

# MILITARY MATTERS

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## A Summary of the Report of The Independent Panel on Canada's Future Role in Afghanistan

This informal summary is intended for information only and endeavours to represent the content of the Government of Canada's **Report of the Independent Panel on Canada's Future Role in Afghanistan**, Chaired by the Hon. John Manley. The complete report can be downloaded from:

<http://www.independent-panel-independant.ca/main-eng.html>

With the Canadian Forces scheduled to conclude their operations in Afghanistan next year, it may be worthwhile to revisit the Manley Report as we approach the final year of Canada's military involvement in that nation. This summary addresses only the major points of the report, and is not intended to provide a complete overview of the much larger report prepared by the Panel.

Many Canadians are uneasy about our mission in Afghanistan and wonder if it is achievable and worth the human, material and social costs, both in Canada and Afghanistan. It has been deeply affected by decades of war, and it will frustrate any anticipation that it will evolve to resemble Europe or North America in five to ten years.

Canada is one of 39 nations engaged in this conflict against brutal insurgents. Despite this, Afghans are achieving substantial developmental progress:

- The economy has been growing about ten per cent per year;
- More than five million refugees have returned to Afghanistan since 2002;
- Approximately six million children are in school, one-third of whom are girls;
- Child mortality rates are improving;
- Roads are being built and power lines are being restored.

Canada is among 51 nations committed to the 2006 Afghanistan Compact, a comprehensive international program of aid to the country's security, governance and development.

The day following 9/11, the United Nations Security Council formally recognized the right of individual and collective self-defence and called on all member states to cooperate in Afghanistan "to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these terrorist attacks," recognized as a threat to global peace and security.

In January 2002, the first International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) troops arrived in Kabul. The next month, 850 Canadian troops deployed to Kandahar with the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom, then served in Kabul, returning to Kandahar in February 2006, where they have been fighting insurgents since.

The Panel assessed prevailing conditions in three connected dimensions: security, governance, and development. Each dimension affects others in dynamic interaction. Security enables development;

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## DEFSEC Atlantic 2010

The Canadian Defence Security and Aerospace Exhibition Atlantic

Cunard Centre - Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

September 8 - 10, 2010

[www.defsecatlantic.ca](http://www.defsecatlantic.ca)



Door gunner, Corporal Michael Zebiere provides small caliber defence suppression from a CH-146 Griffon helicopter during a reconnaissance of Task Force Kandahar (TFK) helicopter landing zones in the TFK area of operations. (Canadian Forces photo by Corporal Owen W. Budge)

Insurgents' tactics of improvised explosive devices (IED), suicide bombings, kidnappings and small-scale attacks are intended to unsettle the population, shake popular confidence in the government's ability to provide security, and prompt populations of ISAF nations to withdraw their forces.

There are serious shortcomings in the NATO/ISAF counterinsurgency campaign. The most dangerous include:

- ▶ an insufficiency of forces in the field, especially in southern high-risk zones;
- ▶ a top-heavy command structure at ISAF HQ-Kabul;
- ▶ an absence of a comprehensive strategy directing all ISAF forces in collaboration with the Afghan government;

effective governance enhances security; development creates opportunities and multiplies the rewards of improved security and good governance.

## SECURITY

**THE TALIBAN AND OTHER INSURGENTS:** The Taliban are a Sunni Muslim and ethnic Pashtun movement that ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, when they were removed from power by a cooperative military effort involving Afghan and international forces, including Canadians. Taliban mistreatment of women is particularly notorious.

Taliban commanders are directing violence primarily from sanctuaries in Pakistan. In many respects, the conflict in Afghanistan is a continuation of almost 30 years of war involving the same players, not all of whom are Taliban, but a combination of anti-government insurgents and self-interested "spoilers." Some global "actors," including private sources in the Gulf states, alienated local tribes, opium producers, and internal criminal elements provide support and financial assistance to fuel the insurgency. Afghan opium profits flow to the Taliban. Ninety per cent of the global illicit opium supply originates in Afghanistan.

Canadian and allied ISAF forces report significant successes in their strategy of "clear, hold and develop," pointing to communities where people are safer from violence and where reconstruction and development are under way. One difficulty is the absence of reliable benchmarks to measure progress in improving security for Afghans.



The Explosive Ordnance Detection robot, "tEODor", employed by the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, is a remote-controlled manipulator vehicle used for locating, inspecting and investigating unknown objects and also for the deactivation and destruction of any explosive devices that are found. (Canadian Forces photo by Master Corporal Angela Abbey)

- ▶ limitations placed by some NATO governments on the operations of their units, effectively keeping their forces out of conflict; and,
- ▶ inadequate coordination between military and civilian programs for security, stabilization, reconstruction and development.

