# Maple Heuille Leaf d'érable

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Keeping the Defence Team informed

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# A New Year on the Horizon

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# COMMANDER OF COMBINED TASK FORCE 150 TALKS ABOUT THE MISSION

Commodore Brian Santarpia, Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), recently assumed command of the multinational maritime counter-terrorism task force, Combined Task Force 150 (CTF-150), a position he will hold until April. CTF-150 is one of the three task forces operating under Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), a 30-nation naval coalition based in Manama, Bahrain, in the Arabian Gulf.

To conduct his mission, the Commodore can count on a team of 23 Defence Team members, as well as seven members from the Royal Australian Navy (RAN).

Cmdre Santarpia recently talked about the important work he and his team are currently conducting.

#### WHAT IS CTF-150'S MISSION?

CTF-150 is a maritime security and counterterrorism task force, in other words, we ensure that the seas in the Middle East region are safe and secure for international trade and these waterways are not used for terrorist activities. International terrorist networks operating from South-West Asia, Eastern Africa or the Arabian Peninsula use the maritime domain to finance their activities, conceal their movements or conduct attacks against merchant shipping.

We work to stop them from doing so in three ways:

- First, under international maritime conventions, we conduct maritime security operations to ensure security and safety in international waters, so all commercial shipping can operate freely while transiting the region. We do this by having ships on the water and aircraft in the air observing what we call "pattern of life". We then analyze all this information and take action when and where required. These operations also complement the counterterrorism and security efforts of regional nations to disrupt the use of the seas as a venue for attack or to illegally transport illicit cargo, such as weapons, narcotics, luxury goods, ivory and, more recently, charcoal.
- Secondly, we stand ready to respond to any maritime terrorist threats or attacks,



Cmdre Brian Santarpia

environmental and humanitarian crises, as well as safety of life at sea situations. Such attacks are a real threat in the region and could have a huge impact on the global economy; so we are ready to deter and deny terrorists the ability to conduct such attacks against coalition forces or merchant vessels.

 Finally, we conduct leadership engagements and capacity building activities to help regional navies and security agencies to improve their readiness and capabilities, and also to constantly improve interoperability between all partners. This is a huge international team effort and every nation can play a significant role.

#### **HOW IMPORTANT IS THAT MISSION?**

Very important. This area of the planet is a vital artery of world trade that includes the main shipping routes from the Far East to Europe and North America with over 23,000 shipping movements per year.

Any disruptions to maritime trade caused by terrorist activities increase the cost of shipping, create uncertainty in financial markets and pose threats to stable energy and other commodities supplies. Global security and stability is dependent on safe and secure sea lines of communication, the free flow of international trade and guaranteed energy supplies. Protection of sea-lanes maintains the free flow of maritime commerce and trade and contributes to global economic growth.

#### HOW LONG HAS CANADA BEEN INVOLVED IN MARITIME COUNTER-TERRORISM MISSIONS?

Since the attack of September 11, Canada has demonstrated a firm resolve to fight the threat of terrorism. From Afghanistan to Libya, to the struggle against ISIS, Canada's military has consistently contributed to coalition operations to deter terrorism, to defend the freedom of the seas, and to act as a force for good in the world.

We are a long time contributor to CTF-150 and CMF as a whole. Our government has regularly deployed ships and/or staff to operate with CTF-150 since the beginning of the coalition in 2001, with great success. The RCN is deemed by the international naval community to be one of the most competent navies of the world in the conduct of maritime security operations. We can be very proud of the work done by our predecessors here.

### TALKING ABOUT VAST OCEANS, YOU HAVE A LARGE AREA OF OPERATION TO COVER. THIS OFFERS QUITE A CHALLENGE, DOESN'T IT?

Yes it does. Our area of operations is vast and complex; it covers two million square nautical miles, from the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Arabian Sea and further south and west in the Indian Ocean. We are nonetheless successful in this mission because of the team approach valued by all contributing nations within CMF. Coming together with a united effort allows us to do more than one country could do alone.

If you consider the past year's operational milestones, CTF-150 units have denied international terrorist networks access to over \$100 million from illicit trafficking by seizing and destroying close to 22,000 kg of different illicit narcotics.

The area to cover is certainly vast, yes, but all our nations are ultimately facing the same threats and challenges.

#### FINALLY, YOUR TEAM IS COMPOSED OF BOTH CANADIANS AND AUSTRALIANS, WHICH IS RARE FOR CMF. HOW IS THIS UNIQUE TEAM COMPOSITION WORKING?

Very well. They make a pretty good team, I must admit; very much dedicated and focussed on the mission at hand. This does not surprise me. The Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Australian Navy are long time collaborators; we share similar origins, we both value operational excellence at sea and have conducted very successful operations in the past.

But this team is unique in other ways as well. We also have members of the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Canadian Army and the Canadian Public Service. We are a joint and combined, multidisciplinary team. It is a concept that is working very well for both of our countries. I anticipate our success will result in more of this type of co-operation in the future.

#### SAFER AND SMOOTHER LANDINGS AT SEA

Conducting helicopter operations from Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) ships is a complex and dangerous procedure requiring the highest degree of safety. Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) has developed a specialized system which has the potential to increase the safety of complex at-sea operations and ensure safer and smoother helicopter landings on RCN ships.

"Wind speed, ship motion, and sea states all affect helicopter landings at sea," says T. J. Caron, Ship Modification Lead Engineer with the Maritime Helicopter Project (MHP). "The unique capability of the DRDC Flight Deck Motion System (FDMS) to measure and predict ship and wave motions and present a complete picture to the operator is a valuable tool in ensuring safer operation

of maritime helicopters and RCN ships and reducing the risk to CAF members during takeoff and landing."

#### **FDMS INCREASES SAFETY**

The FDMS increases the safety of flight and ship crews by creating motion estimates for the current sea state. The RCN uses the estimates and wind measurements to determine ship course and speed for helicopter operations. When a helicopter takes off or lands on deck, the sensor mounted under the flight deck relays information to the real-time module of the FDMS, measures and displays the current ship motions, and indicates whether the ship and helicopter are within safety limits for the takeoff or landing operation.

