

# The Genesis of the Naval Reserve Association of Canada

## Birth of a New Association

March 9, 2021 The UNTDA Board passes the following resolution:

“That the Board of the UNTDA establish a Committee: Planning for the Future of the UNTDA – 2025 chaired by Marta Mulkins to examine what changes are desirable to our mission as an organization to best serve our membership in the future. The Committee will report in September 2021.”

October 21, 2021 to incorporated as a non-profit.

November, 2021 Marta Mulkins’ report includes the following:

“As there is no clear consensus upon membership qualification it is recommended that the Membership Committee (or an ad hoc working group to the Membership Committee) be asked to analyse options for possible future expansion of membership eligibility for the UNTDA, for decision no later than the Naval Reserve Centennial, in 2023.”

January, 2022 Extract from Executive Committee Meeting Minutes:

“... the top priority was to have a committee to consider a change in the name of the organization (some would say rebrand) followed slightly less urgently by considering the future composition of the organization beyond the officer cadre.”

April 18, 2022 First meeting of Membership Structure Review Committee

Chair Marta Mulkins  
Ross Connell  
Daniel Haché  
Ken McCaw

First mention of the possibility of including all ranks in the Association.

May 29, 2022 Progress report of MSR Committee to the UNTDA President, “... expanding the circle of consultation to include perspectives not only of we serving members of UNTDA but also of the broader pool of potential future members (current or recently retired members of the Naval Reserve - officers, C&POs, NCMs).”

July 21, 2022 Focus group discussion unanimously endorses membership of all ranks. Invited guests:

Lt. Eric Blay – active at York  
Lcdr. Dave Arsenault – active  
PO1 Stephanie MacAndrew – active  
CPO1 Paul Edwards – retired  
CPO1 Gordon Basaraba – retired  
LS Christine Hughes – retired

Committee considers proposal to recommend formal approval at the next board meeting for a resolution at the AGM in November.

On November 15, 2022, at its Annual General Meeting, the UNTD Association of Canada voted unanimously to expand the membership and amend the Bylaws to welcome both active and retired Naval Reservists of all ranks into full membership. With one stroke of the pen, a new Association was born.

## Recommissioning the UNTDA

For 35 years, the UNTDA has celebrated the University Naval Training Division scheme that recruited and trained over 8,000 university students from 1942 – 1968 to become officers in the Naval Reserve. This strong, vibrant organization has accomplished a great deal over those 35 years, but only for officers. The Naval Reserve has evolved significantly since 1968 and the Naval Reserve Centennial provided a great occasion for the UNTDA to pivot to a new purpose and mission of celebrating, commemorating, and connecting all reservists. The association will continue to evolve as it’s recommissioned, while encouraging all Naval Reservists to join up and contribute to the emergence of a National Naval Reserve Association!

## A New Name



It was quickly recognized that to be inclusive and welcoming to the expanded membership, the name of the organization had to change. The Executive Committee authorizes the Name Quest to consider a change of name for the Association, asking for suggestions by March 1, 2023. Both new and long-term members contributed to the quest.

Daniel Haché and Ross Connell reviewed the responses and submitted the following report to the board on March 14, 2023.

Recommended for Board Consideration				
Naval Reserve Association of Canada	NRAC	Association de la Réserve navale du Canada	ARNC	6
Canadian Naval Reserve Association	CNRA	Association de la Réserve navale Canadienne	ARNC	2
Canadian Citizen Sailor Association	CCSA	Association des marins citoyens canadiens	AMCC	1
Naval Reserve Community	NRC	Communauté de la Réserve navale	CRN	1
National Naval Reserve Network	NNRN	Réseau nationale de la Réserve navale	RNRN	1
Submissions not recommended (too long, inappropriate, Naval Reserve is not "royal", contains redundancies or inaccuracies, sounds awkward, etc)				
No change				3
Association of Reservists of the Navy of Canada	ARNAC	Association des Réservistes Navals du Canada	ARNAC	1
Association marin canadien navale	AMCN			1
Association of Naval Citizen Sailors	ANCS			1
Canada Naval Reserve Association	CNRA			1
Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve	CNVR			1
Canadian Naval Reserve Association - Reserves	CNRAR			1
Canadian University Naval Training System				1
Canadian Wavy Navy Association	CWNA			1
Citizen Sailors of Canada	CSOC			1
Civil Sailors Association	CSA			1
National Association of Retired Naval Reservists	NARNR			1
Naval Reserve Canada Association	NRCA			1
ReserveRCNMembers				1
ResNavCan= Reserve Navy Canada				1
Royal Canadian Naval Reserve Association				1
Royal Canadian Navy Association				1
Royal Canadian Navy Reserve Association	RCNRA			1
Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve Association	RCNVRA			1
Wavy Navy Association of Canada	WNAC			1

After discussion, motion by Ross Connell to recommend to the membership at its AGM on May 12, that the Association's name be changed to:

### Naval Reserve Association of Canada (NRAC) Association del la Réserve navale du Canada (ARNC)

March 20, 2023 – domain names registered:  
[navalreserveassociationofcanada.com](http://navalreserveassociationofcanada.com)  
[navalreserveassociationofcanada.ca](http://navalreserveassociationofcanada.ca)

The name was officially approved at the AGM in Victoria on **May 12, 2023**, where a diverse and inclusive new slate of Directors was also approved.