Too many NATO governments have failed to contribute significant numbers of troops in the regions most vulnerable to insurgent attack and destabilization. Others have placed *caveats* on their military activities – prohibiting night fighting, or refusing to authorize helicopter flights that might expose pilots to combat. Consequently, the United States, Britain and Canada bear a disproportionately larger share of war-fighting.

Military victories will count for little unless the Afghan government, with help, can improve governance and provide better living conditions for its citizens.

## GOVERNANCE

Decades of political, economic and social havoc, have weakened the institutional capacity of the Afghan government. The government of President Karzai has some impressively talented and dedicated public servants and political leaders, but there is a debilitating lack of experienced people with professional competence across the Afghan government. Corruption is widespread, characterized by cronyism, bribery and a variety of shakedown enterprises by government officials.

Improving governance is essential to improving Afghan security, and the weakness of the existing government compounds the threat of a Taliban return. Afghan authorities in the central government and throughout the nation's 34 provinces will only earn legitimacy and public confidence by demonstrating an improved capacity for accountable, honest and effective governance.

## DEVELOPMENT

Despite all these difficulties, Afghanistan's economy recorded impressive growth since the removal of the Taliban government in 2001. However, the United Nations Development Programme in 2007 ranked Afghanistan 174<sup>th</sup> out of 178 countries on its Human Development Index because:

- ▶ 6.6 million Afghans do not meet minimum food requirements;
- ▶ gender discrimination remains pervasive;
- ▶ the illiteracy rate among women is 87 per cent, compared to 57 per cent for men;
- ▶ Afghanistan reports one of the world's highest rates of tuberculosis infection.

The Afghanistan Compact of 2006, in which Canada is a partner, spells out priorities for Afghanistan's development and for aid donors to the country. The three critical areas of activity must be security, governance, and economic and social development.

The Manley Panel identified four strong reasons for Canada's continued involvement:

- ▶ Canada has sent soldiers, diplomats and aid workers to Afghanistan as part of an international response to the threat to peace and security inherent in Al Qaeda's terrorist attacks. The Taliban sheltered al Qaeda before 9/11, showing how disorder and repressive extremism there can create a threat to the security of other

countries far away from Afghanistan, including Canada.

- ▶ Canadians are in Afghanistan in support of the UN, contributing to its capacity to respond to threats to peace and security and to foster better futures in the world's developing countries.
- ▶ NATO is the UN's instrument for stabilizing a durable peace in Afghanistan, enabling that country's development and the improvement of its governance. Afghanistan represents a



Corporal Crystal Brooker, from the Canadian Police Mentoring Team, provides security during a presence patrol in the Dand District (Canadian Forces photo by Master Corporal Angela Abbey).

challenge for NATO's credibility. To meet that challenge, NATO partners will have to assign more forces to Afghanistan and execute a more effective counterinsurgency strategy. NATO's success in that conflict will serve Canada's own security interests.

- ▶ Rwanda's genocide in 1994 proved what can happen when the world ignores impending catastrophe.

Canada's military and civilian engagement in Afghanistan has become the most expansive expression of Canadian foreign policy since the Korean War (1950-53), with rapid growth in its size and complexity. Canada's involvement began immediately following the UN Security Council authorized member states to take action against the "perpetrators, organizers and sponsors" of the 9/11 attacks. Canada deployed four warships and a tactical airlift detachment to the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea.

In August 2005, Canada assumed leadership of a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Kandahar City, and the security obligations that go with it. There are 26 PRTs across Afghanistan. In addition, the Canadian Forces redeployed from Kabul to Kandahar in February 2006. In July 2006, ISAF formally assumed command in Kandahar province and the rest of southern Afghanistan.

The Canadian Forces in Afghanistan now number about 2,500 soldiers, most in a battalion group and support elements in Kandahar. By comparison, ISAF forces from all 39 nations total about 41,700 personnel. Canada is responsible for security in Kandahar province and to provide the predominant non-Afghan military presence there.

Critical to the Canadian Forces mission in Afghanistan is their contribution to training the Afghan National Army (ANA). Organized in Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams (OMLTs), small groups of CF personnel attached to ANA units are helping to develop the ANA's own

capacity to plan, lead and sustain operations in defence of security in the province. CF soldiers in these teams are currently working with 2,400 ANA soldiers in Kandahar province, with similar teams mentoring in Afghan National Police detachments. Accelerating this training is an urgent Canadian and ISAF goal.

