



UNTD Association Conference & Celebration



Commemorating the Centennial of the Canadian
Naval Reserve

May 9–12, 2023 in Victoria BC

Content

This notice has four components:

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Detailed Program

Overview

Join us in Victoria BC 9-12 May 2023 to celebrate the Centennial of Canada's Naval Reserve, the 80th Anniversary of the Founding of the UNTD and the 55th Anniversary of the Creation of the ROUPT.

Wow – that's a lot to celebrate – and maybe some of you can suggest other rationale to gather or other notable events to celebrate.

Our program will focus on commemorating the Centennial of the Naval Reserves, and the accomplishments of its current and past members including those who took part in its the various officer training programs from the UNTD to the ROUPT, NROC and RESO and beyond.



8 Mess – Prestonian Class Frigate 1961
Punka louvres – no Air Conditioning



Stettler

But our program is not just designed to stimulate our recall of our training, as important as that was to our naval and civilian careers. It will also inform us about where the RCN and the Naval Reserves are today and where they are going. So, fasten your seatbelts and head for Victoria BC where we will slip and proceed with our opening on:

Day 1 - Tuesday 9 May 2023 at 1830

Meet and Greet at the host Hotel Grand Pacific. A traditional and congenial Wardroom RPC (Request the Pleasure of your Company) is issued to all to join old friends, make new ones, and introduce attending partners and guests. While mixing with colleagues gathered from coast to coast to coast, we will renew the feelings of camaraderie and warmth that we enjoyed in the mess. We'll wind up at 2030, ready for an early start on Day 2.

Day 2 - Wednesday 10 May at 0830

0830 - Depart Hotel for Dockyard

We will divide into groups and rotate through a ship's tour; a tour of Dockyard; and a tour of Fleet Maintenance Facility *Cape Breton*.

Ship Tours - final details depend on maintenance and operational scheduling. Tours will include **one** of:

[Orcas](#)

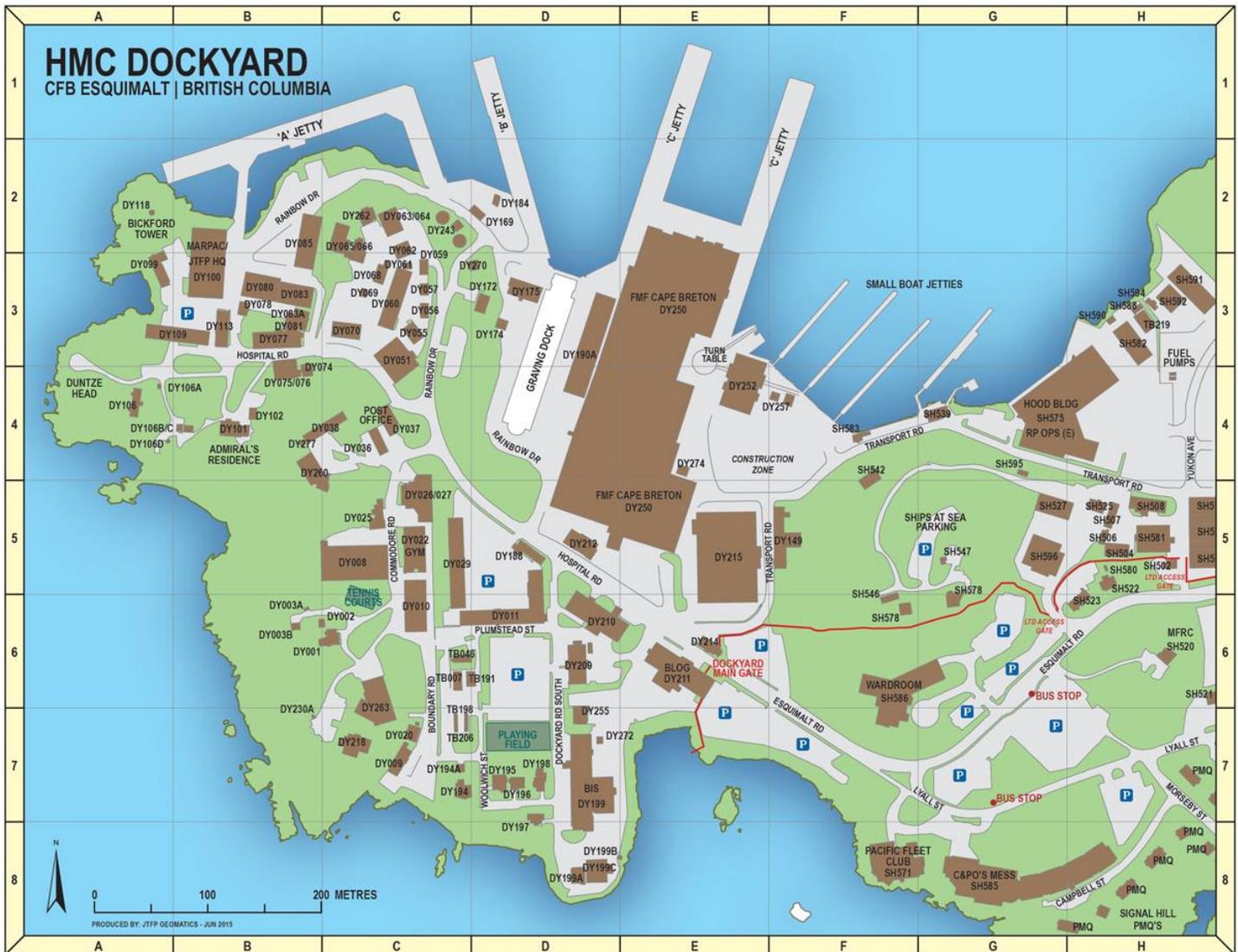
[Frigates](#)

