

## La Citadelle ready for Quebec's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Defence Construction Canada is using the final days of the year to complete many restoration projects at Quebec City's La Citadelle. In fact, all of the projects, except the landscaping, cannon bases and North Ravelin will be completed by January 1, the first day of 2008, which marks the beginning of the 400th anniversary celebrations in Quebec City.

According to Project Manager Jean-Yves Larin of the Valcartier Garrison, around 30 projects will be completed, thanks to a \$9 million budget allocation from DND in 2007 to upgrade the site. "We started projects that would normally have had to wait four or five years. However, there will be no major construction projects in 2008," he explained.

Ordered by military engineering management and subject to approval by the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (FHBRO), the projects



Most of the windows at Quebec City's historic La Citadelle were replaced in preparation for festivities marking the city's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

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#### DCC AT WORK

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were led by project managers Jean-Yves Larin and Patrick Santucci of the Valcartier Garrison, and Claude Bédard of the Longue-Pointe Garrison.

Louis Brisson, Manager of Site Operations at DCC Valcartier, said he was very proud of the project teams and progress. "This work is significant for Quebec City. It is important that everything be ready for January 1. National Defence wanted to do something symbolic for Quebec's 400th anniversary."

Among the various projects, certain galvanized metal roofs were repainted and one was recovered in copper, almost all of the building's windows were replaced, a fence was built behind the officers' mess and the

roads and parade grounds were repaved. The improvement work also involved the reception area at the Citadelle museum.

The cracked and deformed North Ravelin, in poor repair, was restored brick by brick. For this type of work, each brick was numbered, and then laid.

To recreate the ambiance of the era, the observatory/weather station was supplied with a replica of the time ball, which was previously removed. However, this tower, which has no military function, no longer tells time for boats on the river.

Given the absence of adequate fire protection and the significant historical, military and

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## C-17 work at Trenton

Less than three years ago, things were pretty quiet for Vern Haggerty, DCC's Manager of Site Operations at 8 Wing/CFB Trenton, and his team. In fact, they were work sharing four days a week.

Fast-forward to 2007 and things couldn't be more different. Haggerty's team has doubled in the last year, from 12 to 24 people, and he anticipates it will grow to 35 by late 2008. "We're looking for four to five people immediately," he says.

So why the change? Mainly, it's due to the CF's Airlift Capability Program, which will eventually see new Hercules aircraft and four new C-17s based at Trenton.

One of the major construction projects is a \$90-million apron replacement program. The first phase — a \$15-million project to replace 40,000 square metres — went to contract on June 18 and was completed in November. "It is just a phenomenal schedule," says Haggerty.

Complicating that job is a \$25-million underground fuelling line, currently in the design stage, which will be installed in 2008. Due to that project, DCC had to pave a portion of the new apron instead of using concrete, so the apron can be easily excavated next year.

The Corporation is also managing a \$5-million design-build contract for a new hangar at Trenton, slated for occupancy in March 2008. Interestingly, DCC had expected to build a



The first phase of a \$90-million apron replacement program — a \$15-million project to replace 40,000 square meters — was completed in November.

temporary fabric structure, but the winning proposal for a pre-engineered temporary building turned out to be cheaper. Design changes are currently underway to convert the temporary building into a permanent building. "It's the right thing to do for the taxpayer," Haggerty says.

His team is also overseeing construction of a new \$10-million air traffic control tower, due to be finished in November 2008, and a new

\$20-million Joint Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defence facility.

In total, DCC will be managing \$60 to \$70 million in projects at Trenton annually for the next five to seven years, Haggerty says. He credits his hard-working team for keeping all these large projects running smoothly. "My biggest bonus is the people I work with," he says. "Without them, there would be no projects."

## DCC participation in Construct Canada trade show

DCC continues to grow to meet DND's increasingly diverse needs. With more than \$400 million worth of projects annually, DCC is looking for companies to bid on DND projects and skilled employees to support this growth. A good place to find both was the Construct Canada trade show, which was held in Toronto from November 28 to 30.

As Canada's largest building design and construction show, Construct Canada attracts more than 20,000 visitors. Communications Advisor Yoan St. Onge describes Construct Canada as "a national window of opportunity for DCC to study market trends and meet consultants and contractors."

This is the second year that DCC has participated. This year, instead of a booth, an hour-long



David Burley, Area Manager, speaking at Construct Canada 2007.

seminar was prepared to introduce contractors and consultants to the Corporation and its projects, as well as to explain new security requirements.

Leading the talk on working with DCC were Randy McGee, Ontario Regional Director, as well as Area Manager John Graham, North Bay Site Manager Terry Brownlee and Area Manager David Burley.

The talk was well attended, despite competition from about a dozen other seminars and from the floor itself. "The people there paid \$30, so you know they wanted to be there. Most of them hadn't done business with us before, but they wanted to see what we were doing and wanted to learn how they can work with us," says McGee.

At the request of audience members, the Power Point presentation is now available on the Corporations Website, at [www.dcc-cdc.gc.ca](http://www.dcc-cdc.gc.ca).

# DCC now contracting authority in Afghanistan

DCC has been working closely with the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan since 2002, providing program planning and procurement advice as well as project and contract management support. Up until now contracts were being put in place under the authority of the Department of National Defence as well as Public Works and Government Services Canada. Effective immediately, DCC will be the contracting authority for projects over \$400,000. That includes projects such as the construction of accommodations and kitchen-dining facilities at Kandahar Air Field and Camp Nathan Smith. An even greater challenge and possible impact on the success of the mission will be presented by projects “outside the wire”.