Canada's civilian aid spending in Afghanistan, mainly through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), now averages more than \$100 million annually. Canadian aid is to help build the capacity, legitimacy and popular support of Afghan government and non-governmental institutions. Canadian assistance has aimed at a wide range of activities, including:

- ▶ repair and construction of roads, irrigation and other infrastructure;
- ▶ microfinance to promote the start of small businesses, especially by women;
- ▶ rural development;
- ▶ support of community development councils.

The Canadian aid program in Afghanistan has

been impeded by both the dangerous security environment in Kandahar and CIDA's own administrative constraints. More than half of CIDA funding flows through multilateral agencies, and another 35 per cent is channeled through national programs managed by the Afghan national government, leaving little for locally-managed, quick-action projects for immediate improvements.

The intensity of insurgency in the South, and the relatively large number of Canadian soldiers active there, together help to explain why Canadians have suffered ISAF's highest casualty rates as a proportion of troops deployed. Many occurred in late 2006, however, casualty numbers declined following the CF-led Operation MEDUSA, a major offensive against insurgents in Kandahar province.



CF Photo by Master Corporal Craig Wiggins

## CANADA'S FUTURE IN AFGHANISTAN

There are no simple solutions. Conditions in Afghanistan are complicated. Its future is largely unpredictable, and will be determined in some measure by the conduct of other governments with interests in Afghanistan. The objective of Canadian policy is to leave Afghanistan to Afghans, in a country better governed, more peaceful and more secure. The Canadian Forces are doing a highly commendable job in a more violent and hazardous mission than was envisaged when they were first deployed to Afghanistan.

Canadian objectives are honourable and achievable, to contribute to a better governed, stable and developing Afghanistan whose government can protect the security of the country and its people.

A premature withdrawal from Afghanistan would cause more harm than good, and would:

- ▶ imperil Canadian interests and values;
- ▶ diminish the effectiveness of Canadian aid in Afghanistan by further constraining the ability of Canadian aid workers to move among Afghans;
- ▶ weaken the confidence of some Afghans living in Kandahar in their own future and in their own government;
- ▶ increase the susceptibility to the Taliban insurgency;
- ▶ undermine Canada's influence in the UN and in NATO capitals, including Washington;
- ▶ curtail Canada's capacity to act, and persuade others to act, in enforcing peace and restoring security;
- ▶ raise questions internationally about our future willingness to act where peace and security are threatened.

There is no parallel between the Afghanistan mission and the U.S.-led war in Iraq. To confuse the two is to overlook the authority of the UN, the collective decisions of NATO, and the legitimacy of the Afghan government that has sought Canada's engagement. Canada's commitment to Afghanistan has not yet been completed.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Canada should assert a stronger and more disciplined position and press for:

- ▶ Early appointment of a civilian representative of the UN Secretary-General for greater coherence in the civilian and military efforts in Afghanistan;
- ▶ Early adoption by NATO of a comprehensive political-military plan to address security concerns and imbalances, especially for more troops to train, and equipment for Afghan national security forces;
- ▶ Representations with Afghanistan's neighbours, especially Pakistan, to reduce risks to regional stability and security;
- ▶ Improved governance by addressing corruption and ensuring basic services to Afghans;
- ▶ Pursuit of some degree of political reconciliation.

Canada should continue with responsibility for security in Kandahar beyond February 2009, consistent with the UN Mandate, including the combat role, but with increased emphasis on training of the ANA to assume the lead for security, allowing Canada to take a reduced role. This is contingent on the assignment of



Lieutenant Tobi Dwyer (left) from Halifax, Nova Scotia, an intensive care unit (ICU) nurse at Canadian Forces Health Services Centre Atlantic, Captain Jennifer Drew (Centre) from Edmonton, Alberta, a nursing officer at 1 Field Ambulance in Edmonton and Commander Todd Stein, an American ICU nurse, are treating a patient at the Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit (R3 MMU) in Afghanistan (Canadian Forces photo by Sergeant Paz Quillé).



Sergeant Tommy Bourgeois, of 4 Engineer Support Regiment from Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Gaagetown, N.B., ensures that this road, near Kandahar City, is not booby-trapped (Canadian Forces photo by Corporal Jonathan Barrette).

particularly in Kandahar province, and longer-term capacity-building.

The Government should systematically assess the effectiveness of Canadian contributions and the extent to which the benchmarks and timelines of the Afghanistan Compact have been met. Future commitments should be based on those assessments.

The Government should provide the public with franker and more frequent reporting on events in Afghanistan, offering more assessments of Canada's role and giving greater emphasis to the diplomatic and reconstruction efforts as well as those of the military.

