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MORALE & WELFARE NEWS | CFB ESQUIMALT, VICTORIA, B.C.

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HMCS *Protecteur* Launches: *A New Era Begins*

HMCS *Protecteur* docks at Vancouver Shipyards on Dec. 21 after its inaugural launching. See more photos of the naming ceremony on page 9. Photo: Mike Savage.

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— FEEDBACK FROM A PAST PARTICIPANT



Advanced Naval Capabilities Unit Sailors Fly High at **Bold Quest 24**



Lt(N) R. Davies
Uncrewed System Officer, ANCU

From October to November 2024, Advanced Naval Capabilities Unit (ANCU) took part in Bold Quest 24, a significant multinational event hosted by the United States Joint Staff in Jacksonville, North Carolina. This prestigious event brought together approximately 2,000 personnel from 17 different nations, fostering collaboration and enhancing capabilities among allied forces.

The ANCU team had three primary missions during the exercise: to integrate into the intelligence cycle of the exercise, participate in a medical demonstration and practical field test of modern medical networking technologies, and support Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance operations.

To achieve these goals, ANCU deployed a team comprised of an Intelligence officer, a medic and Uncrewed Systems operators flying the CU-175 Puma—a miniature fixed wing Uncrewed Aircraft system used both on land and at sea.

One of the standout achievements of the ANCU team during Bold Quest 24 was their support for the first successful execution of the Intelligence Requirement Management and Collection Management (IRM&CM) process using solely Canadian assets through Federated Mission Network (FMN). ANCU sailors played a critical role in providing Full Motion Video (FMV) to the FMN and the Mission Partner Environment. This FMV was subsequently transmitted to the Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre and Trinity in Halifax, marking a significant advancement in the speed and efficiency of intelligence collection and processing.

Leading the intelligence efforts, Lieutenant (Navy) Jeong served as the Naval Intelligence lead for Bold Quest 24, heading a team focused on the practical use of Common Intelligence Picture tools and implementing the IRM&CM cycle.

Meanwhile, ANCU's medic, Master Corporal (MCpl) Patterson, integrated with the Royal Navy and the United States Marine Corps to evaluate the United States Air Force Research Laboratories Battlefield Digital Data Collection Kit (BATDOK), to address medical needs and gather vital intelligence. MCpl Patterson tested the equipment in the field, in aeromedical evacu-

ation, and in a naval small boat environment.

The Puma team supported Canadian Special Operations Forces Command by collecting imagery and testing various methods to distribute this imagery in near real-time to partner nations, ensuring that the correct security classifications were maintained across a federated mission network.

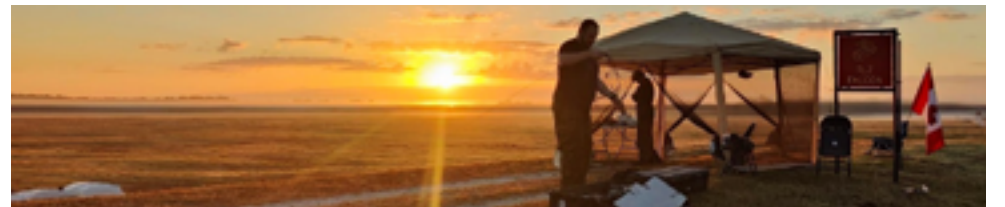
As naval operations continue to evolve, the integration of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) has become increasingly essential, especially as the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) adopts new technologies like RCN ISTAR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance), which refers to the RCN's integrated system for gathering, analyzing, and disseminating real-time intelligence to enhance decision-making and operational effectiveness.

By combining advanced sensors, unmanned systems, and data fusion technologies, RCN ISTAR enables superior situational awareness, improving the Navy's ability to respond to evolving threats in dynamic maritime environments. The successful transmission of FMV demonstrated that integrating UAS into maritime operations is not only feasible but also highly advantageous. This capability profoundly enhances real-time situational awareness and significantly improves decision-making processes on vessels, ensuring that commanders have timely and relevant intelligence at their disposal.

The contributions made by the ANCU team during Bold Quest 24 not only highlighted the skills and proficiency of its sailors but also underscored the significance of strategic partnerships in today's complex security landscape, paving the way for enhanced cooperation and operational effectiveness among allied forces.