"FDMS is an excellent example of our ability to contribute to the technological and operational effectiveness of the RCN,"

says DRDC Director General, Science and Technology Air and Navy, Dale Reding. "Science and technology (S&T) support to CAF operations is a priority for DRDC."

The FDMS was originally developed to assist with CH-148 Cyclone Ship Helicopter Operation Limits (SHOL) trials. Most recently, the FDMS played a role in the re-certification of Canada's CH-124 Sea King helicopters for operations on the 12 newly refitted Halifax-class patrol frigates. Part of the Frigate Life Extension (FELEX) program, the refit resulted in changes to the frigate superstructure, the part of the ship that is above the main deck. The changes had the potential to impact the wind flow over the flight deck, alter the ship's previously known air-wake, and increase the risks of flying in close proximity to the ship.

#### **FDMS TESTED ON SEA TRIAL**

To ensure the superstructure modifications would not impact helicopter operations, the National Research Council (NRC) tested the impact of the changes on wind flow under controlled conditions at their wind tunnel testing facilities. In addition, the RCAF tasked the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment (AETE) with redefining Sea King ship-helicopter operating limits. During Sea King flight tests, AETE partnered with DRDC and the NRC to conduct a sea trial, during uncontrolled conditions, using the FDMS on HMCS Fredericton.

During the trial, the system fully illustrated the effect of the complex sea conditions on ship motion, displayed the constantly shifting flight deck motions relative to pre-defined limits and enabled the

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## SIX STRANGERS BOUND BY TRAGEDY

What started off as a normal beginning to the morning for six strangers in Ottawa on October 22, 2014, would end up being anything but ordinary. What happened that morning would impact their lives and create a bond amongst them that would last forever.

The six strangers including four Defence Team members, Corporal Kyle Button, Cpl Anthony Wiseman, Colonel Conrad Mialkowski, Martin Magnan, and Margaret Lerhe, former nurse and director, Bruyère Continuing Care and Barbara Winters, lawyer for Canada Revenue Agency were the first responders on the scene when reservist Cpl Nathan Cirillo, a Ceremonial Honour Guard at Canada's National War Memorial, was shot and killed.

A month-and-a-half later, the group gathered to talk about that morning and how they are coping now. With emotions from that day intense and still raw, this group has bonded over tragedy and continue to comfort one another. **ACCOUNTS FROM THE MORNING** 

Cpl Button was part of the Ceremonial Guard of Honour on duty at the memorial that morning, as he had been the previous days leading up to the shooting. He was also the first person to Cpl Cirillo's side, but not before he had taken cover from the shooter himself

"I was confused as to why he (the shooter) was walking so close to Nathan, so I started walking in that direction to tell him to beat it. Then I saw the rifle and I remember thinking, it was a toy, it just didn't seem real at the time. The first shot went off and Nathan reacted, then I realized this was real, the second shot Nathan stumbled - the two shots were very close together."

After the fourth shot, Cpl Button dropped to the ground and performed first aid on Cpl Cirillo. Second on the scene was Mr. Magnan, a communication advisor, ADM(Infrastructure and Environment) who was heading to a meeting when he

ran in the direction of the shots. With a direct line of sight to the shooter, he knew something serious had just taken place and immediately provided assistance to Cpl Button. It was then that Ms. Lerhe, was passing by the memorial on her way to a meeting when she heard shots.

"I thought it was a mock exercise after hearing about the attack on Warrant Officer Vincent," she said. "I saw the shooter with the gun and the way he was dressed – it all looked very theatrical. Then I see Kyle (Cpl Button) with someone on the ground and he yelled 'call 911'. I thought, that's the perfect mock in health

are, but I noticed no one was observing or reacting, this must be the real thing."

Once Ms. Lerhe was at Nathan's side she put her skills to work, while Mr. Magnan held up Cpl Cirillo's legs. Next at the scene was Col Mialkowski, who was driving by the Memorial and heard the distinctive shots and immediately hauled his car up onto the sidewalk at the Memorial.

He was soon joined by Cpl Wiseman, driver for the Chief of the Defence Staff who arrived at the memorial. Ms. Winters, who was heading to a nearby meeting, was the last to arrive.

"It was such a beautiful morning. I had stopped and taken pictures because the guards looked so striking in their kilts," recalled Ms. Winters who was aware of the previous attack on WO Vincent.

"I knew they were shots, so I turned around and saw people looking and ducking and I thought, Oh my god! I started running back, I knew if I saw them standing they were okay. I didn't see them, so I just kept running (towards Cpl Cirillo). Everyone was already there ... he was being very well looked after."

Mr. Magnan held Nathan's hand as Ms. Winters talked to him, letting him know he wasn't alone. Having previously been in a coma and able to hear when people spoke to her, Ms. Winters was certain Cpl Cirillo knew they were there with him.

"I had tunnel vision," said Ms. Winters. "For me I really don't remember the big picture. The only thing that mattered was that soldier. Nothing else in the world mattered but that man."

#### **TRAINING IN ACTION**

As the team worked feverishly on Cpl Cirillo, their training and experience was unwavering as they reassured one another.

"You don't rise to the occasion. You sink to the level of your training in a crisis situation," said Col Mialkowski. "Certainly, the three of us in uniform have been exposed to training situations like this. I fully believe that the combination of training and experience is what all six of us were able to rely on when we went to Nathan's side. We brought all of our different aspects of training and experience and I think that's why we integrated so well."

As the crowds around the War Memorial grew, the team worked to keep things under control.

#### **LASTING IMPACTS**

As all of Canada watched the events unfold that day, for many it had an immense impact – but none more than this team of first responders. Cpl Button, Cpl Wiseman and Col Mialkowski, who have been deployed to Afghanistan, were all too familiar with events having a lasting impact. But it was the first such incident they have had to deal with on their native soil.

"It certainly had an impact on me. I've been exposed to events that were terrible to me and this one rates with those – I would say that I get strength from the other five people who were there that day," said Col Mialkowski.

"I also drew strength from meeting Nathan's mom, seeing her and being able to understand the degree of human kindness that is within her and seeing the dignity she's been able to uphold for herself, her family and for Nathan's spirit."

For the other responders, the day has affected them in different ways. For Ms. Lerhe the experience has helped her focus on future plans. Retiring this month, and after the events of October 22, has sparked a need to do more in the volunteer sector.