### **SIGNIFICANT EXCERPTS FROM THE MANLEY REPORT**

- ▶ The international military and development presence in Afghanistan has been explicitly and repeatedly authorized by the UN Security Council, most recently in a UNSC resolution in September 2007; it has also been collectively approved by all 26 NATO-member nations.
- ▶ ISAF forces are in Afghanistan at the request, and with the approval, of Afghanistan's own elected government, and the support of the Afghan people.
- ▶ The Canadian Forces are doing a highly commendable job in a more violent and hazardous mission than envisaged when they were first deployed to Afghanistan.
- ▶ Canadian objectives are honourable and achievable – to contribute to a better governed, stable and developing Afghanistan whose government can protect the security of the country and its people.
- ▶ The importance of Canada's engagement in Afghanistan has earned Canadians considerable influence among the countries cooperating in Afghanistan's progress. Helping to build a more stable, better governed Afghanistan with a growing economy is ... an achievable Canadian objective. But the future there is dangerous and can frustrate the most confident plan or prediction.

an additional 1,000 soldier battle group by another allied nation before February 2009, and the:

- ▶ Acquisition of a medium helicopter lift capability to provide improved safety and security for the Canadian contingent;
- ▶ Acquisition of unmanned aerial vehicles for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance before February 2009.

Canada's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan gives higher priority to direct, bilateral project assistance that addresses the immediate, practical needs of the Afghan people,



# University of Regina Academics Oppose Operation HERO

A number of University of Regina (U of R) professors have taken issue with the University over an academic program that provides undergraduate scholarships to children of Canadian military personnel who have died while participating in an active mission.

**PROJECT HERO** began in 2009 by retired General Rick Hillier and Honorary Lieutenant- Colonel Kevin Reed to provide undergraduate scholarships to children of Canada's Fallen Soldiers. Currently, sixteen of Canada's colleges and universities provide tuition and in some cases, support with room and board in the first year, to children of Canadian Forces personnel who have lost their lives while serving Canada in an active mission abroad.

To qualify, applicants must be:

A dependant of a Canadian Forces member who died while serving in an active mission;

Twenty-six, or younger;

Registered as a full-time undergraduate student at the university, in a program of study eligible for funding by the province of the location of School;

Meet the academic requirements for entry to the academic program for which the recipient applies and maintain satisfactory academic standing in the program.

Eligibility to this scholarship program of dependent children of deceased Canadian Forces personnel will be determined by Canadian Forces criteria.

Beginning with the Fall seminar, the participating universities will provide financial aid for qualifying students. Generally, participating academic institutions establish the terms and conditions for their individual involvement in the scholarship program. The application process, value and duration may vary from institution to institution.

## Open Letter to President Vianne Timmons

Calling Canada's mission in Afghanistan "a glorification of Canadian imperialism in Afghanistan and elsewhere," the 16 dissenting U of R professors express their opposition to providing benefits to children who have lost a parent to military action overseas.

The 16 signatories to the letter write that "[S]upport for 'Project Hero' represents a dangerous cultural turn. It associates 'heroism' with the act of military intervention. It erases the space for critical discussion of military policy and practices," the letter notes. "In signing on to 'Project Hero', the university is implicated in the disturbing construction of the war in Afghanistan by Western military- and state-elites as the 'good war' of our epoch. We insist that our university not be connected with the increasing militarization of Canadian society and politics."

The letter goes on to say that the "program, which waives tuition and course fees, and provides \$1,000 per year to 'dependents of Canadian Forces personnel deceased while serving with an active mission', is a glorification of Canadian imperialism in Afghanistan and elsewhere. We do not want our university associated with the political impulse to unquestioning glorification of military action."

Jeffery Webber, a principal spokesperson for the academics who signed this letter, has written in his



Canadian Forces photo by Corporal Jonathan Barrette

biographical notes on the university's website, that he is engaged in "early research preparations for an eventual book manuscript, *Canada in the Americas: Imperialism and Resistance in the Age of Neoliberalism*."

He has an obvious preoccupation with the political phenomenon of "imperialism" and his misperception that Canada is pursuing this as an objective in Afghanistan is shared among the remaining signatories of the letter to university president Vianne Timmons. This collective opinion is not merely wrong, but it ignores the intent of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1378, 1383 and 1386, which authorize military, development and humanitarian activities in Afghanistan.

Since its inception, the United Nations has reflected its collective opposition to imperialism in its resolutions and has repeatedly called on member states to take active roles in addressing aggression. There are numerous examples, Kashmir (1948), Korea (1950), Middle East (1956 and 1973), Lebanon (1958), Congo (1960), West New Guinea (1962), Cyprus (1964), Iraq (1990), Bosnia Herzegovina (1992), to mention only a few. Canada has been involved in many operations.

