



THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA - CALGARY BRANCH



NEWSLETTER

2017 Year in Review

As the old year has quickly passed astern, it is time to reflect on the activities and accomplishments of the past year. The year has proved very productive, we have addressed numerous issues with the intent of achieving the elimination of Naval Blindness within the city of Calgary, and to accomplish this we needed to garner a following to support this goal. The main focus has been to actively increase our membership with information desks being setup and manned at various venues. The Recruiting Sub-committee has created excellent information handouts to attract interest and hopefully more members, and in fact the National Association has asked if they might utilize Calgary Branch's handouts for their uses. Communication is the key to maintaining a successful association so to enhance the flow within the association the Web Committee has created our own Website (naccalgary.ca) which will become the Association's main focal point for information. Visit the site often and check out what we have going on. This past year has also brought us to a point where we need to move forward to take full advantage of the National Association that we are aligned with. With that movement, there is a need to advance our Membership organization with new member categories and fee levels. Thus the 2018 renewal reminder and forms have not yet been promulgated. The Membership Chairperson, Neville Johnson, is presently working on updating our membership and once this has been finalized members will be advised and information will be available on the web site. These changes as well as updating the present Bylaws will be addressed in the near future.

Highlights

- January** - The New Year was rung in at various Levees around the city.
- February** - Visiting Committee designed and printed illness and condolence cards to be sent out to ailing members and relatives of those who have crossed the bar.
- March** - Initial discussions for rebranding to NAC, an agenda item for AGM.
- April** - 71st Annual General Meeting with election of Directors. Motion to adopt the 'brand name' "Naval Association of Canada, Calgary Branch" was carried.
- May** - Battle of the Atlantic Ceremony and BOA Mess Dinner held at the Naval Museum of Alberta, VAdm Lloyd, Commander Royal Canadian Navy in attendance.
- June** - Navy League and Sea Cadet Annual Ceremonial Reviews held around the city and attended by NAC Directors.
- July** - HMCS CALGARY contingent visited in conjunction with Stampede Festivities, CO presented NAC with a framed photograph of the ship for our continued support to the Naval Museum of Alberta. RAdm McDonald, ComMarPac toured the Museum, and also offered congratulations to NAC for our support.

13th Annual Summer BBQ, in conjunction with other Naval organizations, held at HMCS TECUMSEH, and again was an excellent and enjoyable day.

- August** - NAC 2nd successful Casino event held at Deerfoot Casino and Inn.
- September** - Calgary Cup held again at the Glenmore Sailing Club, and, with great weather, was again a huge success.
- October** - Trafalgar/Niobe Mess Dinner held in HMCS TECUMSEH.
Navy Days event with participation from Naval entities in the city held at the Naval Museum of Alberta. NAC had a table, complete with Information Banner, with hopes of attracting further recruitment. Recruiting and NAC information brochures were distributed to members of the public attending this event
- November** - Remembrance Day Ceremonies with NAC laying wreaths at the Jubilee Auditorium and at the Naval Museum of Alberta ceremonies.
Commanding Officer of HMCS CALGARY provided an excellent briefing on the ship's newest capabilities and future deployments. NAC is forging ahead to foster a closer relationship between our Association and the city namesake warship
- December** - Annual Christmas Cocktail Party, the event was well attended and provided a generous amount of food donations to the Veterans Food Bank.

Accomplishments:

- Our Website is up and running, and will become the vehicle for communications flow
- Recruiting Subcommittee has been actively looking to increase our numbers. They have been at Naval oriented venues and provided information briefings
- Current Bylaws are presently being reviewed and updated

Congratulations:

Bravo Zulu Doug Bourne who was awarded the Bronze Medallion for his years of dedicated service as a Director and Secretary of Calgary Branch

Please keep in mind that we need new members to the association if we hope to stay afloat, so if you have any friends or relatives who may be interested in networking with friendly folks who think Navy, and a programme of enjoyable educational, charitable and social activities, let them know we would love to have them join our group. The Recruiting Sub-committee has plenty of literature available, of which I am enclosing a copy of our brochure. Please use it to familiarize yourself with Branch activities and to recruit new members among your friends, the best recruiters are satisfied members.

In closing I would like to say on behalf of myself, Vice President Brian Thorlacius and Directors Chris Tebbs, Jim Golbourn, Carl Souchereau, Anita Von, Ed Brown, Jessica Tedford, Lynn Russell, Neville Johnson and Jeff Gilmour wishes for a prosperous and healthy 2018.



Doug Ewing
President