

Communications Committee Report to the Board of Directors

Naval Reserve Association of Canada

October 23, 2023

Since our last meeting, we said goodbye to Phil Anido who has pulled back after contributing a great deal in our early days, including help with French translations. On the plus side, the Committee has been strengthened immensely with the addition of Peter Baker (thanks to Glenn Woolfrey and Paul Seguna). Peter is a professional graphic artist who has provided great leadership on several fronts.

Gunroom Shots

You've seen the last issue. The name was simply not suitable for the expanded NRAC. Bill Clearihue struggled to reconfigure the UNTDA Newsletter to effectively serve NRAC, but it was not to be. The Communications Committee has therefore decided to launch an entirely new publication called **Mess Deck Connexions du carré**. The target publication date of the first issue is October 30. It will be distributed as a pdf file attached to an email. Look for an invitation to submit proposals for an NRAC badge, a feature article focusing on the role Dr. Joe Homer (UNTD '59) played in the Kootenay disaster, and much more. Issues will be 100% bilingual.

Membership and Recruiting

The Membership and Recruiting Committee has a huge job to reach all the potential members and to assist, the Communications Committee has designed a rack card with English on one side and French on the other, announcing the formation of NRAC and inviting membership. 100 cards will be mailed to the CO of each of our 24 NRDs, asking that they be made available in the messes. Clearly this does not directly address the larger group of retired reservists, but we hope it will kick-start the spread of information. To reinforce this initiative, it would be most helpful if directors were to join NRD Facebook groups and post information about NRAC.

Boilerplate

Any director writing about the birth of NRAC may wish to base what they say on the following text composed by the Communications Committee:

NAVAL RESERVE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (NRAC)

On November 15, 2022, at its Annual General Meeting, the University Naval Training Division Association (UNTDA) of Canada amended its bylaws to welcome both active and retired members of the Canadian Naval Reserve of all ranks into full membership. With one stroke of the pen, the opportunity for the creation of a new, wide-scoped naval reserve association was enabled, and the Naval Reserve Association of Canada (NRAC) was officially formed on 12 May 2023 during the last UNTDA national conference in Victoria, BC.

For 35 years, the UNTDA celebrated the scheme that recruited and trained over 8,000 university students from 1942 – 1968 to become officers in the Naval Reserve. This strong, vibrant organization accomplished a great deal over those years, but only for officers. That limitation no longer applies, and reservists are encouraged to explore the NRAC website pages to learn more about this new naval reserve association.

The creation of the NRAC, during the Centennial year of the Naval Reserve, seeks to serve our contemporary naval reserve's interests with a purpose and mission built upon the impressive national heritage represented by Canada's naval reserve service – in its past, present and future!

You can join now – and here's one of the more unique aspects of this Association – membership dues are **optional**. You can join as an Active or Passive member. We look forward to welcoming you aboard.

Learn more at: <https://navalreserveassociationofcanada.ca/>

ASSOCIATION DE LA RÉSERVE NAVALE DU CANADA (ARNC)

Le 15 novembre 2022, lors de son assemblée générale annuelle, l'Association universitaire des divisions de formation navale (UNTDA) du Canada a modifié ses règlements administratifs pour accueillir les membres actifs et retraités de la Réserve navale canadienne de tous grades comme membres à part entière. D'un simple trait de plume, l'opportunité de créer une nouvelle association de réserve navale de grande envergure a été rendue possible, nommée l'Association de la Réserve navale du Canada (ARNC), officiellement formée le 12 mai 2023 lors de la dernière conférence nationale de l'UNTDA à Victoria, en Colombie-Britannique. .

Pendant 35 ans, l'UNTDA a célébré le programme qui a recruté et formé plus de 8 000 étudiants universitaires entre 1942 et 1968 pour devenir officiers dans la Réserve navale. Cette organisation forte et dynamique a accompli beaucoup de choses au cours de ces années, mais uniquement pour les officiers. Cette limitation ne s'applique plus et les réservistes sont encouragés à explorer les pages du site Web du ARNC pour en savoir plus sur cette nouvelle association de réserve navale.

La création du ARNC, au cours de l'année du centenaire de la Réserve navale, vise à servir les intérêts de notre réserve navale contemporaine avec un objectif et une mission fondés sur l'impressionnant patrimoine national représenté par le service de la Réserve navale du Canada – dans son passé, son présent et son avenir !

Vous pouvez adhérer dès maintenant – et voici l'un des aspects **les plus uniques** de cette association – les cotisations sont facultatives. Vous pouvez adhérer en tant que membre actif ou passif. Nous sommes impatients de vous accueillir à bord.

Apprenez-en davantage sur: <https://navalreserveassociationofcanada.ca/accueil/>

Attempts to find a permanent chair have come up empty ...

Respectfully submitted
Ross Connell
Interim Chair