The U of R academics have failed to show how providing financial support to children who have lost a parent to military action is an act of imperialism or that it "erases the space for critical discussion of military policy and practices." Their actions in writing the critical letter to the university president belies their own underlying premise.

News coverage of the efforts of academic staff members has given rise to some public commentary that if these benefits are available to the children of Fallen Soldiers, then why aren't they also available to the children of, for instance, construction workers who have died on the job?

It is apparent that these academics and commentators are unaware of the conditions of service under which a Canadian military member must work that make military service unique, with requirements that do not exist in any other job, career or profession in Canada.

These academics also neglect to note that many colleges and universities provide reduced tuition, and other benefits, to families of academic and non-academic staff members. They also fail to acknowledge that there are many scholarships available to students from numerous sources for a variety of purposes.

Academics are normally skilled researchers and should be aware of the easily-accessed sources of information that respond to their misgivings, and the many military public affairs personnel throughout Canada who can provide information relating to their concerns.

Two principles of the Canadian context of military service underscore the uniquely special circumstances under which only our military personnel accept to serve, *Universality of Service* and *Unlimited Liability*.

## Universality of Service

Canadians employed in the civilian workplace work in a very different capacity than their military counterparts. A person employed by one of the levels of government in Canada, or by the private sector has the liberty to decline to perform any task which he/she feels may be hazardous. They can also restrict their work to their job descriptions.

This also pertains to law enforcement personnel, although the praiseworthy work they do can also place them in jeopardy. However, they have the right to decline and/or "call for back-up." In fact, when police have become involved in a situation which they are unable to manage, the provincial government can request the involvement of the Canadian Forces in an *assistance to law enforcement agencies (ALEA)* operation.

Canadian military service is comparatively open-ended. The Canadian Forces (CF) principle of *universality of service*, or the "soldier first" principle, requires all CF personnel to be continuously able to perform a broad range of general military, common defence and security duties, in addition to the particular functions of their occupations. This identifies CF personnel as members of the "profession of arms" first.

Every member, regardless of military occupation, or whether the place of work is a desk, a ship or an aircraft, must meet the *universality of service standards* of the Canadian Forces.



Corporal Simon Labelle on a patrol to verify a report that insurgents have modified some vehicles to accommodate anti-aircraft weapons. (Canadian Forces photo)

## Faculty of the University of Regina say No to “Project Hero” and Canadian Imperialism: An Open Letter to President Vianne Timmons

March 23, 2010

Dear President Timmons:

We write to you as concerned faculty members of the University of Regina, to urge you to withdraw our university immediately from participation in the “Project Hero” scholarship program. This program, which waives tuition and course fees, and provides \$1,000 per year to “dependents of Canadian Forces personnel deceased while serving with an active mission”, is a glorification of Canadian imperialism in Afghanistan and elsewhere. We do not want our university associated with the political impulse to unquestioning glorification of military action.

“Project Hero” is the brainchild of Kevin Reed, a 42-year-old honorary lieutenant-colonel of an army reserve unit in southwestern Ontario, who has said publicly he was inspired by the work of retired Canadian General Rick Hillier. General Hillier, one of the most controversial figures in the recent military history of this country, was the first to introduce “Project Hero” at a Canadian post-secondary institution, just after he took up the post as Chancellor of Memorial University of Newfoundland. Since then, a number of other public Canadian universities have come on board.

In our view, support for “Project Hero” represents a dangerous cultural turn. It associates “heroism” with the act of military intervention. It erases the space for critical discussion of military policy and practices. In signing on to “Project Hero”, the university is implicated in the disturbing construction of the war in Afghanistan by Western military- and state-elites as the “good war” of our epoch. We insist that our university not be connected with the increasing militarization of Canadian society and politics.

The majority of young adults in Canada find it increasingly difficult to pay for their education. If they do make it to university, they rack up massive student debts which burden them for years. Instead of privileging the children of deceased Canadian soldiers, we suggest that our administration demand all levels of government provide funding sufficient for universal qualified access to post-secondary education.

The University of Regina has always been closely tied to our Saskatchewan community, and the strategic plan, *mâmahokamâtowin*, means “co-operation; working together towards common goals”. We do not think that “Project Hero” is a common goal chosen by those of us who work in the University; it is not drawn from the values of this institution. We think it is incompatible with our understanding of the role of public education, or with decisions made by a process of collegial governance.