[MCDVs](#)

[AOPS](#) Check out this [overview tour of HMCS Harry DeWolf](#)

[New Naval Large Tugs](#)

Dockyard Tour – CFB Esquimalt Dockyard is a wonderful mix of the very old and historic, the not-so-old and the very new, which makes for an interesting tour. Some buildings, wharfs, facilities and sites will be familiar to those who served on the west coast, some you might just never have seen, and others are newer construction.



Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Breton was completed in 2018. At 370,300 sq. ft. this is a large modern facility to lead maintenance of the west coast fleet well into the future. It is a sharp contrast to its namesake **HMCS Cape Breton** originally laid down at Burrard Drydock, North Vancouver in July 1944 ultimately serving as a floating machine shop in dockyard where she accommodated, among others, many naval reserve officer cadets in training on the west coast.

1230 – Depart Dockyard to NOTC Venture Work Point

1245 NO HOST Lunch in Venture Galley/Cafeteria - Personal choice of Lunch – Pay at Cashier

Many will have completed a portion of their training at HMCS *Venture* at its Dockyard facilities; others after 1994 will have been trained partially at the newly renamed NPTG HMCS *Venture* This occurred on 15 July 2022 so there is no website at this time. [Information is available here](#).. *Venture* houses the Navigation and Bridge Simulator (NABS) – a world-class facility - the Naval Part Task Trainer (NPTT), electronic classrooms and two multimedia theatres.

1400 - The Bridge Simulator and Virtual Reality Demonstrations will be of particular interest. Overviews of the training of today’s naval reserve officers will also be provided.

Or for those selecting the Maritime Helicopter Option

1400 – Depart *Venture* for 443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron

443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron (MHS) is the west coast operational CH-148 Cyclone squadron.

While [443 MHS is part of 12 Wing](#), its home base is in Patricia Bay. It provides three helicopter air detachments known as HELAIRDETs in support of the Royal Canadian Navy Pacific Fleet based in Esquimalt, B.C.

Canada is [procuring 28 CH-148 Cyclone helicopters](#) at a cost is \$3.2 billion for acquisition project management, infrastructure and contingency costs.