"I'm looking forward to putting some priority on helping the soldiers however I can," she said.

For Mr. Magnan, he remembers all the small details of that morning – and how leaving the police station later that afternoon everything seemed so surreal.

"It was weird," said Mr. Magnan. "I was at the beginning of this ordeal and now other people still hadn't finished their experience. As I stood alone downtown, I called friends and they were in lockdown... I felt very alone."

In the days that followed, Mr. Magnan said life seemed the same, but different, as routine tasks didn't seem so routine and he'd lose track of time.

What has helped the group with the healing process is their new friendship, how this tragedy has brought a nation together and most importantly spending time with Cpl Cirillo's family.

"We have each other to talk too which is a great help," said Cpl Wiseman.

"The outpouring of affection from everyone from across the country every day at the tomb has been overwhelming. Hundreds of people came, many hugging the sentries," said Cpl Button with a smile. "There were streams of people showing their respect ...pee-wee hockey teams, veterans, Canadian Muslim communities — it made me feel proud to be a Canadian." •



The group has bonded since the tragedy and continues to support one another.

Margaret Lerhe (front left) Martin Magnan, Barbara Winters, Cpl Kyle Button (back left),
Col Conrad Mialkowski and Cpl Anthony Wiseman.

#### **DRDC: Smooth landings...** cont'd from page 2

identification of safe recovery course and speed in the event of an in-flight emergency.

"The FDMS presents ship and flight crews with an integrated display of live-streaming ship and environmental data and real-time guidance, resulting in greater situational awareness and improved safety, with the potential to expand helicopter operating parameters," says Major Dany Duval of AETE. "This unique capability creates a higher level of situational awareness for operators and will directly contribute to expanding ship-helicopter operational limits, while enhancing safety."

DRDC will continue to work with the MHP Project Management Office to support the potential commercialization of the FDMS and help ensure that it is available to install on RCN ships in the future.

A CH-124 Sea King lands on the flight deck of a Royal Canadian Navy ship.



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#### SAREX SABLE ISLAND PARTNERS 14 Wing and Parks Canada

On a chilly fall day in November, the drone of plane engines and whirl of helicopter blades grew louder over Sable Island, N.S. A great grey plane passed overhead dropping three bright orange objects, which hurtled purposefully toward the island at first before their equally bright parachutes snapped open and brought them down more slowly.

The CC-130 Hercules aircraft circled to ensure the search and rescue (SAR) technicians were on target then flew into the distance, while the yellow CH-149 Cormorant refuelled at the nearby oil platform, before landing at the Parks Canada main station on Sable Island.

SAREX Sable Island 14 was the second annual SAR exercise to occur in the Sable Island National Park Reserve as a joint venture between Parks Canada and 413 Transport and Rescue Squadron from 14 Wing Greenwood, N.S.

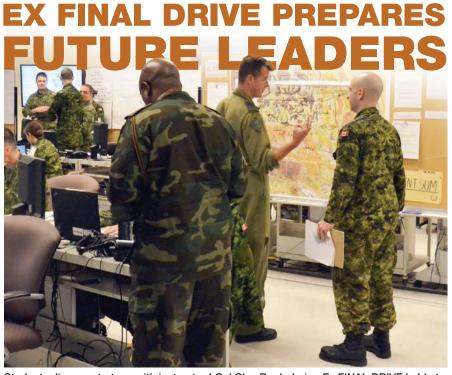
"SAREX Sable Island is a fantastic opportunity to test our capacity to deliver long distance SAR," said Rear-Admiral John Newton, commander of Joint Task Force Atlantic and Maritime Forces Atlantic. "Sable Island is 90 nautical miles from shore, 160 from Halifax and 220 from Greenwood. Long distance operations are generally less common, but the activity in the nearby oil fields and cruise ship traffic in the area mean that we need to be prepared."

The Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) Halifax is responsible for the coordination of all SAR operations associated with aircraft and marine emergencies in eastern Canada, while ground SAR operations remain a provincial responsibility.

"Parks Canada has its own emergency management plan and procedures," said Major Rhonda Stevens, officer in charge of the JRCC Halifax. "However - due to the isolated location of Sable Island – they may need support from JRCC Halifax should a SAR emergency arise. Parks Canada is an important emergency response partner for the JRCC. With SAREX Sable Island, we can practice together, solidifying our interoperability so that we work as a single team when it really counts."

This exercise was a resounding success both in training value and in building and strengthening partnerships," said Lieutenant-Colonel Scott Murphy, commanding officer of 413 Transport and Rescue Squadron. "We effectively and efficiently parachute-inserted SAR technicians onto Sable Island and conducted several simulated supply drops in accordance with the environmental policies of Parks Canada. The exercise went so well that we were also able to provide some of the Parks Canada staff with the rare opportunity to conduct a visual inspection of the more remote parts of the island from the air."

The Canadian SAR system is one of the best in the world in part because of the co-operation and teamwork demonstrated by the CAF, the Canadian Coast Guard and the network of government and civilian organizations, like Parks Canada, and volunteers that make



Students discuss strategy with instructor LCol Clay Rook during Ex FINAL DRIVE held at CFB Kingston, Ont. from November 23 to December 3, 2014.

The use of cutting edge simulations enables the Canadian Army to generate scenarios that educate and challenge students without having to train in the field. The end result is more effective training at a reduced cost. An example of this is Exercise FINAL DRIVE, a 10-day exercise that is the culmination of the six-month Army Operations Course 031 (AOC 31), which ended early December at CFB Kingston.

AOC is conducted by the Canadian Army Command and Staff College (CACSC), the Army's doctrinal and intellectual centre of excellence. CACSC conducts three AOC's annually; two Regular Force courses and one Primary Reserve.

"An Army Operations Course graduate has the common foundational knowledge that is necessary to succeed as a staff officer in a joint operational level headquarters," said Colonel R.D. Walker, commandant, CACSC. "Ex FINAL DRIVE is a key stepping stone for officers as it provides a venue for them to test and develop their command and leadership skills as part of their ongoing education to become tomorrow's leaders.'