In addition to withdrawing from “Project Hero”, we think the issues we raise should be publicly debated. We are calling on the U of R administration hold a public forum on the war in Afghanistan, and Canadian imperialism more generally, at which the issues we raise can be debated. This forum should be open to all; it should take place this semester, before exams, as “Project Hero” is set to start at U of R in September 2010.

To summarize, we are calling for:

- (1) The immediate withdrawal of our university from “Project Hero”.
- (2) An institutional deployment of public pressure on both orders of government to provide immediate funding sufficient for universal access to post-secondary education.
- (3) A public forum on the war in Afghanistan and Canadian imperialism more generally to be held this semester before exams begin.

Signed by 16 faculty members-

**The universality of service standards:** Among other things, CF personnel must be able to do the following:

- fire and maintain a personal weapon;
- conduct nuclear, biological and chemical drills;
- fight fires;
- administer first aid, including CPR;
- communicate using a radio;
- prepare written military correspondence;
- deploy on short notice to any geographical location, in any climate;
- work irregular or prolonged hours;
- function effectively on irregular or missing meals;
- travel as a passenger in any mode of transportation;

- perform under physical and mental stress;
- perform with minimal medical support.

And, as strength and endurance could mean the difference between success and failure in a military operation, CF personnel must be more physically fit than the general Canadian population. CF personnel are required to undergo an annual physical fitness evaluation, known as the CF EXPRES test, where they must meet a minimum physical fitness standard.

The legal basis for *universality of service* is sanctioned under section 33(1) of the *National Defence Act*, requiring all Regular Force members to be “at all times liable to perform any lawful duty.” The legislative imperative means that a member who can not “at all times ... perform any lawful duty” can not serve within the

Regular Force, except during a carefully limited period of recovery from injury or illness or a period of transition out of the military and into civilian life.

There are several exceptions.

- CF personnel under the age of 18 can not be deployed to a theatre of hostilities, but they must remain fit enough to be able to deploy upon reaching age 18.
- Chaplains are not required to perform any duty other than those pertaining to their calling; accordingly, they are exempt from the requirement to perform general military duties and common defence and security tasks. However, they are required to be medically and physically fit and deployable.
- Section 33(2) of the *National Defence Act* foresees that Reserve Force (ie: part-time) members “may be called out on service to perform any lawful duty other than training at such times and in such manner as any regulations or otherwise are prescribed by the Governor in Council.” Since the Primary Reserve is given

the role of directly supporting the Regular Force, operational effectiveness requires these Reservists to meet the universality of service standards.

**Medical treatment:** The CF supports ill and injured personnel as they progress through recovery, rehabilitation and return to work. At the same time, the CF is required to take those measures necessary to field a ready, operationally effective force in the defence of the nation. Illness or injury can make it challenging for a CF member to meet the universality of service standards, as can poor physical fitness. Rigorous fitness programs and routine evaluations ensure that military personnel maintain a high level of physical fitness.

Sick and injured personnel are given the time they need to recover, so long as recovery is probable.

## UNLIMITED LIABILITY

Universally, one of the defining characteristics of military professionalism is the fact that military professionals ‘serve their country,’ agreeing to sacrifice their lives if lawfully ordered to do so.

Military analyst Pamela Stewart notes in her article *On Broader Themes of Canadian Forces Transformation* (Canadian Military Journal, Autumn 2007), this principle of *unlimited liability* does not exist in any other profession, and it requires that the personnel understand that completing the mission is paramount and takes precedence above all other factors, even if this requires that the military member place his/her life in jeopardy.

The element of enhanced public service paired with the imperative of *unlimited liability* places the military professional apart from all other walks of life. In no other profession is the practitioner required to place himself or herself into *harm’s way* to achieve the objectives of a mission.

As Pamela Stewart notes, the Canadian military professionalism is characterized by four attributes:

- Responsibility - duty to society;
- Expertise - abstract theory and the knowledge possessed;
- Identity - a member’s unique standing within society; and
- Vocational ethic - the values and obligations underpinning the profession.

*Unlimited liability* is the most basic component of Canada’s military profession, and its demands exist nowhere else in Canada. The construction worker, police officer and even firefighter retain the basic human right to refuse to engage in an assignment of that profession which endangers his or her life.

The Canadian serviceman and servicewoman voluntarily surrender this most fundamental human right when he and she swear the Oath of Allegiance and wear the uniform of the Canadian Forces.



(Canadian Forces photo by Corporal Jonathan Barrette)



# Canadian Naval Centennial (East)

<http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/centennial>



Maritime Forces Atlantic (MARLANT), Canada's East Coast Navy, conducted its kick-off to the Canadian Navy's Centennial celebrations on 27 April with the announcement of the community-based program entitled "Glorious & Free."

