

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

As we prepare to enter our summer recess, we are indeed thankful for your faithful support in standing with the GCC during the time of Covid. None of us had any idea what a pandemic could do to the GCC.

Fortunately, your GCC Executive was not prepared to do nothing and simply wait out the pandemic. Instead, we converted to Zoom meetings and regularly published our Newsletter, **Connections**.

Thanks to Past President Geoff, we have had a good variety of speakers from near and far.

Vice President Communications, Kevin has consistently produced a topflight Newsletter which we send out not only to our members but also to others in the Canadian community who may have an interest in matters of a military nature. The Newsletter and our website are good promotional tools for the GCC.

Our Bursary Programme meets real needs of our student reservists at a time in their lives when every dollar counts. Our selection committee has grown with new members who are indeed **Garrison Community Council Project Persons!**

It is our hope that your summer will be relaxing and refreshing. Should we come across any military articles that may be of a particular interest, we will forward them on to you. There is a lot going on in the Canadian military.

Internationally, we salute the proud people of the Ukraine who are not prepared to give up their homeland to a Russian Communist despot.

Tom Dean
President

HMCS PREVOST ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN COMMANDING OFFICER



By: PO2 Emely Melendez
Rodriguez, CD

Naval Warfare Office, Lieutenant-Commander (LCdr) Paul Hong officially took over command of Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS Prevost) from Commander (Cdr) Derek Niles effective 7th May 2022. LCdr Hong becomes the 24th Commanding Officer (CO) of HMCS Prevost.

Immediately before coming to HMCS Prevost, LCdr Hong served at HMCS York in Toronto, Ontario as Executive Officer. LCdr Hong has been awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Operational Services Medal-Expedition, and the Special Services Medal-Expedition.

The ceremony was presided over by Commodore Patrick Montgomery, OMM, Commander of the Naval Reserve. LCdr Hong brings with him an impressive track record of military and civilian leadership. Under his hand, HMCS Prevost looks forward to welcoming him into the Ships' Company and welcoming him back to the London community. He will play a decisive role in the future of HMCS Prevost her Ship's Company.



Lieutenant-Commander Paul Hong, CD takes command of HMCS Prevost

Continued on page 2

CHANGE IN COMMANDING OFFICER

“Together with the leaders around the table, I aspire to think about concrete actions and tactics that will bring about measurable outcomes for Prevost”, said Hong. “Aspiring to greater and better achievements is an important part of what I will do, together with my team; to think about how we define what success will look like during the next three years and how we measure it will be key to that success”.

For the past 22 years as a member of the Royal Canadian Navy, LCdr Hong has served in various positions, including as an honorary Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Instructor and Head of Department at Naval Reserve Divisions, Senior Instructor for the Coastal Operations Officer Course, Executive Officer (Naval Reserve Division and onboard Kingston Class warships), and Officer in Charge (OIC) of Orca-Class patrol vessels. His recent deployments include Operations Lentus, Projection and Caribbe.

Aside from his military experience, LCdr Hong has an Honors Business Administration (HBA) degree from the Richard Ivey School of Business, a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from The University of York's Osgoode Hall, and a Master of Arts in War Studies from the Royal Military College of Canada. LCdr Hong was called to the Bar in Ontario (2007). He worked at the federal level in foreign affairs and national defence and served as an advisor to several ministers.

Now that Cdr Niles' mandate as CO has come to a close, he will dedicate his efforts to working for the Central Region Command Team within the Naval Reserves, along with managing his Maritime Search and Rescue endeavours in the Great Lakes, and spending more time with his family. HMCS PREVOST wishes Cdr Niles fair winds and following seas as he shares his considerable knowledge with other parts of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Cmdre Montgomery presides over the ceremony as Cdr Niles officially transfers command of HMCS Prevost to LCdr Hong.