The [CH-148 Cyclone fact sheet](#) provides detailed information. The Cyclone replaced the [CH-124 Sea King](#) the first of which was acquired in 1963 and flown by graduates of the HMCS *Venture* and the UNTD programs from the late 1950's and the 1960's and other later officer training programs.

0930 - Alternative for partners or those less interested in things naval would be a day-long trip to [Butchart Gardens](#). Travel and entry fee covered, but lunch is NO HOST personal choice. There are 3 choices at the Gardens; The [Coffee Shop](#) and 2 which might require reservations: [Dining Room](#) and [Blue Poppy Restaurant](#)

1000 Board Bus to Butchart Gardens

1600 Board Bus for return to hotel

1700 Free Evening to Dine with Colleagues and Friends

Victoria has many dining alternatives within walking distance of the Hotel Grand Pacific. We will provide information in your Joining Instructions.

Day 3 - Thursday 11 May

0830 – Depart Hotel for Damage Control Training Facility *Galiano*

This facility is **not** in fact located on Galiano Island. It is actually in Colwood, on the western side of Esquimalt Harbour and the location of many other parts of CFB Esquimalt. Colwood is the site of a Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare School, a Damage Control Training Facility (DCTF *Galiano*), a fuel depot, a supply depot and the Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific). An important part of Colwood is Belmont Park, the primary military housing area for those posted to CFB Esquimalt.

We will focus on areas in which most of us trained at some time – NBCD and Damage Control and [Firefighting](#) . Many of us experienced firefighting leader training in the old diesel fueled multiple-deck mock-up at Colwood where dense smoke prevented us from seeing our hand in front of our face. A [short video of the current facility](#) illustrates changes. A [short article on sea cadets in flooding control and firefighting training](#) illustrates some current practices. A recent article [lists the programs at DCTF Galiano](#) and shows a linkage between the Facility and FMF *Cape Breton*.

1200 – Return to Hotel

Alternative for partners or those less interested in things naval would be:

0900 – Tour [Ross Bay Historic Cemetery](#) featuring settler founders of BC and

[Ross Bay Villa](#)

Meet in hotel lobby for a short 30-minute walk to Ross Bay

1200 – Return to hotel

1215 – Buffet Lunch at Hotel

Panels 1330 – 1645 at Hotel Grand Pacific

Join us for two interactive sessions on “Navigating from the Past into the Future: Canada’s Naval Reserve, and Canada and the Pacific”

These two panels presented by current and former Naval Reserve officers will offer some unique perspectives on the Transitions and Transformation of the Naval Reserve to more operational roles within the Royal Canadian Navy and the Canadian Armed Forces at home and around the world with a specific focus looking to the West to highlight the importance of Canada and the Pacific.

Each presentation will be followed by a period of Q & A where audience participation is encouraged.

Panel 1 1330 – 1500 The Naval Reserve at 100 – Transitions and Transformation

The Naval Reserve has changed significantly over the past Century and some of those changes were directly influenced by Naval Reserve sailors and officers. The simultaneous ending of the UNTD program and unification of Canada’s armed forces, followed by significant changes to the fleet and greater focus on operations, Canada’s Naval Reserve began a series of transitions which created a very different experience for Canada’s Citizen Sailors and a transformation from augmentation to integration. Each of our panellists and the moderator has had extensive Naval Reserve experience including appointment as Commander Naval Reserve (COMDNAVRES). Their collective service begins in 1974 and runs up to the present, thus spanning these transitions and influencing the transformation as they rose in rank. Rear-Admiral (ret’d) [Jennifer Bennett](#) commanded the Naval Reserve between 2007 and 2011 and was then appointed Chief of Reserves and Cadets (2011 – 2015); Commodore [Pat Montgomery](#) is the current Commander Naval Reserve; Commodore [Marta Mulkins](#) was COMDNAVRES between 2015 and 2018 and is currently an advisor to the Chief of Reserves and Cadets and is working as a Public Servant in the Department of National Defence; and the moderator Commodore (Ret’d) [Dave Craig](#) was COMDNAVRES 2011 – 2015.

