

Report of Graham W. S. Scott,  
President of the UNTDA/Naval Reserve Association of Canada  
On the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNTD and the  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Naval Reserve in Canada  
Annual Meeting of the UNTDA, Hotel Grand Pacific, Victoria, BC  
May 12, 2023

Good afternoon and welcome to Victoria and the Annual General Meeting of the UNTDA.

This is both a unique and historical occasion!

We are celebrating at this gathering the 80th anniversary of the UNTD and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Naval Reserve in Canada.

In 2018 the UNTDA had a special reunion in St John's Newfoundland to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The reunion was a great success and memories and stories concerning the UNTD experience were front and centre.

A more serious question that arose was what should be done with future of the UNTD given that time was running out for those who participated. Should we shut the doors and box up the memorabilia or should we continue as something else?

The decision was made to see if we could build a future organization on the foundation of the UNTDA.

Post UNTDs were beginning to join the Association and we accelerated the process by recruiting post UNTD reserve officers to the board.

The board asked director Marta Mulkins to look at a potential future which resulted in her report Future 2025. This report dovetailed with a number of initiatives including:

- Incorporating the UNTDA under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act.
- Establishing By-Laws and a Board policy manual.
- Strengthening and expanding the board committee structure.

- Modernizing and enhancing the website to better reflect a bilingual Canada and the naval reserve of today.
- Enhancing our publications with the addition of Gun Room shots.
- Fully engaging with the Commander of Naval Reserves in celebrating the centennial of the Naval Reserve.

Marta's report raised the fundamental question of whether the association should be open to all reservists and accordingly, whether the name of the organization should be changed to better reflect its role and identity as an Association for naval reservists.-

Following the examination of the feasibility of open membership by a second committee led by Marta Mulkins, a unanimous recommendation was made to the board to open the UNTDA to all reservists and this was subsequently confirmed by our first Annual General meeting in November 2022.

We began the change of name process at the beginning of the year with wide notification inviting name proposals. After careful consideration of a number of factors, the Board will recommend that we adopt the name

**Naval Reserve Association of Canada (NRAC/ARNC)**

This is not simply a new name but provides a clearer identity of our role as broadly representing all Naval Reservists in Canada.

With your support at this meeting in Victoria, we will launch our new name, approve a new board, and recommission an Association that better reflects the naval reservists of today.

As we reflect on the many special events being held to help mark our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we cannot help but notice how little has been done to make Canadians aware of the role of the citizen sailor in Canadian life. There is so much that needs to be done to properly record the many contributions reservists have made to our country in both war and peace.

We have taken the step of fully supporting the initiative of the Citizen Sailors Virtual Cenotaph (CSVC) project driven by Kim Kubeck which not only brings to life the sacrifice of some 1700 reservists in WWII but serves as a reminder that citizen sailors were at the forefront of the our WWII Navy.

The new Association will be challenged not only to build for the future but to address the past to make sure we do not let past accomplishments fade into the mist.

I believe an exciting future lies ahead as we partner with the leadership of the Naval Reserve to develop plans to ensure the effectiveness of the Association in serving our members. In addition to the camaraderie common to reservists, many of the basic functions of the UNTDA will be brought to bear on the recommissioned organization, such as support for reunions, conferences, awards, naval charities and monuments. Building a new association to serve all reservists should be both exhilarating and exciting!

To you our current members, and especially to those of you who will be present at the May 12 AGM, thank you for your support and commitment. The new board may have different ideas, but the dues have not changed in over 30 years and are not sufficient to fund effective advertising. It is therefore up to current members to get the word out, particularly through the Naval Reserve Divisions, that there is now a national home for all reservists.

This meeting may mark the end the UNTD Association, but the UNTD will not be forgotten! The UNTD was a remarkable naval intake model, created in the circumstances of the Second World War; it provided the opportunity for many young men to attend university while serving the country as citizen sailors. In the 1940s and 50s when long distance travel was not the norm it provided a wonderful opportunity for young Canadians to meet and bond with each other.

A tribute to the success of the UNTD program is most effectively underlined by the contribution of the graduates in service to the Navy and to Canada. Admirals and senior officers in the RCN, leadership in reserve training, Lieutenant Governors, Judges, Cabinet members, Mayors, politicians, Deputy Ministers, Scientists, university professors and many others with distinguished service in civilian life.

The purpose of the Incorporation states:

*“To celebrate the naval and civilian contributions of participants in the Canadian Naval Reserve and to identify, preserve and promote the history and values of the UNTD program and its successors, with emphasis on citizenship, leadership, honesty, commitment, service and personal discipline.”*

There is much for us to celebrate today as the recommissioning of the UNTDA honours both the past and the future potential to serve those who have served and continue to serve in Canada's Naval Reserve.

Finally I want to acknowledge the considerable support of many individuals who have done so much to prepare us for this day of our recommissioning.

The Rev. Canon Bill Thomas who for many years served as President of the UNTDA.

Roger Elmes, our past President and chair of the outstanding Committee that made the Centennial conference possible.

The retiring and former directors who have helped drive the recommissioning – Glenn Davidson, Hugues Letourneau, Kim Kubeck, Ken McCaw, who recently stepped down and directors who are not seeking re-election) and of course the directors who have chosen to let their names stand to continue to serve on the board.

I want to acknowledge the superb cooperation we have received from Commodore Montgomery and his staff at CanNavRes who have been so helpful.

I note in particular the cooperation we have received from Beth Vallis and David Arsenault as we approached the Centennial and recommissioning.

My best wishes for an enjoyable and fulfilling 2023 Conference & Celebration!

Yours aye

Graham W S Scott,

President, UNTDA