2022 GCC Executive

President	Tom Dean
Past President	Geoff Hutton
Vice President	Mike Leatham
VP Communications	Kevin Patterson
Secretary	Randy Harden
Treasurer	John Martin

Newsletter Contents

From the desk of the President	Page 1
Change in Commanding Officers	Page 1 - 2
GCC March Meeting	Page 3
Exercise Arrowhead Response	Page 4
GCC April Meeting	Pages 5 - 6
Report on Racism.....	Page 6 - 7
Exercise Maple Resolve	Page 8
GCC May Meeting.....	Page 9
Holy Roller returns to Victroia Park	Page 10
31 CBG Battle School	Page 10
Keeping the peace in Sinai for 40 years ..	Pages 11

Connections Editors

Tom Dean - President
 Kevin Patterson - VP Communications
 All GCC screenshots provided by Gary Nash.



GCC's Mission to build a greater understanding, support and appreciation of Canada's military.

Our three fundamental tenets are
Support, Assist and Connect.

GCC March Meeting



Maj Cole McGregor

Regular Title:

Deputy Commanding Officer,
429 Transport Squadron

Title during Op AEGIS:

CC177 Detachment Commander,
Operation AEGIS

Maj McGregor is currently the Deputy Commanding Officer of 429 Transport Squadron at CFB Trenton. During Operation (Op) AEGIS he was deployed to Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait to lead Canada's CC177 Globemaster III assets during evacuation efforts in Kabul, Afghanistan. As the CC177 Detachment Commander, Maj McGregor oversaw the employment of three CC177 Globemaster III aircraft, five flying crews, and a team of ground personnel supporting maintenance and operational tasks. As a pilot and Aircraft Commander, Maj McGregor



personally evacuated 1,287 Afghan personnel and 193 United States Marines from Kabul during Op AEGIS.

Maj McGregor has also served Canada as the Air Task Force Commander for Op BOXTOP, Canada's resupply mission to Canadian Forces Station (CFS) Alert. CFS Alert is remote, located on the northeast tip of Ellesmere Island, Nunavut.



Exercise ARROWHEAD RESPONSE confirms 31 CBG readiness to respond to wildfire emergencies

*Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin, Public Affairs Officer,
31 Canadian Brigade Group*

Over 300 members of 31 Canadian Brigade Group (31 CBG) participated in a simulated wildfire scenario, and practiced a response to a Request for Assistance (RFA) from civil authorities in multiple locations in Southwestern Ontario April 8-10, 2022.

Exercise ARROWHEAD RESPONSE 22 saw deployments to Lucan, Exeter, Huron Park and the London Region, where soldiers interacted with the communities they serve, and partners from Other Government Departments (OGDs).

Firefighter training was provided by contracted Subject Matter Experts, and soldiers who completed the training received officially-accredited qualifications from the Government of Ontario.

The hands-on forest-fire fighter training was conducted at Lucan Conservation Area on April 9, 2022, with the Canadian Army Reserve's mandated mission to support Canadian communities in times of crisis front-of-mind.

The exercise also included an immersion exercise at the City of London's Emergency Operations Centre, where we shared valuable expertise and further developed relationships with our local OGD partners.

The Canadian Army Reserve stands ready across Canada to respond to emergencies in our communities, with trained, capable and professional personnel who are proud to assist whenever the call comes.

Additionally, 31 CBG strives to offer exciting, valuable and relevant Professional Development (PD) to our members, and this is another case in point.

BZ to all of the participants who completed the Exercise, and especially to those who planned and executed this groundbreaking training evolution!

Images: Bdr Julia Currie, Sgt Joe General, Cpl Aaron Beier, 31 CBG.



GCC April Meeting



Commander Derek Niles
CO, HMCS Prevost

Topic: Commander (Cdr) Niles will discuss his role as Maritime Search and Rescue Coordinator with the Canadian Coast Guard.

Commander (Cdr) Niles also works for the Central Region Command Team within the Naval Reserves, along with managing his Maritime Search and Rescue endeavours in the Great Lakes, *Continued on page 6*



ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY MARINE ROYALE CANADIENNE

Search and Rescue (SAR)

Presenter: Cdr Derek Niles

National Defence / Défense nationale

Primary SAR - Air Cushion Vehicles

- Primary SAR on West Coast
- Multi-purpose in Quebec

Garrison Community Council

London & Region
"Citizens supporting Canada's Military"
 has the pleasure to award this certificate to

Commander Derek Niles
 CO, HMCS PREVOST

For his presentation detailing his role as Maritime Search and Rescue Coordinator with the Canadian Coast Guard.

