

DCC employee receives CF Medallion for Distinguished Service

Elia Miller, Manager, Site Operations, at the DCC Toronto Site Office, recently received the Canadian Forces (CF) Medallion for Distinguished Service. Elia served as the first DCC Site Office Manager in Kandahar between May and December 2007. He is one of a growing number of DCC employees who have answered the call to serve CF operations outside of Canada.

He was selected for the award for his “outstanding professionalism as an Engineering Project Officer in Afghanistan, from May to December 2007. He coordinated the delivery

of construction projects and services throughout the theatre of operations, resulting in an unprecedented level of integration between the Canadian Forces and Defence Construction Canada.”

Introduced in 1995, the CF Medallion for Distinguished Service is a Chief of Defence Staff award presented to “individuals who provide a rare and exceptionally high standard of service to the CF.” To date, only 98 medallions have been awarded. Elia is the first DCC employee to receive this important award.



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DCC holds successful United Way campaign

DCC employees in the Ottawa-area contributed \$30,266.19 to the 2008 Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC). DCC had set its campaign goal at \$23,500 this year.

The GCWCC is a fundraising initiative developed exclusively for federal public servants. Through the campaign,

public servants can support the United Way, Health Partners or any other registered Canadian charity. DCC employees have been actively contributing to the GCWCC for the past six years.



DCC Site Office Profile – 17 Wing Winnipeg

The DCC Site Office at 17 Wing Winnipeg may not be the fastest growing or most rapidly changing one in the country. But, with a construction program of \$16-million for the 2008-2009 and a workforce 11 members strong, it is a vibrant site office coordinating a variety of projects for diverse client groups.

This year, the office finished phase 5 of what was to be a five-phase ramp rehabilitation project. But, the \$18-million project, which began in 2003, was extended by another three years to allow for work on the southwest corner of the ramp and two taxiways. While DND owns the property, the taxiways are controlled by the Winnipeg Airport Authority.



DCC staff members also coordinate around \$1-million worth of projects on behalf of the Canadian Forces Housing Agency (CFHA), which is responsible for over 565 rental housing units on the base. In 2008, a number of driveways were repaved. Next year, the CFHA has lined up projects to repair sidewalks and steps leading to married quarters.

The construction program is expected to increase to \$18-million in 2009. This will include \$2,5 million roadwork project. The staff at the DCC 17 Wing Winnipeg Site Office are looking forward to taking on the challenges that this new year may bring and to serve their client groups, which include 1 Canadian Air Division, CFHA and 17 Wing.

Contract Services welcomes new director

DCC welcomed a new Director of Contract Services in August. Mélinna Nycholat joined DCC in 1988 as a Junior Engineer at the Gagetown Site Office. Since then, she has served the Corporation in various capacities and locations across the country.

Some of her significant undertakings include managing the construction contract for a \$20-million design-build hangar and taxiway facility at



14 Wing Greenwood and, as Area Manager for Western Region, serving as the national client liaison for 1 Canadian Air Division.

Mélinna holds a bachelor of civil engineering degree from l'Université Laval, as well as a project management professional certificate from the Project Management Institute. She also sits on the board of directors of the Canadian Public Procurement Council.

Bagotville runway 11-29 resurfaced

With the third and final phase of a project to resurface a busy runway at CFB Bagotville completed, things are now back to normal for commercial, private and military aircraft flying in and out of Bagotville Airport. Work on this \$17-million project began at the end of June and involved replacing runway 11-29's 50-metre-wide by 3286.86-metre-long concrete surface with asphalt.

According to Marc Tremblay, a DCC Contract Coordinator at the CFB Bagotville Site Office, this project was particularly challenging because a large volume of work had to be completed quickly with minimal impact on day-to-day operations at Bagotville Airport and 3 Wing Bagotville Airport handles 15 to 20 commercial arrivals and departures daily, as well as private and military flights. A secondary landing strip was available, but runway 18-36 is shorter and is not as accommodating for large aircraft or in difficult weather conditions.

DCC had to carefully plan the use of manpower and technological resources to meet the deadline. "For about three months, demolition and rough fill work was taking place at night," says Mr. Tremblay. "In August alone, over \$8 million worth of work was completed. At times, there could be over 100 workers on the field at once. Work scheduling was based on a 22-hour workday." Using heavy machinery equipped with state-



The final phase of a \$17-million Bagotville program to replace runway 11-29's concrete surface with asphalt was completed in November.

of-the-art technology, such as GPS and Total Station, also helped DCC meet the deadline.

The runway, built in 1974, was badly damaged by everyday use and harsh winter weather. "This work had to be done this year. It is not a moment too soon," says Mr. Tremblay. Replacing the concrete surface with asphalt reduced construction costs and will lower maintenance costs. "It's much easier to repave with asphalt," he explains.

This project, finished on time and on budget, is one of a number of large-scale projects carried out over the past few years to improve CFB Bagotville's aging infrastructure. The projects include construction of a new control tower, completed in fall 2002, and installation of a new water system and reconstruction of roadways, both completed in November 2006.

From everyone at DCC to you,

*best wishes for
the holidays
and the
New Year.*

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Defence Construction Canada (DCC) is a Crown corporation with a mandate to provide contracting, construction contract management and related services to the Department of National Defence (DND).