#### **MORE THAN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

CACSC incorporates professional development, lessons learned and state-of-the-art simulation technology to prepare candidates for command and staff positions at the formation level. All serials undergo extensive scrutiny as part of CACSC's commitment to continual improvement in the delivery of training support to the Canadian Armed

CACSC's reputation as a centre of excellence is evidenced by the diverse contingent of international instructors and candidates that comprise AOC 031. In addition to CAF instructors, candidates are benefitting from the experience of instructors from the United States and British Armies. Likewise, Canadian students are conducting their learning in a multinational environment alongside candidates from Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Brazil, Malaysia, and Poland respectively.

Successful completion of AOC is, for the Canadian candidates, the final step required to be considered for promotion to the rank of major.

#### STRENGTHENING TIES SO "OTHERS MAY LIVE"

Every year, lobster fishing season sends many back to the sea – fishermen and rescuers alike - and the connections between them is stronger than you think.

For the opening day of the Nova Scotia region's lobster fishing season in late November, pilot Major Scott Dennis and Lieutenant Brad Harding, an Air Combat Systems officer, both CC-130 Hercules crew members with 413 Transport and Rescue Squadron, 14 Wing Greenwood, were patrolling the sea.

"It's a privilege to be able to serve my country and local community in my professional capacity as a pilot providing search and rescue. With respect to 'dumping day,' we know guys on the boats, we have family on the boats and it's personal to us – and a responsibility we take seriously," says Maj Dennis.

On the third day of the lobster fishing season, while a CC-130 Hercules provided top cover to a rescue and acted as a communications and command platform, a CH-149 Cormorant helicopter rescued a fisherman and air evacuated him to the hospital.

Maritimes and Newfoundland/ Labrador. Both the Hercules and the Cormorant carry out annual visits to each of the zones in the Halifax Search and Rescue Region to assist in the training of CASARA members.

Throughout 2014, 413 Sqn has rescued 23 people in immediate danger of losing their lives—as well as one dog. Personnel have hoisted sailors off boats, dropped equipment to sinking vessels, searched the mountains for crashed airplanes and have parachuted into scenes at night under flares. They also dropped food and fuel to 21 stranded Inuit hunters, including nine children.

"We can drop radios, equipment and SAR techs to surface targets," says Maj Dennis. "If a boat is taking on water, we can drop pumps to assist in managing the situation. If the situation can't be controlled with pumps, we can drop life rafts, food and water. If the people require medical assistance we can insert SAR techs via parachute or hoist to provide immediate medical triage and stabilize the patient." \*



MCpl James Cooke (right), a SAR tech from 413 Transport and Rescue Squadron, requalifies spotter training Ken Dennis, CASARA, onboard a Hercules CC-130 aircraft during the opening of lobster fishing in Nova Scotia.

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#### The PER: Depends Who's Judging?

Captain Rivers, the quartermaster of the 1st Regiment, King's Own Irregulars (KOI), sat back in his chair and waited. He had met his newly posted-in regimental quartermaster sergeant (RQMS) socially enough times to be unsure that Master Warrant Officer Lake was the right fit for a first-line unit. Sure,

Capt Rivers thought, the new RQMS has close to 30 years of service, but he is older than the average RQMS by a number of years and had been oft-injured in battle. He certainly wasn't the most dynamic Senior NCO he'd met, nor had he served in a line unit for



years. Capt Rivers assumed that since MWO Lake was already posted to the area (and serving with the Brigade HQ), the national posting freeze had worked to MWO Lake's advantage; in effect, other more dynamic, younger MWOs had been passed over for the coveted RQMS position.

Once the knock at the door and customary salutes were out of the way, Capt Rivers invited his new MWO to take a seat. As an introductory exchange, nothing was out of the ordinary. Not until the new command team agreed to walk the floor together before addressing the Platoon.

"Oh, one more thing before we meet the troops, Sir. Here's a copy of my latest Performance Evaluation Report (PER) from HQ." MWO Lake pulled a PROTECTED B folder from his valise and handed it to Capt Rivers. "I hope this helps with the PER process later this year."

The move totally caught the young Captain

off-guard. "Um, thanks," he stammered.

Accepting the file folder, Capt Rivers put it in his desk, careful to lock the file with the other PROTECTED B files.

The new command team left Capt Rivers' office with both gentlemen intent on making their partnership work.

Later that day, Capt Rivers couldn't help but review the PER file given him by MWO Lake. He read that MWO Lake had received a glowing assessment – assessed as a master performance rating, outstanding potential, and a recommendation for immediate promotion; an "MOI".

Come evaluation time—eight months later, in March of that fiscal year—Capt Rivers is sitting at his desk thumbing through his PROTECTED B Platoon files, thinking about the coming Regimental MWO



merit boards. In his opinion, MWO Lake couldn't hold a candle to the RQMS he had replaced eight months earlier. That RQMS had left the Regiment with an appropriate and justified MOI. Capt Rivers figured that MWO Lake may have had a strong start with the

unit, was technically strong, and also fit in well with both the Regimental HQ and his fellow MWOs. Still, Capt Rivers did not feel that he had demonstrated the performance, nor the potential to warrant an MOI. Capt Rivers knows that his expertise will carry a lot of weight at the merit boards, and that he could probably get an MOI for MWO Lake if he pushed for it. Even so, a strong but lesser evaluation was deserved.

"Dang! Why did I accept MWO Lake's PER from his own hand? His best chance for promotion is now, and since he knows that I know what he got last year, should I protect him?"

Ethically, what would you do? Reader feedback is welcome at: +Ethics-Ethique@CRS DEP@Ottawa-Hull.



#### **ARTIFICIAL TURF AND INJURIES**

Q: Throughout the winter months I enjoy playing indoor soccer twice a week as part of my physical fitness program. Canada will soon be hosting the 2015 Women's World Cup of Soccer and some prominent female soccer players are questioning the safety of playing on artificial turf. While I will never play in the World Cup, this controversy has me concerned that playing on artificial turf puts me at greater risk of injury. Your comments please.

-MCpl Fields

#### A: Dear MCpl Fields:

Artificial turf has been used in a growing number of sports facilities since the 1960s and the quality of the turf has greatly improved over the last 50 years. Compared to grass, artificial turf offers facility managers several advantages: greater durability, reduced maintenance, greater versatility, level surfaces (i.e. no potholes) and consistent performance in all kinds of weather. While these are significant advantages, there are concerns that the risk of injury is greater playing on artificial turf.