The Canadian Forces have a unique mandate in Afghanistan that includes assisting with reconstruction and development activities. Projects outside the camps and operating bases must take into account the impact on Afghan citizens, the economy and the government. One example includes improvements to the local road network. At the same time, maximizing the use of local labour and material, local residents take leadership of the infrastructure and help protect it, the local economy is stimulated, commercial traffic has better access and the delivery of aid by NGO's is facilitated.



Employees in front of the DCC Site Office at the Kandahar Air Field (from left): Doug Turner, Contract Coordinator; Patricia O'Donnell, Contract Coordinator; Scott Hall, Contract Coordinator; Ross Nicholls, President and CEO; Shawn Bindon, Manager, Military Operations Support; Derek Fraser, Contract Coordinator; Elia Miller, Manager, Site Operations (outgoing); and Marcy Burton, Manager, Site Operations (incoming).

As of yet the Joint Task Force Afghanistan has not been able to undertake the project. Therefore, DCC is a key enabler in aiding nation-building reconstruction

and development activities. DCC is working closely with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces Command to ensure the DCC capability.

## International-standard track and field facility opens at CFB Gagetown

DND opened a new outdoor track and field facility at CFB Gagetown this summer, in time to host the Royal Canadian Legion's National Track and Field Championships — Canada's only such championship and training camp for 12- to 17-year-olds — from August 6 to 13.

Robert Bronson, Assistant Manager of Site Operations at DCC Gagetown, explains that the 400-metre all-weather track is designed to assist athletes of all skill levels: “It consists of a structural base of two asphalt courses, followed by an impermeable synthetic surface that incorporates a rubberized base layer and a final surface layer of EPDM granules and two-component polyurethane.”

The project is also designed to permit events such as long and triple jump, high



jump, pole vault, shot put, hammer toss, discus throw, javelin throw, steeplechase and hurdles. Located next to the base's physical

recreation building, the facility is now open to both military and civilian members — and because its design incorporates Olympic and International Association of Athletics Federation standards, it's able to host internationally recognized competitions.

DCC contract coordinators Bruce Newman and Scott Nason assisted the client in a contract management role, which involved additional work due to unforeseen geotechnical issues discovered during excavation activities last fall. Bronson notes that DCC helped the client control costs and keep the project on course, particularly during the crucial asphalt laying and curing process, so that the facility was ready for the Legion's 300-plus athletes to enjoy.

## Site profile — CFB Petawawa

Located on one of DND's busiest bases, DCC's site office at CFB Petawawa has offered consistent project and contract management support to its client since the very beginnings of DCC — as evidenced by contract files dated from the 1950s. Armed with this wealth of experience, along with a thorough understanding of the client and the location, the site office today focuses on responding to the client's unique needs.

As a busy army base that emphasizes both operational readiness and family quality of life, CFB Petawawa requires a significant range of infrastructure construction and repair: from reshingling barrack block roofs and fixing bridges on active weapons ranges to installing a new foam sprinkler in the helicopter squadron's hangar and renovating the base's family housing.

DCC's site office offers support for the complete spectrum of base activities, focusing on the timely completion of quality projects and featuring a three-fold emphasis on safety, the environment and security. One notable current project features the construction of a \$1.5-million Urban Operations Facility known as "Seacan City." This project has the contractor supplying more than 100 40-foot sea containers and assembling them in various configurations to simulate a townsite of one- to three-storey buildings — complete with windows, doors, interior partitions, staircases and balconies. Another project involves the \$334,500



Contractors installing a 900mm storm pipe during the private military quarters (PMQ) Municipal Works Upgrade Project, which took place this summer and fall.

liner replacement at the base's swimming pool, including replacing associated mechanical equipment and retiling.

In fact, more than 30 projects are currently in progress, for a program total of \$10 to \$12 million. These figures are due to expand significantly as several key projects come on stream: the site is currently awarding a design-build contract valued at \$12 million to construct a Tactical Training Facility, and is awaiting funding approvals for the construction of a \$24-million headquarters building for 2 Signals Squadron and a million-gallon water tower.

The site office's success in such a varied environment comes down to the wide experience of its 19 personnel, who offer diverse backgrounds

as construction industry leaders; drafting, health and safety, and administration specialists; civil and mechanical engineers; civil technologists; and mechanical, electrical and carpentry tradespeople. Several staff members also bring more than two decades of DCC experience to the table.

The site office is pursuing a forward-thinking approach to human resources, including succession planning and making training opportunities available. It also draws on DCC's national expertise when needed, for such specialties as unexploded ordnance clearance.

From contract and project management to administration, the personnel of the DCC site office at CFB Petawawa are looking forward to continuing their excellent record of client service — no matter what the project scope might be.

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architectural value to be preserved, an access door was created through the commander's garage for emergency vehicles.

The heritage preservation, completed in co-operation with PWGSC for the Office of the Governor General of Canada, aims to improve the tourist area, Vimy Cross, Bastion du roi (one of the points of the fortress in the form of a star), the redoubt of Cap Diamant and landscaping. The original appearance of the designated or recognized heritage buildings and their original style had to be maintained and preserved, while respecting the historical value and architectural and environmental qualities. The errors of the past were therefore rectified, such as the wood-

framed windows that had been replaced by PVC windows, and the wooden cannon bases that had been replaced by cement bases.

To oversee the progress of the projects at the Citadelle, DCC created a dedicated team comprising DCC contract co-ordinators Daniel Noreau, Janique Aspirault, Jessica Parsons, Francis Thiboutot and Julien Roux.

According to Noreau, contract co-ordinator at Valcartier/Citadelle, the various works that had been ongoing for many years at the Citadelle have increased in the past 15 years. Approximately 10% of the necessary work was completed, but another \$100 million and 10 years is necessary to complete all maintenance work.



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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).