



NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
OTTAWA BRANCH
ANNUAL REPORT
2022

Date of Report: 15 March 2023

Period of Report: 1 Jan 2022 – 31 Dec 2022

Branch: NAC – Ottawa Branch

Mailing Address: 621 Princess Louise Drive, Orleans, ON K4A 1Z3

Branch Executive:

President	Tim Addison
Vice President - Membership	Gerry Powell
Vice President - Operations	Ray Coutu
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	John Millar
Entertainment	Mark Watson
Salty Dips/Member Support	Richard Guitar
Endowment Fund	Josh Barber
Honours and Awards	Stephen King
Directors at Large	Phil Dana
	Linus Pilypaitis
	Bernard Cornell
Past President	Barry Walker

Ottawa Branch Membership as of 31 Dec 2022

MEMBERSHIP				
	Active	Pending		
Regular - Local	158	22	254	73.0 %
Regular - Out-of-town	44	8		
Regular - Serving CF	13	8		
Regular - Spouse	1	0		
Corporate	0	0	0	0.0 %
Honorary	16	n/a	26	7.5 %
Lifetime	10	n/a		
NCdt	60	0	68	19.5 %
Introductory	8	0		
MEMBERSHIP TOTAL	310	38	348	100.0 %
<i>Current + Pending</i>	348			
No email address	(6)			
Email failed	(9)			
email disabled	(7)			
CONNECTED TOTAL			326	93.7 %
Opted Out	0			
CONTACT TOTAL			326	93.7 %

The table above represents the Branch Membership status as of 31 December 2022. Regrettably, 11 members passed away in 2022 (3 Honourary, 1 Lifetime, 7 Regulars), plus another from a previous year was recorded. Another 2 members were transferred (digitally within the database) to other branches. On the plus side, 16 new members joined (7 Introductory, 8 Regular, 1 Serving CAF). Of note, about half of the new members are, not surprisingly, introductory. The overall decline in numbers from 31 December 2021 is about 4%. With some pending membership renewals still outstanding to date, that decline may become larger. However, the number of Naval Cadets in the roster is anticipated to grow to about 80, and the incentives offered with the upcoming BOA Gala Dinner should contribute to a stronger recruitment of new members in 2023. [The current membership roster is available to the NAC National Office through access to the branch membership system at <https://nac-o.wildapricot.org>.]

Branch Financial Reports as of 31 Dec 2021

After reporting surplus' from operations for several years, NAC Ottawa experienced a small loss on operations for the fiscal year. This loss originated principally from losses on investments owing to market conditions. As the market conditions improve the health of investments is expected to return.

In FY 2022 NAC Ottawa commenced support for the project to revitalize the National Naval Reserve Monument at Dows Lake in Ottawa, adjacent to HMCS Carleton. In part, this support consisted of providing banking and financial accounting services to the Project, which are reflected in the long-term liabilities shown on the Balance Sheet.

As approved by the membership at the 2022 Annual General Meeting, NAC Ottawa once again contracted with Ascend LLP Professional Accountants (formerly known as Colby-McGeachy Professional Accountants) to conduct the Independent Financial Review of FY 2022 accounting. It is expected that the Independent Financial Review will be completed by May 2023, in good time to be shared with the membership before the next Annual General Meeting.

The following documents report the financial status of the Branch as of 31 December 2022.

<..\NAC Financial\Financial Statements 2022\Balance Sheet as at 31 Dec 22.pdf>

<..\NAC Financial\Financial Statements 2022\Income Statement as at 31 Dec 22.pdf>

Organized Branch Events in 2022

In support of National, the Ottawa Branch held eight online Speaker's Evening events over the course of 2022. These were open to all branches and guests and were very well received. The year culminated with having Commander RCN, Vice-Admiral Topshee as guest speaker on 6 December.

Summary of Monthly Speaker's Evenings:

Month	Speaker	Topic	Registered/ Attended
January	No Speaker		0/0
February	Mr. Shaun Padulo, President of Heddle Marine Shipyards.	Overview of Heddle and its three shipyards. Mr. Padulo also spoke of Heddle's work on HMCS HAIDA and gave his thoughts on where shipbuilding, particularly in Ontario, could go over the next few years.	76/45
March	Commodore Jason Armstrong, RCN's Director General	Jason gave us a very informative account of what his team members are working on, including the present- day and forecast military threats to	80/57

	Naval Force Development.	Canada's interests, and how DGNFD is preparing the RCN for that future environment.	
April	Mr. Marc Seguin	Mr Seguin gave a talk entitled, "Advocacy in Aging". He discussed the idea of a planning framework which will allow us to live our aging years with peace of mind, knowing that our affairs are well organized and ready for transition to trusted advocates.	52/unk
May	No Meeting		0/0
June	Capt(N) (Ret'd) Derek Moss, Assistant Commissioner, Canadian Coast Guard on the west coast.	Derek's presentation, titled, "A Flock of Black Swans: The Changing Nature of Maritime Incidents", focused on the need to adjust the Coast Guard's capability and posture based on the broadening and deepening of incidents due to climate change and other factors.	56/21
July	No Meeting (Summer Break)		0/0
August	No Meeting (Summer Break)		0/0
September	Commander Chris Knowlton, CO of HMCS CARLETON.	Cdr Knowlton and branch members spoke about the NNMRA project to revitalize the National Naval Reserve Monument at HMCS CARLETON, what it means to the Naval Reserve and indeed the RCN and what the end result will look like.	71/37
October	Commander Corey Gleason, former Commanding Officer of HMCS HARRY DEWOLF	Cdr Gleason gave us a summary of his experiences as first CO of a "first in class" ship and of circumnavigating North America.	96/61
November	Commodore Jeff Murray, Director General Naval	Cmdre Murray spoke about the current challenges with recruiting	93/62

	Strategic Readiness	and retention in the RCN and the CAF.	
December	VAdm Angus Topshee, CRCN	From the Quarterdeck – The Current State of the RCN	164/96

Other Branch Activities:

Monthly meetings of the Branch Board of Directors were held throughout the year using video conferencing means.