Coffee Break 1500 -1515

Panel 2 1515-1645 Canada and the Pacific - [Jim Boutilier](#) (*SCOTIAN* 56); [Gwynne Dyer](#) (*CABOT* 59); [Richard Fadden](#) (*DONNACONA* 73) will offer their insights on the broadly defined topic of Canada and the Pacific – where we’ve been, where we are and where we are likely to go. Each brings extensive experience, research and understanding from different perspectives about the challenges faced by the world’s second largest nation (with the longest coastline) as it defines and plans its roles in the world’s largest ocean basin – the Pacific. With both UNTD and ROUTH panelists this is a good example of the transition to a more broadly based association. Jim’s 2015 citation for the NAC Admiral’s Medal can be found [here](#). while his 2016 acceptance speech for the CDA

Institute Vimy Award is available [here](#). More information on Gwynne can be found at his [website](#) and in the citation for his [2012 investiture](#) in the Order of Canada. Dick's Order of Canada citation can be found [here](#).

Alternative for partners or those less interested in things naval would be

[Government House Gardens](#) and Tour

1330 – Board Bus

1630 - Board Bus – Return to Hotel

Reception and Light Supper

1815 – Depart Hotel on Foot to HMCS *MALAHAT*

1830 - Our 2023 Centennial Reception will be held at the “new stone frigate” HMCS *MALAHAT*, a ten-minute waterfront or street walk from the hotel. Light stand-up supper included.



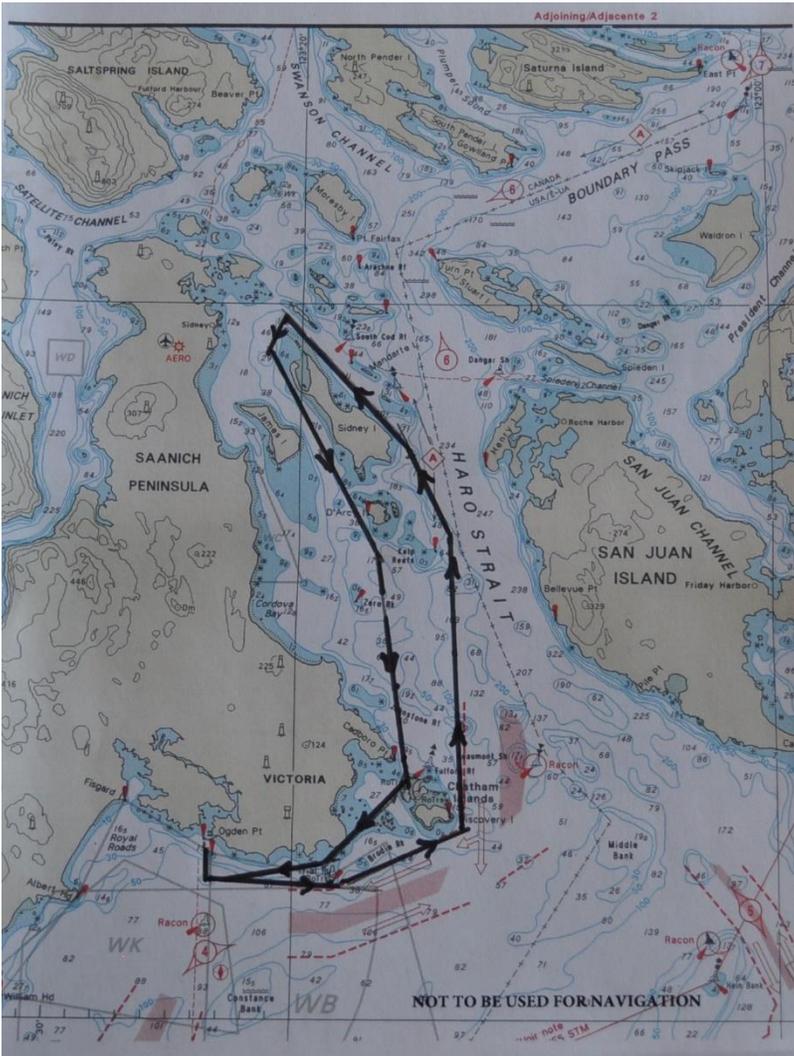
Located on Victoria's Inner Harbour, this is a vastly different and much more modern facility than some will remember from their officer cadet days when the unit was based in CFB Esquimalt.