The health concerns for artificial turf:

- The surface is harder than grass and this subjects running and jumping athletes to higher impact forces.
- 2. Greater friction between the shoe and the playing surface increases the mechanical stress on the joints of the lower limb especially the ankle and the knee
- 3. Turf burns associated with sliding over artificial
- 4. The potential toxicity that comes from close contact with the playing surface.

Over the years numerous studies have been done comparing the risk of injury playing on artificial turf verses playing on good old grass. Research in this area is very challenging because it is nearly impossible to control all the other variables such as shoe design, weather conditions, cleat length, type of artificial turf, etc. To date, there are studies that show the risk of injury is increased on artificial turf and others that show the risk of injury is actually reduced.

The bottom line: the jury is still out on this issue. For now, science suggests you are at no greater risk of injury playing soccer on artificial turf. It is important to note that one thing the science clearly shows is that by living an active lifestyle you are greatly reducing your risk of many serious medical problems. Keep up the great work. Exercise is medicine!

Dr. Darrell Menard, MD Dip Sport Med Darrell.menard@forces.gc.ca

For more information on taking control of your health and well-being, please visit Strengthening the Forces.



## COUNTRY'S MOST DECORATED CITIZEN HONORARY CDS ADVISOR

He has been called Canada's most decorated citizen. He has served his country with pride for decades in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), earning a number of the nation's most distinguished honours. He has worked as a lawyer; an author with a combination of more than 30 fiction and non-fiction books and has penned several poems; and he's been chairman and chancellor of a variety of boards and foundations.

Adding to this list of notable accomplishments, on December 19, Major-General (Ret) Richard Rohmer was named Honorary Advisor to the Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS).

The position of Honorary Advisor to the Chief of the Defence Staff was created to recognize MGen Rohmer's contributions to the CAF, and the unique advice and guidance that he provides to the CDS drawing from his wealth of experience in service to Canada. The appointment permits MGen Rohmer to once again proudly don the Royal Canadian Air Force uniform, at the discretion of the CDS.

With this appointment, General Tom Lawson, Chief of the Defence Staff, formalized the long-standing relationship MGen Rohmer has maintained with the most senior leadership of the CAF since his retirement in 1981.

"I am delighted to name MGen (Ret) Richard Rohmer as honorary Advisor to the Chief of the Defence Staff. Richard has had a lifetime of service to Canada which honours us by association. With this announcement, the Canadian Armed Forces will continue to benefit from his wealth of experience through his thoughtful advice and guidance," said Gen Lawson.

Coincidentally, Gen Lawson and MGen Rohmer's lives have been entwined at multiple junctures over the years. MGen Rohmer flew with Gen Lawson's father, then Flight-Lieutenant George Lawson, during the Second World War and beyond; he then happened to be the



presiding officer at Gen Lawson's 1975 enrollment ceremony, and again now with Gen Lawson appointing MGen Rohmer to this new position of distinction.

For MGen Rohmer, this appointment represents a treasured formalization and continuation of his service to his country and to the CAF.

"Military service has been the central part of my long life, notwithstanding being a lawyer, author and the many other aspects of my life that I've always done at the same time," said MGen Rohmer. "So returning to service like this nicely caps everything I've done and everything I will continue to do."

MGen Rohmer is a decorated veteran of the Second World War with decades of service in the CAF. He was promoted to the rank of major-general and appointed Chief of Reserves of the CAF in 1978, and retired in 1981.

During the Second World War he served as a fighterreconnaissance pilot from 1942-1945. He took part in the D-Day Operation, served in France, Belgium and Holland completing a 135-mission tour of operations in November 1944, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In August 1990, MGen Rohmer was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. For a full list of MGen Rohmer's military awards and appointments visit: **dt.mil.ca**.

MGen Rohmer is very proud of his decades of uniformed service and his contributions to the CAF during and after the Second World War, "[service] really is part of my essence," he said.

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#### 2014 | Year End

#### January

#### WEBSITE PUT NEEDS OF CANADIANS FIRST

Canada.ca has been designed to ensure that:

- the most frequently visited information is easiest to find.
- information is easy to access on smartphones, tablets and desktop computers.
- mobile applications and social media channels are easy to find and use.
- content is organized by key themes making the site user-friendly.
- all the information you need to start looking for a government program or service can be found in one place.

#### VADM NORMAN SETS A COURSE WITH RCN PLAN

Vice-Admiral Mark Norman, commander RCN, will help guide the organization through the most intensive period of transition and renewal ever in its peacetime



#### **February**



# OUT OF SMALL "P" PROCUREMENT Smart buying and getting the best bang for the

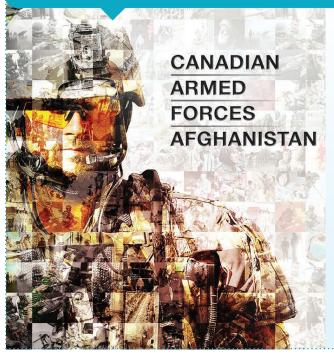
Smart buying and getting the best bang for the buck – or simply "buying it better" is what the Departmental Procurement Initiative (DPI) is all about, and is one of four Defence Renewal Initiatives under the Maintenance and Materiel renewal portfolio being spearheaded by ADM(Materiel).

# COMMANDER DISCUSSES THE FUTURE OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

After six months as Canadian Army Commander, and having recently toured all of the Army divisions and the deployment in the Philippines, Lieutenant-General Marquis Hainse talked about the future of the Canadian Army.



#### March



#### **AFGHANISTAN SUPPORT...**

By the end of March, CAF operations in Afghanistan were drawn down, and CAF members returned to a thankful and grateful Canada. These are two of the 100 photos published as a tribute to the Afghanistan mission.





Thousands of supporters gathered on Parliament Hill to participate in a Red Friday Public Rally.

The Highway of Heroes was lined on a chilly November night in a show of support for Cpl Nicolas Beauchamp and Pte Michel Jr. Levesque - both lost their lives on November 17, 2007, when their LAV III struck an Improvised Explosive Device.