Branch AGM

The Ottawa Branch AGM took place on Monday 13 June 2022. Directors met briefly afterwards and discussed roles and responsibilities, which in the main have not changed significantly. Former board member Josh Barber has rejoined the board and taken on responsibilities held by Howie Smith related to the Endowment Fund and Branch Privacy Officer. A full list of Directors' Responsibilities and the 2022-2023 Branch Calendar of Events is on the Branch portion of the WA website.

Move of the MacK Lynch Bytown Library

On 28 June Josh Barber lead a group of branch members in the pack up and move of the MacK Lynch Library. In just over three hours the team of 10 had the shelves stripped, 70 odd boxes packed and delivered into storage at HMCS CARLETON. We even had time for a beer in the old Bytown Mess. This was an important first step in preserving the library. The next step will be to determine the best location for the library, either at CARLETON or perhaps another venue where Branch members can access the library without difficulty. The Branch Board of Directors is considering options.

National Naval Reserve Monument Renewal Project

Members of the Branch devoted significant time and effort in support of the National Naval Reserve Monument Association (NNRMA) project to renew the National Naval Reserve Monument in Ottawa, which stands a heaving-line's throw from the brow of HMCS CARLETON, Ottawa's Naval Reserve Division, between the Rideau Canal and a highly trafficked recreational pathway. Its refurbishment and rededication will be the cornerstone of the nation-wide centennial celebration and a chance to showcase the Naval Reserve's continued importance to Canada.

The project team at CARLETON, with the help of NAC Ottawa Branch Members Tom DeWolf, Howie Smith and our Treasurer John Millar, organized and managed donations from other institutions, organizations, associations and individuals to ensure the success of this undertaking.

NAC Endowment Fund

On 8 Sep our Branch Director Endowment Funds (EF), Josh Barber, on behalf of NAC National and NAC Ottawa, presented cheques of \$5000 and \$1000, respectively, to Harry Harsch representing Royal Canadian Sea Cadets Education Foundation. The funds will assist Sea Cadets with the cost of their post-secondary education.

On 22 Sep Howie Smith and the Branch President presented a NAC EF \$5000 cheque for the NNRMA project mentioned above to the chair of the Project Committee, Cdr Sheyla Dusseault, former CO at CARLETON, and current CO, Commander Chris Knowlton. The Naval Reserve will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2023 and this undertaking to renovate, refurbish and re-dedicate the monument at Dow's Lake is a very important part of the anniversary celebration plans.

Battle of the Atlantic Gala Dinner

The Battle of the Atlantic Gala Dinner, normally hosted by the Branch in April/May again was put in abeyance in February 2022 due to COVID concerns at that time. In the fall the Branch executive commenced the planning process for a dinner in May 2023 and planning is progressing well.

Branch Social Events

COVID curtailed branch social events in the first half of the year, however with conditions improving over the summer it was decided to hold two events in the Fall. The first was the Branch Fall Social (formerly Super Wednesday Event (SWE)) on 21 September, which saw a moderate turnout about 25 members and guests. The second event, held in December was billed as a combination of a NAC pre-Christmas social and the traditional "At Home" in December, when the Bytown Mess hosts retired members.

Other Activities

- The Branch published 2 editions of Soundings Magazine.
- Thanks to former President Barry Walker, the Branch continued to support the national Naval Affairs program through use of social media (Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn) and Hootsuite (online application to expand reach with pre-scheduled posts).
- VP Membership Gerry Powell continued to support the transition of the Wild Apricot membership database and dues collection functions from Ottawa Branch to National.

Remembrance Day Ceremonies in Ottawa

This year Remembrance Day was the traditional event downtown at the War Memorial and the Branch President laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. It was noted that only a few NAC members were in the Veterans' marching contingent, again likely as a hold over impact of COVID. Several branch members represented the Association at a remembrance ceremony hosted by Veterans' House Canada at the Andy Carswell Building in Rockcliffe.

Conclusion

Moving the MacK Lynch Library into storage in June was somewhat of a nostalgic event. Being in the building at 78 Lisgar Street brought back fond memories of many RPCs, mess dinners and gatherings to observe naval traditions. I could not help but think of those officers who founded HMCS BYTOWN in 1941, and those I that knew who have passed recently, standing in the main bar sharing sea story and a glass of ale. Sadly, the building is being stripped of all the artefacts that made it such a special place for all of us who frequented it. Although I have not been advised of its final disposition, I expect it will be torn down due to the exorbitant cost of renovations required to bring it up to today's building codes.

For your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Addison', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tim Addison, CD
President
NAC Ottawa