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Holiday greetings

The arrival of a new year always provides an opportunity for reflection on the year past.

Looking back at 2014, we pause to remember the tragic incidents in October that led to the deaths on home soil of two dedicated Canadian Armed Forces members. Even as the days pass, we continue to think with appreciation of their sacrifice in service to Canada and re-iterate our support to DND and the Canadian Armed Forces, for which they both served.



We also recommit ourselves to continuing to provide service of the highest calibre to our Client-Partners. As they work to deliver their infrastructure and environmental program, we continue to ensure the services we provide support them in the most effective way possible.

To that end, "innovation" and "integrity" are our watchwords in all that we do—from project planning, to procurement to contract management. Our Client-Partners, contractors, members of the DCC team, and all Canadians, alike, benefit from every effort we make to work more efficiently, with creativity and imagination, and in a fair, honest and transparent manner.

In closing, let me extend my best wishes to you—on behalf of everyone at DCC—health and prosperity in the new year. I look forward to our continuing collaboration in 2015.

James Paul President and CEO

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Fuel spill clean up highlights partnership and collaboration

An emergency call over Easter holiday weekend turned into an opportunity for collaboration and growth for DCC staff on Canada's West coast.

In April 2014, a generator malfunction caused a 16,000-litre diesel fuel leak onto grassed fields at a communications site for Maritime Forces Pacific in Aldergrove, British Columbia. When it was discovered during routine checks on the Sunday of a long weekend, a plan was immediately kicked into gear, starting a quick-response containment plan and subsequent remediation project that, five months later, was officially complete.

"It was extremely stressful at the time, but the clean up was extremely successful," said Doug Kroeker, DCC Program Leader, Base Program at CFB Esquimalt. "Everyone was dedicated to getting the work completed – getting it done quickly and right."

While cleaning up contaminated sites isn't unusual for DCC, responding to an emergency incident like this is not common. The immediate response required quick containment and clean up to



Spill pads are laid to contain the spread of fuel in the water

protect surrounding areas at risk of harm from the spill. By immediately bringing in external environmental experts to guide these first stages, the DCC teams in Esquimalt and Chilliwack were able to contain the spread of the spill by using booms, spill pads, pumps and removing soil.

At the same time, a remediation plan was developed with external expert partners, Stantec Consulting. This plan included continued monitoring, soil removal, testing and classification for treatment. An emergency response contract provision allowed DCC to engage the environmental contractor quickly – allowing for faster management of the issue.

"This one was really unique because it was a joint effort – they worked really in conjunction with us throughout the entire process," said Kroeker of the Stantec team. "Speed and responsiveness were the most important factors here."

Five months after the call was received reporting the spill, the project was completed successfully. While it was an incident everyone wishes never happened, Kroeker notes the response has shown just how effective DCC can be.

"It was really amazing that we were able to accomplish what we did. I think we really came through as a contract authority," said Kroeker. "Although it was an unfortunate incident – it could have been worse if not for the fast work of the entire team."

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New tool speeds up prioritization for contaminated site assessment

Collaboration between DCC and DND has resulted in a new tool to help prioritize 300 contaminated sites across the country for assessment and, therefore, clean up.

The Prioritization Assessment Tool allows users to quickly determine which locations pose the greatest environmental risk, particularly when detailed site information is limited.

The system is loaded with information about factors related to the characteristics and impact of the sites, combined with geography-related elements. Users simply click on a map to indicate the site location, and then select the contaminant of concern (such as munitions or fuel), the soil type, and the site's past use or contamination source. Based on the location, the tool determines the current land use (training or housing, for example) and the distance to the nearest water body, residential area and DND property line. Each site then receives a score based on the degree of potential risk to people, water and training area operations.

With the final rankings in hand, DND can distribute assessment funding under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan according to a list of prioritized sites. It can also use the rankings to re-allocate funding during any given year.

Nick Sanders, Coordinator, Environment Services, says it took about two months for he and his DCC colleagues, Michael Palmer, Amanda Soutar, Rose Zhou and Mark Smith, to develop the tool. Another few months of tweaking, and the group was able to deliver the final version. The client is "very happy" with the finished product, which is customizable for other purposes, such as finding the best location for a new training range, Sanders says.

The success of the project resulted from smooth collaboration between DCC and DND. "We had a good statement of requirements from the Army," Sanders explains, and "received excellent comments from them at each stage."

The DCC team also tested the tool by using information about sites that had already been assessed. It was found to be very accurate in predicting which locations presented the greatest risks.

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Realistic simulated combat zones help soldiers prepare for success on the battlefield. DCC is putting the final touches on a brand new urban setting, where Valcartier Garrison ground troops will be able to train.

A new training village is scheduled for completion in early 2015 as part of a national project called the Urban Operations Training System (UOTS).

Located on the grounds of Camp Dubé, the training village will feature nine new buildings: a church, police station, service station, bank, five row-housing units and three houses. The new infrastructure is being added to the existing four buildings on this section of the military base.

"For now, we will have the imitation buildings. A second phase of the project will include a simulation system. The goal is to make the exercises as realistic as possible," said Janique Aspirault, DCC Coordinator, Construction Services.

DCC has been coordinating the project since the beginning. The over \$4-million project was awarded to Pomerleau Inc., which was responsible for designing and constructing the simulation village.

"Construction began in June 2014, and we are targeting early 2015 for delivery. DCC is responsible for making sure the project meets each and every one of DND's requirements," explained Janique Aspirault.

This initiative is not unique to Valcartier. The UOTS is a national project that will see the installation of different training village layouts in Wainwright, Edmonton, Shilo and Gagetown.

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Thanks to the enthusiastic participation, generosity and creativity of staff, DCC beat its national goal of \$70,000 for the 2014 edition of the DCC Workplace Charitable Campaign.

Through donations, payroll deductions and fundraising activities at sites right across the country, DCC showed visible support for their local communities, while encouraging fun and teambuilding activities.

Returning activities included a number of highly successful regional events. The national silent auction attracted a good number of eager buyers, on the lookout for the interesting and surprising items up for bid.

Pumpkin carving contests, used book sales, photo contests, golf tournaments,



DCC's Ottawa-area employees participated in the annual international cuisine on October 29, 2014. Diners tasted delicious dishes from countries around the world—all in support of the DCC Workplace Charitable Campaign (DCCWCC).

car washes, potluck lunches, an international cuisine lunch and even a fun and entertaining "hypnotist" event all contributed to the success of the campaign.

Throughout the campaign, DCC stressed the importance of employees being engaged at both the national and local levels—and a number of events were designed to meet that objective. In addition, DCC employees and their DND colleagues had numerous opportunities to support each other's fall fundraising campaigns and take time together for fun and business—all in support of a great cause.

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DCC at Work is our Corporate Services newsletter, delivered bi-monthly to our public- and private-sector partners and the public at large. The articles in DCC at Work focus on service-delivery success stories, from the most complex projects to innovative ideas that save time and money.

To suggest story ideas or to comment on the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

Look for the next issue of DCC at Work in February 2015.



