a member of the Canadian Forces.

His colleague Brigitte Trau, Administrative Assistant, Contract Services, has a 24-year involvement with the Girl Guides of Canada: 10 years as a young participant and 14 as an adult leader. As a Division Commissioner with the Girl Guides of Canada, she takes on many tasks, which include helping lead local and international trips for groups of girls. These visits give girls a chance to meet others from around the world with whom they share common interests. "The nice thing is that nobody's a stranger. They're all sisters, so to speak," Trau says.

## New Kitchen Opens at Connaught Ranges Primary Training Centre



If the way to soldiers' hearts are through their stomachs, this past spring, DND has won over the 9,500 CF members, reservists and cadets who pass through the Connaught Ranges Primary Training Centre in Ottawa each year.

On April 30, a new, \$5.3-million dining/kitchen facility opened at the centre.

"It's replacing one of the original buildings, substantially increasing the ability of the site to feed people," says John Blasko (613-991-9120), Ottawa site manager for DCC. He worked with project coordinators Roger Massie and Ray Joannis on the one-year project.

DCC handled contracting, tendering, management and commissioning of the 500-seat, 2,300-square-metre building, which was built by Taplen Construction Limited of Ottawa.

In addition, DCC awarded the contract for the facility's



furnishings, including tables, chairs and appliances.

"We don't normally equip a building, so that was a bit different for us," says Blasko.

**Photos above show the new kitchen and dining hall at Connaught Ranges in Ottawa, Ontario.**

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