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# April

A CAF Search and Rescue CH-146 Griffon helicopter lowers Sgt Stuart Neill, SAR tech, into a decaying fort while conducting a winch training exercise as a part of Op JAGUAR.

# STRENGTHENING THE CORE OF THE JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE

Canada and Jamaica have a rich history of co-operation dating back through the 20th century.

The bilateral relationship has produced benefits in the areas of security and defence, trade and investment, development assistance, and tourism.

# PER IMPROVEMENTS HAVE COME TO THE CAF

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Personnel Appraisal System and the writing of Personnel Evaluation Reports (PERs) are about to get simpler, thanks to changes coming as part of Defence Renewal.



#### May

#### THE DEPUTY MINISTER REFLECTS ON HIS FIRST YEAR AT DND

With 37 years in the Public Service, Richard B. Fadden brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that he hopes will help shape the Defence Team of the future. Marking his first full year in his role of Deputy Minister of National Defence, Mr. Fadden reflects on a year that has seen a lot of change, new opportunities and a Defence Team that rivals no other workplace.



#### SUPPORTING OPERATIONS THROUGH SPACE

The importance of the Canadian Space Operations Centre (CANSpOC) is to create a common operating picture with the Canadian Armed Forces – the data they collect can be used to support operations around the world. Canadian Space Operations Centre has become integral to supporting CAF operations in just 18 months since it was stood up.

#### June

#### WHAT'S NEW FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

The behind-the-scenes work requesting provincial ministries of health to waive the 90-day wait period for provincial health insurance for military families came to fruition.

#### DT LEADERS ASKED TO CHAMPION CHANGE ACROSS DEFENCE

Military and civilian Defence leaders alike heard the message loud and clear: Embrace the opportunities before you and help lead the renewal of the Defence Team.

Deputy Minister Richard Fadden and Chief of the Defence Staff General Tom Lawson remarked on the number of issues that dotted the Defence agenda in the previous year.

# NATIONAL DAY OF HONOUR CELEBRATED ACROSS CANADA



A CH-147F Chinook helicopter sits on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Ontario on May 9, as part of the National Day of Honour commemoration ceremonies.

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#### **CAF'S COMMITMENT TO NATO REASSURANCE MEASURES**

The support to NATO by CAF is a tri-service effort from the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force. To support allied solidarity, Canada has committed CAF staff officers to Belgium, an Air Task Force to Romania, one ship to the Mediterranean Sea and a platoon-sized Army land element to Poland.



Polish Pte Michel Dajek (right), US SSgt Tyler Trappe, and Canadians, Pte Mike Skinner and Cpl Dalen Tanner discuss best practices during Ex ORZEL ALERT.

#### THE AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL VIGIL OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REFLECTION

The Afghanistan Memorial Vigil was created to commemorate and honour sacrifices. It consists of 192 plaques representing the 204 fallen. Originally, the plaques were part of the Kandahar Air Field cenotaph - a memorial structure built for soldiers by soldiers to commemorate their fallen comrades while deployed in Afghanistan.

> A CAF officer and a ceremony guest visit the Afghanistan Memorial Vigil at the Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C.



#### August

#### CDS POSITION CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

The number on the back of Chief of the Defence Staff's hockey jersey has special meaning with a lot of military history. General Tom Lawson is the 18th general to hold the position of CDS.

According to the National Defence Act, the CDS has direct responsibility for the command, control and administration of the CAF, and is appointed by the Governor-in-Council, on the advice of the Prime Minister.

#### September



machines a piece of aluminum using the ship's lathe in Pearl Harbor.

HMCS Calgary Bridge Watch Keeper, SLt Sonja Maul-Wilson completes paperwork prior to the ship leaving Pearl Harbor for a Missile Exercise.

#### October

#### OP NEVUS: MISSION **ACCOMPLISHED**

Among its many operational commitments, 438 Tactical Helicopter Squadron (Tac Hel Sqn) in St-Hubert proudly participated in Op NEVUS, conducted in the High Arctic, to support the various maintenance work on Ellesmere Island.



Two 438 Tac Hel Sqn CH-146 Griffon helicopters hovering over Otto Fjord, NU.

#### CYBER SECURITY **AWARENESS MONTH**

Members of the Defence Team have to be especially aware of threats in the cyber world. Many of us deal with sensitive information in the course of our duties, and we must remind ourselves that this information could be attractive to outsiders, and a potential target of hackers. The ADM (Information Management) Group's intranet site (img.mil.ca) provides information and tools to help you meet your security responsibilities.

#### **75TH ANNIVERSARY** OF CANADA'S **ENGAGEMENT IN THE** SECOND WORLD WAR

It was 75 years ago that Canada chose to send its best and brightest away to fight for freedom and the values we cherish today. The Second World War began on September 1, 1939, as the German Armies swept into Poland.



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#### **IN MEMORIAM:**





**WARRANT OFFICER PATRICE VINCENT** 

**CORPORAL NATHAN CIRILLO** 

#### **David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief:**

The CAF is very much a family, and together we are mourning the loss of two comrades and the wounding of another. To all who have been affected by the recent despicable events in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu and in Ottawa, including fellow soldiers, friends and family members, my heart and the hearts of all Canadians go out to you.

#### **OP IMPACT**



Approximately 600 CAF personnel deployed to Iraq including: an air task force; a group of advisors; liaison officers; and support elements such as command and control, medical personnel and logistics.

#### December

#### CANADA ASSUMES COMMAND OF COMBINED TASK FORCE 150

Twenty-four Defence Team members, both military and civilian, were deployed to Bahrain to lead a multinational naval force operating in the Red Sea region. This headquarters took over command of the next rotation of Combined Task Force 150 from December 2014 until April.



HMCS *Regina*'s and USS *Mesa Verde* prepare to conduct a replenishment at sea with USS *Laramie* in the Red Sea during Op ARTEMIS.

#### OP SIRONA: CAF TO HELP FIGHT EBOLA OUTBREAK

The 2014 Ebola virus disease (EVD) epidemic is the largest in history, affecting multiple countries in West Africa (WA), particularly Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. International efforts are aimed at assisting these countries in containing the outbreak.