Garrison Community Council
 London & Region

Tom Dean, President
 13 April 2022

GCC April Meeting - continued from page 5



Primary SAR – High & Medium Endurance Lifeboats

52' ARUN & BAY Class

47' MLB CAPE Class



Secondary – RCN Ships & Small Boats



Secondary SAR Aircraft (RCAF & DFO)



Report on Racism in the Canadian Armed Forces



The Minister's Advisory Panel was created in December 2020 with a clear mandate to seek out the policies, processes and practices that enable systemic racism and discrimination in the Department of National Defence (DND) and Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and provide advice on how to eliminate them from our institution. Their work has focused on Anti-Indigenous and Anti-Black Racism, LGBTQ2+ Prejudice, Gender Bias, White Supremacy, Antisemitism, Islamophobia, and discrimination against people with disabilities.

Minister of National Defence Anita Anand released the final report and discussed next steps. The Minister was joined by the four members of the Advisory Panel, MGen Ed Fitch, OMM, MSM, CD (Retired); Sgt Aronhia:nens Derek Montour (Retired); Maj Sandra Perron, CD, HLCof of the Régiment de Hull (Retired); and Capt Door L. Gibson, MMM, CD (Retired), as well as General Wayne Eyre, Chief of the Defence Staff of the Canadian Armed Forces, and Bill Matthews, the Deputy Minister of the Department of National Defence.

The report provides recommendations for change in thirteen areas that cross the organization—from improving education and awareness of reconciliation, to promoting the history of Black service personnel, to improving recruitment efforts in multicultural communities, and using data to measure progress.

The Panel urges Defence Team leaders to consider these recommendations with resolve and urgency, and to use it as a guide for current and future work to eliminate racism and discrimination in all forms.

As part of this effort, the Defence Team will be establishing a cross-sectional working group that will include Branches from across the organization and the Defence Advisory Groups (DAGs) and Networks to address the report's recommendations, including by developing an implementation Framework and Action Plan. *Continued on Page 7*

Report on Racism in the Canadian Armed Forces

Continued From Page 6

This work will be synchronized with the broader Culture Change Strategy currently in development by the Chief, Professional Conduct and Culture.

Officials from the DND and CAF will update on progress during their regular updates to Canadians on the steps that the Defence Team is taking on culture change.

“Throughout our history, the Canadian Armed Forces and Defence Team have never faltered – always answering the call of service during climate-related disasters, throughout the pandemic, and on military deployments far from home. It is our most basic responsibility and top priority to ensure they can serve and work with pride in an environment that is free from racism and discrimination. I sincerely thank the Panel for their extensive work and recommendations for change to eliminate systemic racism and discrimination on the Defence Team. The Panel has urged us to consider their recommendations with resolve and urgency, and that is exactly what we will do as we continue our mission to bring the culture change needed in the Canadian Armed Forces and the Department of National Defence.” The Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of National Defence

“Meeting the challenges of an increasingly dangerous and unstable future requires an even more diverse and inclusive Canadian Armed Forces. Every Canadian needs to see themselves reflected within our ranks, and every member of our team must feel welcome, valued, and safe to bring their talents to bear in service to our country. We thank the panel and all members of the Defence Team who are helping us identify and address exclusionary aspects of our institutional culture to bring about lasting and meaningful change.” General Wayne Eyre, Chief of the Defence Staff

“Your Advisory Panel believes that the necessary expertise to effectively address challenges described in this final report exists within the Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces. The key to lasting positive change within the Defence Team is to listen to its members at all levels, as it is with their input that a more inclusive culture, appreciative of diversity, can flourish.” Members of the Advisory Panel

“I thank the Panel for their thoughtful and insightful work. In order for us to become an institution that is truly equitable, healthy and inclusive we need to identify barriers and root causes, address systemic racism and misconduct, and then

experience transformational evolution of our culture across the organization. We need to be one Defence Team that works and serves together, not just in words, but in heart, mind and actions.” Lieutenant-General Jennie Carignan, Chief – Professional Conduct and Culture

