

# President's Report to the Board

September 8, 2020

I am pleased to report there has been a lot of activity since our March meeting. This will be apparent in the various committee reports.

While obviously much work remains to be done, I hope you will be pleased by the progress.

The Nominations Committee has met on two occasions on Zoom. It has made a lot of new connections and we will be making recommendations to fill the vacancies in the Maritimes and adding two new directors. Approvals are not complete but a full background will be provided in the Nomination's Committee Report.

The Communications Committee has been very busy and is addressing modifications to our website and working on developing additional methods of communications to broaden our contact with our members beyond our excellent Newsletter.

The Centennial 2023 Committee has been actively examining the options previously presented and pursuing our relationship with Commander Vallis and the ComNavRes team.

The Membership Committee has been running hard with Russ cracking the whip! Russ is also a member of the Nominations Committee. This has created some synergies in advancing our outreach. Needless to say the identification and recruitment of Reserve officers from the 70s and 80s is demanding and time consuming but responses have been positive and there clearly is a desire to "be connected".

Glenn Davidson and I met with Commander Vallis in a "get acquainted" session to discuss the work and direction of the UNTDA which was very useful in broadening our communications. Roger has been working with her to advance planning for 2023.

Roger and I had a teleconference with Commodore Hopper and his team at ComNavRes on Friday August 14<sup>th</sup>. We discussed the changes taking place in the UNTDA and explored their thinking with regard to our activities and the planning for 2023. Captain Etienne Landry, who is Deputy Commander of ComNavRes will be our contact and will be working with us to advance our planning particularly with regard to Centennial 2023. Roger and I will report more fully at the meeting.

Finally, I have been discussing with Bob Blakely, the governance structure (non-structure?) of the UNTDA. As we grow our reach it is important to have a governance structure we all understand that is designed to keep us confident in each other as our workload expands. We have done very well in the past because we were small and knew one another well and proceeded from memory and minutes.

A simple governance structure should guide our activities without being the least bit bureaucratic. Bob and I both have had extensive experience in governance and one of the lessons is to establish an agreeable structure when things are going well. Bob is working on a first draft and we will likely have a draft governance structure for discussion at our December meeting. If you have an interest in governance structure let me know so you can get involved.

COVID-19 may have slowed down a lot of projects but it has not slowed down the work of our directors and Committees!