

President's Report to the Board

September 7, 2021

I hope everyone has had a good summer so far and will continue to do so as we move quickly to the routines of Autumn!

I am pleased to report that notwithstanding the many temptations of summer, particularly as we have had more flexibility to enjoy life as many of the COVID restrictions have been eased, there has been a lot of activity by our board members. This will be apparent in the various committee reports.

There are two important changes that have taken place over the summer that will result in alterations to our organization.

Firstly, I am sorry to report that Hugues Letourneau has advised me that he is stepping down from the board for personal reasons. Hugues has made a considerable contribution to the board since joining us several years ago and of course has been particularly occupied as our board secretary for the last two years. The only good news in this is that Hugues remains a strong supporter and has undertaken to provide support of our operations on an as needs basis as we go forward. Thank you Hugues for all you have done and for your continued offer of support.

Secondly, Nick Slonosky, while remaining a Board member and continuing on the Communications Committee has decided to step down as Chair of the Committee. He has concluded that with his other responsibilities it is not possible to fulfil the undertakings required of the chair. His continued involvement on the committee is welcomed as he has been a great contributor of ideas.

I do not intend to review the activities of the standing committees as you will be receiving the reports directly from the chairs. All committees have been actively pursuing their mandates since June as you will note from their reports

As I chair the Executive committee I will deal with their activities in this report.

The EC has spent much of our time looking at two of our key challenges that have been slow to advance notwithstanding considerable effort. The post UNTD recruitment and our relationship with COMNAVRES and the NRDs which of course are in no small degree linked.

NAVRES Relationship

Last summer, Roger and I met with Commodore Hopper and Captain Landry and had preliminary discussions that were very positive. However, the background reality of COVID and the limitations it was putting on all NAVRES and NRD activities combined with the fact that commodore Hopper was stepping down necessarily limited any long-term impact but opened doors for next steps. In addition, Roger had been dealing with Commander Beth Vallis (Now Captain) who is the Project Director for 2023 and she was replaced by Lieutenant-Commander Dave Arsenault who is Project Manager and now our liaison. Roger, as you will see from his report, has been dealing with Arsenault and coordinating with both the EC and with Daniel Hache, who has as Second Vice-President, become our official liaison with the operations of NAVRES. Lieutenant-Commander Arsenault will join us briefly at the beginning of our meeting to present his slide deck on 2023 plans.

As you will see from the Reports, both Jennifer Bennett and Daniel Hache met recently with the new Commander of NAVRES, Commodore Montgomery and the Captain Landry, Deputy Commander Naval Reserves, which provided an important opportunity to further advance our relationships with NAVRES. I will not attempt to pre-empt the report you will receive from the meeting but suffice to say that the meeting went well and Jennifer's long professional relationship with Montgomery going back to Malahat certainly was helpful as was the mutual respect between Daniel and Landry. Their ability to build on their mutual relationships and experiences combined with a relevance to the world of post UNTD reserves clearly has advanced our objectives as an organization.

NRD Relationships

Both Roger and Russ have together developed some NRD liaisons primarily in the West but have been hampered to some degree by the age and stage issue in getting contact with a broad range of post UNTDs and effective movers and shakers in the current NRDs. How to develop more effective communication with today's NRDs and their resources including NRD alumni is crucially important to

our goals as is of course effective communication. This issue was naturally a subject of preliminary discussion with the meeting with COMNAVRES and will be addressed in Jennifer and Daniel's report.

As part of advancing our end of this and to attempt a fully coordinated approach that advances the work of both the Membership Committee and the 2023 Committee, Jennifer has agreed to serve as interim Chair of the Communications Committee in addition to her role as First V-P and has volunteered to put together an ad hoc group with Roger and Russ to consider effective steps through Communications, 2023 Committee and Membership to advance our progress in building NRD relationships to enhance recruitment and involvement in 2023 events. This will be discussed at our meeting as part of the Communications Report made by Jennifer.

The CSVC work is well underway, and I think you will be pleased with the progress made which will be covered in KIM's report.

I also expect we will have updates from both Bob Blakely and Marta Mulkins concerning the Incorporation and the Planning for Future project.

Special thanks once again to Barry Frewer for the timely and informative Gunroom Shots.

Once again, my thanks to all for the work they have done, and I think that we will have many interesting developments to discuss.

Graham Scott