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Rendering of the \$26.5-million DRDC Atlantic Research Centre. The new facility features stores, services and assembly capacity for equipment used in Arctic research.

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Defence Construction Canada has been contracting and managing construction of the Nanisivik Naval Facility, located in Nunavut along the north shore of Baffin Island, just south of the Northwest Passage, near the community of Arctic Bay. The \$56-million facility will serve as a docking and refueling station for military, civilian and Government of Canada vessels during the Northern shipping season.



DCC is contracting for and managing the construction contracts for the Nanisivik Naval Facility on Baffin Island, Nunavut. The completed naval station will be home to the Arctic/Offshore Patrol Ships.

Following preparation work at the site that began in 2014, ground was broken last July. DCC employees have been working on the project since 2008 pursuing compliance with the Nunavut Lands Claims Agreement, managing rigorous environmental impact studies, and working with the local community in every phase of the project. About 50 to 60 local jobs have been created that will assist with planning, construction and mandated environmental mitigation for protecting marine life.

"I feel privileged to be able to work on this project knowing that it's going to be used by our Canadian Armed Forces to support Arctic sovereignty," says DCC Technical Specialist Louis Lemay. "We have seen first-hand the vast array of natural resources that are up there that are worth protecting."

DCC Team Leader Steve Poaps agrees.

“Our focus at DCC is to support defence projects, whether it’s a spectacular project like the Nanisivik Naval Facility or an environmental clean-up. I am proud to work with DND on these significant northern projects.”

It is expected that the completed naval station will be ready to support Arctic/Offshore Patrol Ships in 2018.

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Good communications and a team effort were essential to the success of the project, says Graham Yantha, Coordinator, Construction Services, who led the DCC effort.

Work began in the summer of 2013 to demolish structures dating from the Second World War and to build the \$13.3-million naval reserve training centre.

"We worked very closely with the contractor, and the end user [the HMCS Carleton Unit] was very helpful throughout," Yantha says.

This was beneficial when there were challenges to overcome, such as prominent bedrock, intricate design elements and layout changes. The two-storey, 6,000-m<sup>2</sup> facility contains classrooms, offices, a gymnasium, a drill hall and a galley.

Another resource was Andy Zieroth, DCC Coordinator, Construction Services from London, Ontario who was working on building a similar structure in Windsor—the *HMCS Hunter*. Since the work there was slightly ahead of Ottawa's, Zieroth was able to share his experiences with Yantha and his colleague Radoslaw Krochmalski, plus advise on approaches to avoid.

The new *HMCS Carleton* officially opened in late November 2015, after the [laying of the ceremonial keel](#) in March 2015.



Exterior view of the HMCS *Carleton* building that replaces the facilities that were built during the Second World War. The structure resembles a ship with its curved profile and porthole windows and provides a modern training facility.

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Add to that the security requirements of Defence Research and Development Canada's (DRDC) main building on their Atlantic campus and the DCC team faced truly unusual circumstances. "The challenge was to build a new building while the existing occupants could continue to work," said Peter Sarty, Team Leader, Construction Services, in Halifax.



DRDC staff, responsible for Canada's defence and security science and technology, has lab work and experiments that span over months and years which cannot be interrupted.

Their parking lot could be interrupted though. So, the project team made a plan to construct the new building on the footprint of the existing parking lot. Once complete, the occupants will be moved into the new facility, that's expected to be in mid-2017. Demolition of the existing 1950s-era building will begin soon afterwards. In the meantime, employees park off-site.

Despite space restrictions, DCC and DRDC staff collaborated on changing requirements mid-build. And even with the added effort required to mitigate impact on the project's neighbours, the project has continued to proceed well. Central to that success has been the hard work of DCC construction coordinators, Peter Zwicker and Darrell Ferguson, said Sarty. With their leadership, the project has managed to win over neighbours and is on track to meet LEED Silver standards.

"They've been a very dedicated team in maintaining progress," said Sarty.

The full project will be complete in 2018.

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Richard Danis, Director, Finance, attended the awards ceremony in Toronto on December 9, 2015. Mr. Danis accepted the award from John A. Gordon, CPA, CA, KPMG LLP (shown in photo). As summarized in the Judges' Book, DCC was presented with this award for its focus on value for money and sustainability, noting that "this is very appropriate for today's environment." DCC works hard at improving its corporate reports each year. Canadian citizens, like all corporate shareholders, are entitled to transparency and efficiency in what DCC does.



Richard Danis, Director, Finance, collected the award in Toronto on December 9, 2015 (pictured, left, with John A. Gordon from KPMG LLP).

CPA Canada has been handing out corporate reporting awards for 62 years, as part of a broad program to enhance the quality of financial reporting in Canada.

To view the Annual Report, visit the [DCC website](#). For more comments from the judges, [click here](#).

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## About DCC at Work

*DCC at Work* is our corporate 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 April 2016.



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