Launched at Halifax Hall, in the city's venerable City Hall, *Glorious & Free* is an awareness campaign developed to promote MARLANT's summer's varied centennial activities, including Freedom of the City parade on 4 May, the International Fleet Review on 29 June, and the MARLANT Naval Centennial Ball on 7 August.

The *Freedom of the City* parade will take place on 4 May, one hundred years to the day when Prime Minister Sir Wilfred Laurier proclaimed the Naval Service Act, creating the Royal Canadian Navy. The parade will feature a contingent of Naval personnel marching to Halifax's city hall, the parade commander, Rear-Admiral Paul Maddison, commander of Joint Task Force Atlantic and Maritime Forces Atlantic, approaching City Hall and knocking on the door three times with the pommel of his sword to exercise Freedom of the City (see the sidebar article, *Freedom of the City*, page 13).

The *Glorious & Free* campaign is the brainchild of a small committee of MARLANT's Community Leadership Advisory Council (CLAC), MARLANT's community outreach advisory group, co-chaired by former Nova Scotia Lieutenant-Governor, Honourary Captain (N) Myra Freeman and MARLANT chief of staff Captain(N) Bill Woodburn. The *Glorious & Free* committee was chaired by Ann Janega and included communications professionals from MT&L Public Relations Ltd. and Trampoline Creative Inc., and local civic, business and community leaders.

Campaign sponsors are Bell Aliant, Halifax Regional Municipality, the Port of Halifax, and St. Mary's University.

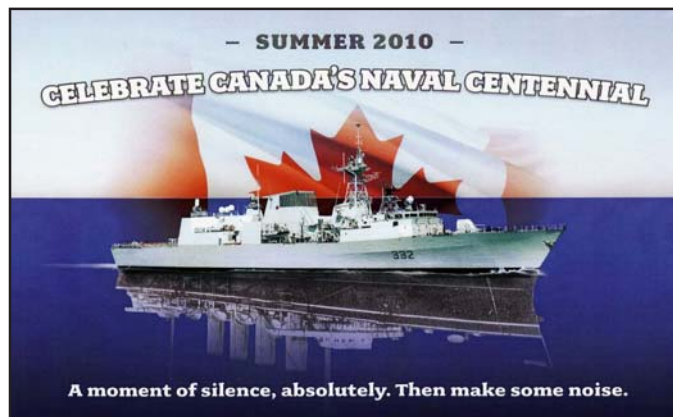
The Community Leadership Advisory Council was established in 2007 to advise, assist and provide recommendations to the Navy on community engagement and to focus on the critical role the Navy plays in the community. Members are drawn from the local business, academic and public sectors.

Since its inception, the CLAC worked with the

Province of Nova Scotia and Halifax Regional Municipality to erect signage on the 100-series highways leading into the municipality identifying Halifax as "Home to Canada's East Coast Navy."

Planned East Coast Navy Centennial events include:

- Battle of Atlantic Sunday - 2 May;
- Freedom of the City parade - 4 May;
- Naval Enrolment Ceremony - 4 May;
- Navy Days in Sydney - 7-8 May;
- Flower Gardens - Spring 2010;
- International Fleet visit to Halifax - 28 June to 2 July;
- International Fleet Review - 29 June;
- Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo - 30 June to 8 July
- MARLANT Naval Centennial Ball - 7 August;
- Navy 5k and 10k Run - 22 August;
- Halifax Public Gardens Summer Concert series - 5 September.



# Canadian Naval Centennial (West)

Naval Centennial celebrations on Canada's West Coast began with a Maritime Security Challenges Conference in Victoria, BC, April 26 to 29. Hosted by Maritime Forces Pacific (MARFAC), participants met in the Victoria Conference Centre to celebrate 100 years of naval history through a forward-looking discussion of future maritime security issues and concerns.

B.C.'s Lieutenant-Governor, The Honourable Steven Point, will unveil the "Homecoming Statue" at a dedication ceremony at noon on Tuesday. (May 4). The ceremony will follow the "Navy Day" Freedom of the City Parade featuring 2,750 sailors, soldiers and air men and women that serve at Maritime Forces Pacific in Esquimalt.

Beginning in May and until October 2010, MARFAC's Naden Band will perform a Naval Centennial musical tribute in communities from Victoria to Thunder Bay.

The largest of MARFAC's Naval Centennial events will be the International Fleet Review June 9 to 14 in Victoria. Twenty-eight Navies of the Indo-Pacific region have been invited to send ships, including those that are scheduled to participate in the 2010 biannual Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise. As many as 10,000 foreign sailors will visit during the week.

