

In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

Infrastructure support delivered for key vehicle maintenance and training site

Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

CFB Valcartier ready to accommodate Syrian refugees in record time

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APRIL 2016 / VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

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asked Defence Construction Canada to begin construction of 30 new buildings to house refugees as needed at the Valcartier Garrison.

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In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

Infrastructure support delivered for key vehicle maintenance and training site

Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

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The housing crunch at CFB Bagotville received some much-needed relief this winter in the form of 16 new permanent married quarters.

The base has long had a shortage of homes," explains DCC Bagotville Site Manager Richard Thibault. And, with the creation of 2 Wing, the RCAF's new rapid-response unit, in 2014, the demand has only grown since then.



Phase 1 of the military housing project in Bagotville. Valued at \$6 million, DCC provided construction contract management for 16 new housing units for military families on the base.

Construction of the new housing was carried out under the Federal Infrastructure Investments Program (FIIP). The tight expenditure targets in the program's first year brought DCC and DND together as a close-knit team to get the units completed by March 31, 2016, Thibault recalls.

Among the time-saving approaches the team took were to adapt existing drawings rather than create new ones, hire contractors already on standing offers, and schedule some tasks concurrently rather than consecutively to meet the tight timeline.

These creative solutions were a result of the two groups coming together to ensure the project got done on time, Thibault says. In addition to the delivery of 16 new residential housing units, the team also completed the relocation and improvement of a playground, a community greenhouse, and expansion of the existing main utility services.

"Collaboration and creativity go together," Thibault says, noting that this approach will serve the team well in the future—on FIIP and other projects—even when there isn't a rush. "This [FIIP] program was a must-win for DND and DCC—and we succeeded together."

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Defence Construction Canada

Canada

In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

Infrastructure support delivered for key vehicle maintenance and training site

Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

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Subscribe

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Learn more about current DCC projects and events

APRIL 2016 / VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

Infrastructure support delivered for key vehicle maintenance and training site



Completion of the Vehicle Maintenance Facility at Wainwright, AB, will provide a 22,000-m² customized, purpose-built, top-quality support centre.

The large training exercises at CFB Wainwright mean big demands on the vehicle infrastructure that supports them. To continue meeting those demands, a large renovation and expansion was made a top priority and is now nearing completion.

Over the last five years, the Vehicle Maintenance Facility (VMF) at Wainwright, AB, has gone from a 10,000-m² multi-use storage building to a 22,000-m² customized, top-quality support centre.

“The capacity of the building was based on supplying and maintaining vehicles for the exercises that happen here,” said Stuart McCracken, DCC Team Leader, Construction Services, noting that up to 7,500 soldiers can participate in training on site over the summer months. “It’s precisely built for their use – based on the needs that they identified.”

Where the building previously had small and multi-use spaces, the new VMF has areas created specifically for different maintenance needs, ranging from textiles to optical services and even including space for a Leopard Tank.

“With such a long project planning timeline, one of the challenges is that the user’s needs change,” said McCracken, referring to adaptations since the initial requirements were identified in 2006.

Over the last few years, the work moved forward well, with Phase 1 reaching completion in June 2015 and Phase 2 on schedule for end of May 2016.

In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

Infrastructure support delivered for key vehicle maintenance and training site

Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

CFB Valcartier ready to accommodate Syrian refugees in record time

Subscribe

About DCC At Work

DCC *at* WORK

Learn more about current DCC projects and events

APRIL 2016 / VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

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Prior to removing the UXO from the stockpile, contractors must remove the parachute and identify each bomb by its serial number.

Clearing sites of unexploded explosive ordnance (UXO) is a painstaking job at best, but a number of factors are causing challenges for the UXO remediation of the Goose Bay Practice Target Area.

The American, Holland, German, Italian, British and Canadian air forces used the aerial practice range from 1985 to 2007 to hone their low-level flying skills and dropped an estimated 21,000 bombs of various types, amounting to approximately 2.6 million kg of debris.

The site is located about 120 km southwest of Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, with no road access. This means that everything that is needed to do the clearance work—from fuel and supplies, to people and heavy equipment—has to be flown in, explains DCC Goose Bay Site Manager Carlos Marques. In addition, there is only a short window from mid-June to early October when on-site activity is possible due to weather conditions.

DCC and DND representatives carried out reconnaissance of the site in June 2014. In October 2015 the project team spent three weeks on the site identifying, segregating and clearing to Level 1 about 1,500 bombs and UXO debris. The team will return to the site in June 2016 to explode these bombs to provide Level 3 clearance. The various UXO materials will then be sorted and packed into boxes ready for transport back to Goose Bay for proper recycling and/or disposal.

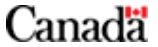
To respond to the project's various challenges, DCC is in constant communications with 5 Wing colleagues, about everything from arranging the flights in and out of the site, equipment breakdowns, proper EOD procedures, and guidelines required to meet DND

standards. "This project definitely requires more coordination than normal," Marques says with a laugh. "But the results are very rewarding."



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Defence Construction Canada's Corporate Newsletter



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In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

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Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

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Learn more about current DCC projects and events

APRIL 2016 / VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

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In just seven weeks, DCC oversaw the completion of 30 new buildings to house Syrian refugees at the Valcartier Garrison. The buildings will also be used to for year-round housing for cadets, reservists and other units needing temporary accommodations.

In the fall of 2015, the Government of Canada announced the arrival of 25,000 Syrian refugees in the coming months. At the end of November, the Department of National Defence asked Defence Construction Canada to begin construction of 30 new buildings to house refugees as needed at the Valcartier Garrison. While the accommodations were being constructed for the Syrian refugees, they can also be used for year-round housing for cadets, reservists and other units needing temporary housing at Valcartier.

In less than two weeks, the contract documents were drafted and issued, and the tender period was opened and completed. Escaléra Entrepreneur Général, a Québec City-based company, was awarded the contract. Their job? Deliver 30 buildings to house the dormitories by January 22, 2016, at the latest. The contractor had just seven weeks, including the holidays, to complete everything.

Though everyone expected them to use pre-fabricated buildings to meet the deadline, Escaléra decided to build everything on site instead. Using a temporary shelter installed on the Valcartier site, where contractors could construct the buildings in the warmth and shelter from bad weather, the structures were delivered on time and were ready to welcome Syrian refugees as needed.

"It was really impressive to watch them build. I admit that I was skeptical at first about the contractor building everything on site, but for every obstacle or potential delay I brought to their attention, they rolled up their sleeves to deliver on time. I am very proud of this project,

because it is a perfect example of collaborative teamwork," said Véronique Jean, DCC Team Leader, Programs at the Valcartier Garrison.

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Last Modified: 5-19-2016

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[Newsletters 2016](#) > [DCC At Work - April 2016](#)



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In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

Infrastructure support delivered for key vehicle maintenance and training site

Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

CFB Valcartier ready to accommodate Syrian refugees in record time

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In this issue

FIIP targets spark collaboration and creativity on Bagotville housing and community projects

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Goose Bay UXO remediation requires constant communications

CFB Valcartier ready to accommodate Syrian refugees in record time

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