# NEW ONLINE MENTAL HEALTH SECTION FOR MILITARY AND CIVILIAN MEMBERS Mania Members

A new section dedicated to mental health information and resources pertinent to all members of the Defence Team was launched on the Defence Team Intranet website in mid-November.



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# CANADIAN ARMY RESTORES HISTORICAL TIES TO DIVISION AND RANKS

The Canadian Army is working to restore key aspects of its identity, which includes changes to everything from organizational names to ranks and insignia.

"Our badges and flags, as our symbols along with our customs, traditions, and our soldiers' stories, are part of how the Canadian Army maintains pride and builds fighting spirit. The restoration of the Canadian Army's former identity enables today's soldiers — with stories from Afghanistan and UN missions — to share in and connect with the proud history and heritage of our veterans," said Patrick Bryden, the Canadian Army's Heritage Manager.

#### **Reverting Back**

Across Canada, the former Land Force Areas, which comprised the former Land Force Commands, are now proudly flying their five distinctive Second World War coloured Division flags at their Division Headquarters. The Canadian Army is also in the process of reverting back to its unique Corps identities – which includes featuring bilingual metal shoulder titles on uniforms – all while returning rank trade names to soldiers and rank insignia to officers.

General officers began to wear their restored rank insignia during Army Week in September, to mark the commencement of a larger scale rollout of the newly restored insignia to the officers of the Canadian Army. Colonels reintroduced their Army rank insignia in early November. Likewise, all honorary appointments (colonels-in-chief, colonels commandant, colonels of the regiment, and honorary colonels) across all units implemented the restored rank at the same time. The officers' rank features Corps coloured slip-ons to restore this part of the Army's history of uniqueness to personal identification.

While many Corps have informally continued to use the terms trooper, gunner, sapper, signaller, rifleman, and

craftsman, these rank trade names were not in formal use. As a result, changes are being made to internal regulations and orders that will see the names to these and other ranks restored in 2015.

"As we roll-out the restored Canadian Army identity, I would like to encourage our soldiers to wear their new insignia with pride," said Lieutenant-General Marquis Hainse, commander of the Canadian Army. "Together, we stand strong, proud, and ready as we honour our connection to previous generations of warriors."

#### **Recognized Army Ranks**

The return to the common use of traditional and internationally recognized Army rank convention of stars and crowns has already received favourable comments from officers serving with NATO, who say that the restored Canadian rank is more easily recognized by our allies. The introduction of metal pin-on rank will also create a longer-term cost savings as the metal rank is a much more economical option than the cost of tailoring sleeve rank and officers can wear their newly promoted rank immediately.

"The changes to our nomenclature and our insignia represent not only a change to our identity, but a shift in our culture as an Army," said the Director of Land Personnel Management for the Canadian Army, Colonel Tim Young. "It is very timely that this change comes as we mark the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Army's role in the First World War and the 70th anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War."

During recent commemoration ceremonies in Holland, local citizens were quick to point out the very recognizable coloured Division patches that their fathers and mothers remember.

During a recent wreath laying, the Regimental Sergeant Major for the Algonquin Regiment, Kent Griffiths, noted: "I was quite surprised by the number of Dutch people who came up to me just to touch my 4th Canadian Division patch on my shoulder, connecting my attendance with their liberation by the green patches of our veterans. Our Canadian Army identity is still strongly remembered overseas."

#### **The Roll Out**

Much work has already taken place and the Canadian Army is now rolling out the restored rank by officer cadets to lieutenant-colonels. These officers began to put up their restored rank on December 8 and all of those wearing the Army uniform will complete the introduction of the restored rank by February 2. •



The Canadian Army is working to restore key aspects of its identity, such as ranks and insignia.

#### CANADIAN ARMY TESTS EXCALIBUR

#### "SMART" ARTILLERY ROUND

It was a ground-breaking day for the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) when they successfully test-fired a Global Positioning System (GPS) -guided 155 mm artillery shell. The trial of the newest generation of Excalibur proved the mettle of a shell that is unmatched for precision, range and accuracy. Already used effectively to save lives and reduce collateral damage in Afghanistan, the first firing of Excalibur shells in Canada took place at Defence Research and Development Canada's (DRDC's) Suffield, Alberta Experimental Proving Ground. The Excalibur round exceeded all expectations.

"The test firing was considered a success and the Excalibur round will very likely be accepted into service in the Canadian Armed Forces," said Captain Greg Keach, Director Land Requirements 2-2-2 and project director, Lightweight Towed Howitzer project. "The Excalibur test rounds were amazingly accurate," said Capt Keach. "We shot from an M777 lightweight Howitzer. Two of them struck and functioned on a five-by-five metre target with unbelievable accuracy, well within the range of acceptable and planned accuracy for the round. Both of them were textbook."

#### Digitization for "Smart" rounds

Another important feature that was trialed was the digitization of fire orders. The Excalibur "smart" rounds, unlike conventional rounds, need data and, therefore, the fire order method required an update.

"Fire orders are still primarily sent by voice. A lot of our allies are moving to full digitization of the fire order. It's better than sending data by voice because it helps remove any potential human errors," said Capt Keach. "As well, the data can be encrypted for additional operational security."

Excalibur shells – or bullets in artillery slang – can be precisely guided to targets up to more than

35 km away and yet have the built-in technology and fail-safe mechanisms to automatically switch off and not detonate if there is a failure that causes them to land outside their designated target zone.

"Conventional artillery is known as an area weapon. Generally, you can't shoot one bullet to take out a car or the corner of a building where an insurgent sniper may be firing. It's known as an area weapon because you fire a number of projectiles to neutralize the target area," says Capt Keach.

#### A decade in development

Developed over a 10-year period, Excalibur's final testing was completed in 2007 and used with success in Afghanistan and Iraq. Although more expensive than regular artillery rounds, one Excalibur can neutralize a target whereas conventional artillery would require dozens of rounds before having a direct hit on the target.

"The Excalibur artillery shell represents a precision capability that enables the Canadian Army to bring to bear scalable, reliable and judicious effects at the right place and time to achieve mission objectives in the conduct of full spectrum operations," says Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart Taylor, commanding officer, 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.