Events during the week are designed to celebrate the Centennial and to showcase the region to the

visitors. The Fleet Review will include a performance by the Air Force "Snowbirds" Air Demonstration Squadron, the "SkyHawks" skydiving team, as well as a fireworks display, and rock concert.



There are a variety of projects sponsored by the community at large, often in association with Naval support groups such as the Naval Officers Association, the Chief and Petty Officers' Association, Royal Canadian Navy Association, WRENS Association and other veteran's groups. Two principal events are a Centennial stained glass window to be installed at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Esquimalt and a bronze "Homecoming" statue to be erected on Wharf Street in downtown Victoria.

Other MARFAC events and celebrations include:

- Freedom of the City Parade on 4 May in Victoria, B.C.;
- a specially designed and crafted Memorial Window will be installed in St. Paul's Anglican Church in Esquimalt (The Naval and Garrison Church) - 22 May;
- The Navy's sail training ship, HMCS Oriole and the sailing sloop Goldcrest are each flying a spinnaker with the Canadian Naval Centennial logo;
- Highway roadside signs bring attention to the celebration;
- The "Dragon Anchors" will compete in provincial and international dragon boat races;
- A MARFAC Navy 10K run will bring the Centennial Celebration to dozens of communities; and
- A Centennial Gala Ball will complete the year's events in October 2010.



Victoria's "Homecoming" statue



# Briefing: Freedom of the City

Granting *Freedom of the City* to a military unit is rooted in 17<sup>th</sup> century England and the long-standing concern about troop formations within cities. The public feared that soldiers would be disruptive and pose a threat to the ancient civic rights of the city fathers. The tradition began after the restoration of King Charles II to the English throne in 1660.

Troops would winter in camps outside the walls of the city, visiting taverns during the day and returning to their camp at sunset. During the winter, as soldiers interacted with local residents, they would develop a mutual trust and affection. The city leaders would grant "Freedom of the City" to the military unit, particularly if they defended the city from attack or benefitted the city in some way.

The *Freedom of the City* permanently grants the privilege for a specific military unit to march through the city with "drums beating, colours flying, and bayonets fixed," recognizes the unit's service, and demonstrates the affection, trust and respect of the community. It is analogous to presenting the *key of the city* to a deserving individual.

The ceremony starts with the unit to be granted the *Freedom of the City* marching to city hall, *Colour* cased and rifles carried without bayonets fixed. As the unit approaches city hall, the *chief constable* (chief of police) stops the formation in front of a barrier in the path of the marching troops. When the *chief constable* challenges the formation to identify itself, the commanding officer announces the unit's title. The chief constable then calls for the unit to "advance one and be recognized." Only the commanding officer moves closer to the barrier.

The commanding officer, accompanied by the chief constable, marches to the door of city hall where he knocks on the door three times with the pommel of his or her sword. The mayor opens the door and the commanding officer declares his or her name and identifies the unit. The mayor and councillors line up at the entrance to city hall and the mayor reads a proclamation that Freedom of the City is bestowed on the unit. The commanding officer accepts the *freedom* and returns to the unit and chief constable orders that the barrier be removed. The unit fixes bayonets, and the *Colour* is unfurled. The unit marches past, with the mayor taking the salute.

When a unit is granted *Freedom of the City* it may exercise its freedom on occasions coordinated with the civic authority. The ceremony to exercise *Freedom of the City* is similar, except the unit may march directly to city hall with drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed. After the unit is challenged and identified by the chief constable, the mayor proclaims the unit welcome, inspects the troops and invites the unit to exercise its freedom.

On 4 May, one hundred years to the day when Prime Minister Sir Wilfred Laurier proclaimed the Naval Service Act establishing the Royal Canadian Navy, Maritime Forces Atlantic and Maritime Forces Pacific will be granted Freedom of the City by their respective municipalities.

The Canadian Naval Centennial ranks among the most appropriate occasions to recognize the contributions and the many services which Canada's Navy has contributed to the nation and to the people of Canada.

The parades, through Victoria beginning at 09h30 (local) led by Rear-Admiral Tyrone Pile, and Halifax, beginning at 10h00 (local) led by Rear-Admiral Paul Maddison, on 4 May, reflect the ancient traditions of respect and appreciation which these communities have for our Navy.



***Military Matters*** is an independent journal that explores issues of Canadian military affairs that may not be expressed in the mainstream Canadian media. This newsletter is provided without charge as a service to increase public knowledge of the roles, operations and activities of the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces.

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