Day 4 Friday 12 May 2023

Historic Haro Strait [Southern Gulf Islands Tour by boat](#)

0830 – Depart Hotel for 10-minute walk along the waterfront walk to the marina at the Coast Hotel where *Orca Spirit II* is berthed. A [100-foot catamaran](#), with enclosed main and upper decks and open air viewing platforms on both levels, she is capable of travelling up to 23 knots and carrying up to 150 passengers. We will slip and proceed at 0900 and follow the passage plan in the map below, subject to weather and safety considerations as determined by the Captain.





This part of Juan de Fuca and Haro Straits will be familiar to many from Expedition Training. Where did those officer cadets catch Dungeness Crabs to add taste and substance to their K rations? Did they land on a leper colony? What prominent features were important in the resolution of the boundary dispute of 1846-1872? Which two officer cadets placed a memorial to the 1859 Pig War? Hint for the last question – see p. 222 of *UNTidy Tales of Naval Officer Cadets* available [free here](#) .

Of course, many will have experienced their first taste of life aboard on these waters; of pilotage and ship handling in YFPs, HMCS *Oriole*, Gate Vessels, Orcas, MCDVs and other ships of the RCN. For those who never have cruised here this is a unique opportunity to see some beautiful waters and islands.

Alternative for those less interested in the Haro Strait Southern Gulf Islands Tour would be Individual Visits to Downtown Attractions like the Empress Hotel, Beacon Hill Park, Maritime Museum. Check our list below for other local alternative attractions

1230 – Return to Hotel – Light Buffet Lunch

1430 -1600 AGM at Hotel Grand Pacific – focus on transitioning to the “new” UNTDA – “A rose by any other name would smell as sweet”. The UNTDA Board will present a proposal for the reorganization of the UNTDA to ensure that it lives on.

1800 for 1830 to 2130 Mess Dinner at Hotel Grand Pacific – our wind-up event will be a traditional Mess Dinner and Dine the Partners. Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding blended well with wine and port for toasts.

Online Registration

Fees

The registration has been arranged to offer two ways in which one can register:

- Flat Fee - to cover all of the many program offerings. The flat fee for all events is CAD 550. Please also note if you choose the flat fee program you must still tick off the chosen events.
- A la Carte - on the basis of choosing only a few program items, at a higher cost per event, on an a la carte basis.
- You can pay your fees online using a standard credit card. To pay by cheque please make it payable to UNTDA and mail to:

UNTD Association of Canada
127 Willowridge Court
Oakville, ON L6L 5J1

To register for the Conference and Celebration Program [click here](#) to access the online registration process.

Hotel Reservation

Individuals must register with the hotel. It is separate from the program registration. The block booking for this event is at the [Hotel Grand Pacific](#) in downtown Victoria, beside the BC Legislative Building overlooking the inner harbour.

The guestroom rates are CAD 199.99/day, plus taxes {currently a combined total of 17.16% in GST, DMF and Hotel Tax). Taxes are subject to change without notice. Booking a view room costs more. ***These rates are available for five days before and after the meeting dates, subject to availability.***

Reservation Procedure

Individuals must make their own reservations directly with the hotel.

Contact their reservation department at one of the following numbers:

Toll Free 1-800-663-7550

Direct 1 (250) 386-0450

Email reserve@hotelgrandpacific.com

In order to qualify for the group rate, it is imperative that you indicate the Group Name or Group Code.