The addition of the Excalibur round to the Canadian inventory provides commanders with an optimized inventory of lethal weapons that mitigates against the unintended consequences of collateral damage to civilian risk objects. A clear example of the value of an Excalibur round is in urban warfare where the potential is extreme for soldier and civilian deaths, along with devastating property damage when conventional artillery fire is used. Excalibur shells can be fired within close proximity of friendly troops, a critical concern when infantry comes under sniper fire in urban areas. •



A close-up look at an Excalibur GPS-guided artillery shell.

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#### **MILITARY POLICE:**

#### RIDES HIGH ON FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

For the sixth consecutive year, Military Police conducted the National Motorcycle Relay with five riders crossing Canada on their motorcycles in support of the Military Police Fund for Blind Children and the Children's Wish Foundation. Hundreds of other riders, volunteers and participants assisted our National Riders in raising a record amount of \$119,000 from the ride.

The ride takes place each year, commencing in Victoria B.C. the first weekend in August and concluding in Gander, Nfld. An average of 400 km is covered daily, most of it on secondary highways that take the riders to most of the major military establishments across Canada. All 10 provinces are visited and volunteers organize everything from BBQs and auctions, to baseball tournaments, show and shines, and poker runs.

For more info on the ride visit www.mpnmrr.ca or on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/MPNMRR/. \*



#### TIGER TEAM WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If your ability to do your job has ever been hampered by burdensome or confusing policies and processes, head to the Blueprint2020 GCConnex page at: gcconnex.gc.ca/groups/profile/6408178/blueprint2020 and share your views. A Destination 2020 signature project, coming out of Blueprint 2020 engagement, the Internal Red Tape Tiger Team is exploring cumbersome policies, processes and rules, and finding ways to simplify them.

A multi-disciplinary team has been formed to engage public servants, and they want to hear your stories about internal red tape. With your help, the team will identify the most common irritants, examine the root causes, and test drive solutions. Visit the GCpedia site at: www.gcpedia.gc.ca/wiki/Reducing\_Internal\_ **Red\_Tape\_Initiative** to keep track of the team's progress. ◆



#### **NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN** FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE!

Do you know someone in your organization who has demonstrated exceptional service and a commitment to excellence? If you do, nominate them for a 2015 Public Service Award of Excellence. This award recognizes some of the many public service employees and military members who have shown excellence, professionalism and leadership in serving Canadians. Please consider nominating individuals/ teams whose work has made a difference, and encourage vour employees to do the same. By celebrating the achievements of our employees and colleagues, we continue to foster a high-performing, innovative and respected public

Defence has been recognized in the past in the Youth category for the Defence Youth Network's contributions, and also for the 60 years of special service award.

#### The closing date for nominations is February 20.

Please take the time to recognize a deserving individual, and show them that their extra effort is appreciated.

For more information on Awards and Recognition, visit the Defence Team site at dt.mil.ca.

#### **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE** PROGRAM SATISFACTION SURVEY COMING SOON!

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Satisfaction Survey is scheduled for release in 2015 by email to all civilian employees and all managers of civilians, including those in the military.

The survey is your opportunity to tell us how you feel about the EAP services provided within DND so that we may continue to improve this program

- Civilian employees: Please take a few moments to complete this vital survey.
- Managers of civilians: Please allow your personnel time to complete the survey. and also take a moment to complete the survey yourself.

For information on the EAP, visit: hrciv-rhciv.mil. ca/en/e-employee-assistance-program.page.



#### December ANNOUNCEMENTS



The year came to an end with a number of announcements benefitting the Defence Team.

#### December 4

#### **Op CARIBBE 2014 concludes**

HMC ships Brandon and Yellowknife ended their participation in Op CARIBBE 2014, concluding Canada's annual contribution to the multinational campaign against illicit trafficking in the eastern Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean.

#### **December 8**

#### **Defence Minister announces Declaration of Intent with Ukraine**

Canada signed a Declaration of Intent with Ukraine to explore opportunities to conduct joint military training and capacity building in response to Russia's aggression toward Ukraine.

Canada and Ukraine are committed to continue working together to strengthen the capacity of the Ukrainian Government and its security forces, to defend Ukraine's territorial integrity and its people, and to uphold and promote the institutions that serve the well-being of its society.

#### December 9

#### **Defence Minister Visits Troops in Poland**

Defence Minister Rob Nicholson visited CAF members deployed in the Republic of Poland on Op REASSURANCE, Canada's response to Russia's military aggression towards Ukraine. The CAF members have been deployed in Poland to help ensure peace and stability in Central and Eastern Europe.

#### December 10

#### **National Fighter Procurement Secretariat** Report

The National Fighter Procurement Secretariat released the 2014 National Defence Annual Update on the life-cycle cost estimates for the F-35, the independent review of the Annual Update, and the latest report on Canadian industrial participation in the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter

No decision has been made on the replacement of Canada's fighter fleet. To ensure that Canada retains a fighter canability during a transition to a new fleet. National Defence has extended the life expectancy of the CF-18s to 2025.

#### **December 11**

#### CAF supports new partnership in Mental **Health Centre**

The CAF have established a national Canadian Military and Veterans Mental Health Centre of Excellence and created a Chair in Military Mental Health in partnership with The Royal Ottawa Health Care Group (The Royal), one of Canada's foremost mental health care and academic health science centres.

The establishment of this Centre of Excellence and the Chair are part of a number of recent enhancements by the Government of Canada that will support clinical best practices and prioritize mental health research, education and prevention.

#### December 12

#### **Defence Minister Visits Kuwait**

Defence Minister Rob Nicholson met with CAF members deployed on Op IMPACT, Canada's contribution to the international coalition assisting security forces in the Republic of Iraq in their fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL). Mr. Nicholson toured various deployed CAF locations, served dinner to troops and took part in town hall discussions while in Kuwait.

#### **RCN Internal Review findings on Personal Conduct Released**

The Royal Canadian Navy announced the key findings and recommendations of the internal review on personal conduct within the institution. Vast majority of sailors conduct themselves appropriately and while the RCN is already well-supported by policies and procedures, there is a need for more exacting guidance from leadership.

For a full list of announcements, please visit the Defence Team site at: dt-ed.mil.ca