ADDITIONAL INFO

- The Advisory Panel is comprised of four members who represent diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise and perspectives related to anti-racism, equity, diversity and inclusion. They are proud retired former CAF members and each bring their own lens to inform their work and analysis: MGen Ed Fitch, OMM, MSM, CD (Retired); Sgt Aronhiakens Derek Montour (Retired); Maj Sandra Perron, CD, HLCOL of the Régiment de Hull (Retired); and Capt Door L. Gibson, MMM, CD (Retired).
- The Advisory Panel conducted close to 50 engagement sessions with external organizations and internal Defence stakeholders. During their review process the Advisory Panel received dozens of unsolicited submissions and engaged in subsequent conversations, where lived experiences contributed to the Panel’s analysis of systemic racism and discrimination to inform this report.
- The Prime Minister has mandated the Minister of National Defence to eliminate all sources of anti-Indigenous and anti-Black racism, LGBTQ2 prejudice, gender bias and white supremacy in the Canadian Armed Forces.
- Budget 2022 also proposes to provide \$100.5 million over six years to strengthen leadership in the Canadian Armed Forces; modernize the military justice system; bring into force the Declaration of Victims Rights as set out in the National Defence Act; undertake engagement and consultation on culture change; and enhance restorative services, including dispute resolution and coaching services.
- In August 2021, the Deputy Minister responded to the Clerk’s Call to Action on Anti-Racism, Equity, and Inclusion in the Federal Public Service providing an update on the Department of National Defence continued progress on achieving systemic change.



Local 31 CBG members participate in Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE

Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin,
Public Affairs Officer, 31 Canadian Brigade Group

Corporals Wijesuriya, Garces and Doucette are seen here supporting realistic Exercise scenarios during the Canadian Army's largest training event, acting as local partisan forces with our partners from the U.S. Army Special Forces Group.

Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE 2022 is the Canadian Army's largest and most complex annual training exercise, and took place from May 10 to 22, 2022, with 4th Canadian Division's 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group prepping as the next contingency Brigade, as part of the Canadian Managed Readiness program.

Multiple 31 Canadian Brigade Group members, including several from London-based units, played key roles; including those pictured, who were lucky to work with the famed Green Berets.

This essential event ensures we're prepared to deploy in support of Canadians and partner forces in any capacity, including combat operations.

Images: Cpl Camilla Garces, 4th Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment



Every Member should be a GCCPP
(Garrison Community Council Project Person)



GCC May Meeting



Dr. Jordan Banninga

Jordan Banninga is the Manager of the Infectious Disease Control which is responsible for preventing the spread of infectious diseases in our community. He has led the team and their response throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to his leadership of this team he lead planning and evaluation and project teams and has experience in health promotion. He has a Master of Science in Public Health from the London School Health Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University.



"PUBLIC HEALTH refers to all organized measures to prevent disease, promote health, and prolong life among the population as a whole. Its activities aim to provide conditions in which people can be healthy and focus on entire populations, not on individual patients or diseases."

World Health Organization

Core functions of public health

- Assessment and surveillance
- Health promotion and policy development
- Health protection
- Disease prevention
- Emergency management

Program Standards

- **Immunization**
 - To reduce or eliminate the burden of vaccine preventable diseases through immunization.
- **Infectious and Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control**
 - To reduce the burden of communicable diseases and other infectious diseases of public health significance.
- **Safe Water**
 - To prevent or reduce the burden of water-borne illnesses related to drinking water.
 - To prevent or reduce the burden of water-borne illnesses and injuries related to recreational water use.
- **School Health**
 - To achieve optimal health of school-aged children and youth through partnership and collaboration with school boards and schools.
- **Substance Use and Injury Prevention**
 - To reduce the burden of preventable injuries and substance use.





Holy Roller returns to Victroia Park

The HOLY ROLLER will be unveiled on Monday May 30 at Fanshawe College before returning to Victoria Park on Tuesday May 31st. The formal rededication celebrations will take place June 3-5, 2022.

The 'Holy Roller' is the only tank of the 1st Hussars and one of only two Canadian Army Sherman tanks to fight in World War II from D-Day (Jun 6, 1944) to the end of the war in May 1945.