Group Name: Naval Reserves Centennial Group

Group Code: MAY23UNTDA

Please note that the hotel requires a valid credit card as security or full pre-payment of room and taxes upon arrival.

Check-in/ Check-out

Check in time is 4:00 pm. The Hotel will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate early arrivals. Check-out time is 11:00 am. Group members staying in their rooms beyond the check-out time without authorization will be charged for an additional room night or a day use rate.

Overnight parking

Parking at the hotel is in an underground lot, and is managed by an outside company. A reduced overnight self-parking rate of \$12 per day has been negotiated for you. Please note that the hotel is not able to accommodate over-height vehicles in their parking lot.

Things to do in Victoria and Area

Information on potential sites and activities to visit prior to, during and after this national event. These can be arranged by individuals at their own cost. As mentioned above the UNTDA block booking with the [Hotel Grand Pacific](#) allows you to book for up to 5 days before and after this event at the same rate of \$199.99/day plus taxes (currently a combined total of 17.16% in GST, DMF and Hotel Tax).

Victoria – Walking Distance or Short Harbour Ferry Ride

[Walking Tours of Victoria](#) - Ghostly walks or more worldly historical ones

[The Bateman Gallery directly across from hotel](#) - renowned wildlife artist

[Point Ellice House](#) - historic museum built in 1861

[Maritime Museum of BC](#) - depicting the rich maritime heritage of BC

[Whale Watching](#) - native marine wildlife viewing on the water

[Beacon Hill Park](#) - the crowning jewel of Victoria's parks, established in 1882

[Fisherman's Wharf](#) - working fishing vessels, floating homes and food kiosks

[Ogden Point Breakwater and Dallas Road Waterfront](#) - popular walk and views

[Chinatown Walks](#) - Canada's oldest Chinatown, ornate Gate of Harmonious Interest

[Food Tours](#) - a taste of Victoria's hidden culinary gems

[Emily Carr House](#) – National Historic Site - birthplace of the famous artist and writer

[Victoria Harbour Ferry —Tours and H2O Taxi Hops](#) - scenic harbour tour, or water taxi to various locations

Victoria Area

Royal Roads University – formerly HMCS *Royal Roads* – if you trained at *Roads* you will really enjoy the sights in this [2-minute video](#)

[Butchart Gardens](#) - thousands of blossoms in Springtime in world famous gardens

[Butterfly Gardens](#) —close to Butchart Gardens

[CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military History Museum](#) - West Coast naval heritage

[Horticulture Center of the Pacific](#) [The Gardens](#) including a Bonsai garden

[Abkhazi Garden](#) – beautiful rhododendrons and tea house

[Government House Gardens](#) - manicured gardens, woodlands and heritage buildings

[Ross Bay Cemetery](#) - burial place of early and famous Victorians

[Art Gallery of Greater Victoria](#) - check website for current exhibitions

[Craigdarroch Castle](#) - built in Romanesque style for coal baron Robert Dunsmuir

[Fort Rodd Hill and Fisgard Lighthouse](#) - original military buildings from 1895

[Picturesque town of Sidney by the Sea](#)

[Winery Tours — Saanich Peninsula](#) - several award-winning wineries to choose from

[Finnerty Gardens](#) at University of Victoria; another beautiful woodland garden

[Malahat Skywalk](#) - gentle spiral ramp to amazing views

[BC Aviation Museum](#) - World War I biplanes to the modern era

Further Afield

[Salt Spring Island](#) – Pastoral drives Saturday market local artisans, food producers, music

[Chemainus](#) – the Mural Town

[Nanaimo](#) and Newcastle Island walking trails

[BC Ferry from Port Hardy \(Northern Vancouver Island\) to Prince Rupert on Mainland](#)

A taste of the Inside Passage

[Cathedral Grove](#) – BC's Big Tree Heritage

[Pacific Rim National Park](#)

On the Open Pacific bounded by [Ucluelet](#) to the south and [Tofino](#) to the north