

President's Report

UNTDA Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 8th, 2020

I particularly wish to welcome our new Board members to their first meeting since their appointment in September.

Daniel Hache

Kim Kubeck

Marta Mulkins

Nick Slonosky

Craig Walkington

I am delighted to note that many of you have already been actively engaged with some of our committees and have come forward with a number of valuable observations which are enormously helpful as we engage in substantial change from the world of UNTDs to an organization that is in effect an alumni for those who have served in the Canadian naval reserve as officers and Cadets.

You are all post UNTDs and you join on the board, a number of other post UNTDs. I am using the words "post UNTDs" not to make a line of demarcation so much as to make sure we are not missing any qualified individual in our new organizational alignment. We initially referred to ROUDP, NROC, UNTDv2 or RESO but it is important that we do not miss others such as direct entry.

As many of the Board members know the UNTDA, before making the decision to broaden the base to all reserve officers, was operated on a very casual basis relying on practice and tradition rather than by a more formal operational structure or model.

I make no apologies for this as, while it might have been more informal, it accomplished a great deal and was professional in what it undertook to accomplish. Perhaps our greatest accomplishment was our success in keeping our

members engaged as fully as they wished to be. This was done among other things by the creation of the Nominal List, the superb historical/archival work by Bill Clearihue, the work of the board in providing seed money for local, regional and national events for our members and our communications through our newsletters and publications.

The downside of our relaxed structure is that there are many changes to be made to ensure that that we fully meet our new goal of an effective Canadian naval reserve officers association.

We have begun the process in the last few months to begin to make the organizational changes necessary to address the changing the face of the naval reserve following the end of the UNTD era. This will not be a quick and easy process as we are dealing with many different experiences and expectations. Many of these can be addressed and resolved when we engage in the discussion around reorganization /incorporation. Many others are occurring as we make ad-hoc advances with your go-ahead.

I would like to thank all the Committee Chairs for their ongoing work since our last meeting in September. It is hardly original to speak of these as unusual times and it is encouraging that there has been a great deal of activity since the September meeting. You have the reports from the Committees, so the level of activity needs no additional promotion from me.

I am delighted that we received a superb Newsletter in October and the excellent work of Bill Clearihue was once again on display! Importantly we welcomed another mode of communication – Gunroom shots, prepared by Barry Frewer. A superb addition to our communication efforts. I hope you will all make an effort to bring stories, histories and anecdotes to Bill and Barry for consideration in future publications.

One matter which has been a bit confusing to some, is the relationship between Membership and classifications in the data base. The membership is as described on the website:

“Members of the UNTDA will usually have trained with one or other of the Naval Reserve officer training schemes, UNTD, ROUPT, NROC, UNTDv2 or RESO, or have

served as Commanding Officers, Staff Officers or instructors, and support the vision and mission of the Association”

This is really the key guide to membership.

The subsequent categorization of types of memberships is designed primarily to serve the search engine to make it easier to trace and manage our huge file of 10,000 on the Nominal List.

We have since my election as President last January been without a Vice-President. One of the key reasons is that we felt it appropriate to have a post UNTD serve in this position.

I will be introducing a motion next week to appoint a Nomination Committee to select a Vice-President for approval by the March meeting. I have asked Glenn Davidson to Chair the Committee and will make a recommendation as to membership at the Board meeting.

I will be sending out a Zoom invitation for the meeting later in the week.

We have a busy agenda and I look forward too seeing you all next Tuesday.