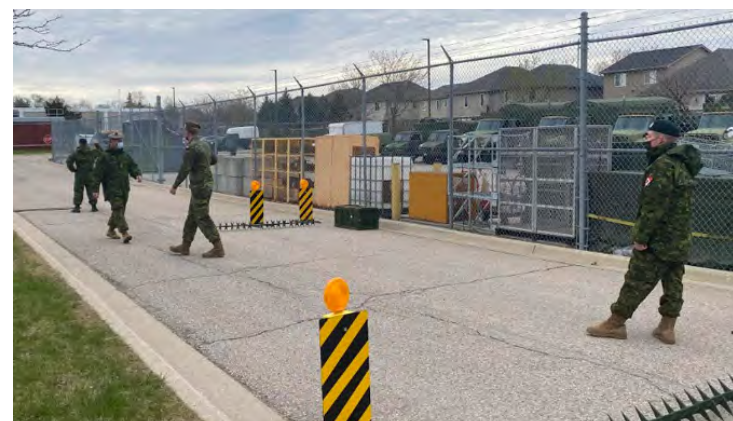
Photo by Beth Sayler

31 CBG Battle School

*By Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin, Public Affairs Officer,
31 Canadian Brigade Group*

31 CBG Battle School is training hundreds of Canadian Army Reserve soldiers across Ontario, and London remains a critical hub for this effort.

Images: Cpl Aaron Beier & Bdr Julia Currie, 31 CBG Public Affairs



Helping keep the peace in Sinai for 40 years

Story by Petty Officer Lee-Anne Cooper.

Article used with permission of Contact Newsletter Magazine. Contact Newsletter is an online blog which features news from the Australian Military contactairlandandsea.com



CAPTION: Warrant Officer Class One Mick Dewar takes part in the 40th anniversary parade at South Camp in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

Photo by Petty Officer Lee-Anne Cooper.

Personnel representing seven nations marched using their own drills when they entered a parade ground in Egypt to the beat of Fijians with snare drums.

Last month's parade was held to mark the 40th anniversary of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai Peninsula.

MFO Deputy Director General Candace Putman told those gathered of her pride in the mission and its ability to adapt to change.

Quoting Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the former US president, Ms Putman said: "It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it is not enough to just believe in it, one must work at it."

Four decades on, the peacekeeping force's mission remains to observe, verify compliance, and report any violations of the Treaty of Peace between Egypt and Israel.



CAPTION: Canadian Army Colonel Pierre Leroux, Multinational Force & Observers chief liaison officer, during the parade at South Camp in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, marking the 40th anniversary of the Multinational Force & Observers peacekeeping mission.

Established in 1982 to oversee the terms of the treaty, after it was signed in 1979, the force now comprises about 1200 personnel across North and South Camp, as well as six remote sites.

Nineteen countries, including Australia, contribute troops, aircraft, equipment and money.

Australian contingent commander and MFO chief of operations Lieutenant Colonel David Evans emphasised the importance of Australia's contribution.

"We remain involved as a trusted partner in maintaining peace," Lieutenant Colonel Evans said.

"We are constantly learning as we work with different nations. I think each and every person will be broadened by the opportunity, and that will bode well for their ongoing service."

They often work with people that may not speak English as a primary language and ensure there is clear communication to achieving the mission.

"I have tried to learn a little bit of Arabic, but mixed in with a little bit of French and Spanish; it's a work in progress," Lieutenant Colonel Evans said.

The Australian contingent of 27 personnel has a range of ranks from all three services, filling roles such as administration, force protection analysis, operations, plans, communications, logistics and liaison.

The majority of Australian are located at South Camp on the Sinai Peninsula's southern tip, on a bluff overlooking the Red Sea.

It is home to the force headquarters and is the operational and logistical base for activities in the southern area.

The remaining Australians are at North Camp near El Gohah, in northern Sinai.

"It is a different environment to South Camp," Lieutenant Colonel Evans said.

"It is less permissive and all movement into and out of the area is either by air or armoured vehicles."

Each site performs a function that supports the mission to observe, verify and report.