The Advanced Naval Capabilities Unit participates in Bold Quest 24 in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

Photo provided.



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January always seems to be a buzz with talk of Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs) and income tax; you hear about it on the news, at the dinner table and at work and of course, at your local SISIP Financial office, it is no different! Make your finances part of the conversation throughout the year.

As financial planners, we are always extolling the tax advantages of RRSPs, but often hear “No thanks, I have a great pension plan, I don’t need an RRSP”. While it is true that the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) does offer an excellent Pension Plan it is also true that no two financial situations are alike. Even though your friend or co-worker may have the same rank, monthly allotment and years of service as you, your financial needs and goals may vary widely.

RRSPs can add significant value to your financial plan during your working years, in retirement and within your Estate plan. Whenever you contribute to an RRSP it reduces your taxable income today, which means you pay less tax now and you are

putting money away to grow, tax sheltered, for the future. You can save even more money by strategically planning your RRSP withdrawals. Let’s look at some situations that people may not always consider when they think of an RRSP.

Is the cost of buying a home to high in your current province?

If you plan to buy a home at a future posting or in retirement, consider using the RRSP homebuyers program (HBP). The HBP is not just for first-time homeowners. You can utilize the HBP more than once provided you and/or your spouse have not owned a home in the four years prior to the home purchase. You can “borrow” up to \$60,000, tax free from both yours and your spouse’s RRSP to put towards the payment for your new home. By contributing to your RRSP you can be saving towards your new home while receiving a tax deduction which you could also reinvest to compound your savings strategy.

What’s on your retirement bucket list?

If you are married or common-law, you have the option of contributing to a spousal RRSP. This will reduce your taxable income today and create a future nest-egg to be withdrawn by your spouse as income

in retirement. You can then allocate the spousal RRSP to pay for the fun stuff such as travel, sports, and hobbies while your CAF pension can be used to pay the monthly and annual household expenses (bills, maintenance, etc.)

Have you calculated survivor income needs yet?

Having funds in a RRSP can help fund any shortfalls in your Estate plan. When a retirement member passes, the surviving non-military spouse is entitled to a 50 per cent Survivor Pension. But, will that be enough to ensure your spouse has a comfortable income for life? Saving through an RRSP or spousal RRSP can help fund future income needs, not to mention that generally it will be taxed in a lower bracket.

Talk to a financial advisor at your local SISIP Financial office and ask how an RRSP can benefit your specific financial plan. The deadline to contribute for the 2024 tax year is March 3, 2025.



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2024 Max Tulloch Submariner of the Year Award



Master Sailor (MS) Richard Belley, a Weapons Engineering Fire Control Tech and the President Mess Committee of HMCS *Corner Brook's* MS and Below Mess, received the Max Tulloch Submariner of the Year Award for 2024 for their great dedication and an outstanding work ethic.

The award was presented by the Coxswain and Captain of HMCS *Corner Book*, Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Tibbets and Commander Eric Isabelle, and in the presence of Mrs. Jill Garnet, the sponsor of HMCS *Victoria*, and her husband Vice-Admiral (retired) Gary Garnet.

Merritt Chisholm Sword for Esprit de Corps and Perseverance



Sub-Lieutenant (SLt) SeeEun "Rachel" Kim is presented with the Merritt Chisholm Sword for Esprit de Corps and Perseverance by Lieutenant-Commander (retired) Gerald Pash on behalf of the Naval Officers Association of Vancouver Island with Reviewing Officer, Commander Vincent Pellerin, Commanding Officer of HMCS *Winnipeg*.

The Sword, with a Naval Association of Canada book prize, is presented at the Naval Warfare Officer IV Course graduation at Naval Fleet School (Pacific) HMCS *Venture* at CFB Esquimalt.

Nominated by their peers, the recipient of the sword is determined to have contributed to their fellow trainees by generating course morale, team support, comradery, inclusion, conflict resolution, perseverance, adaptability and resilience. SLt Kim came to Canada at the age of seven when her family immigrated from South Korea to live in Coquitlam.

Photo: Gerald Pash

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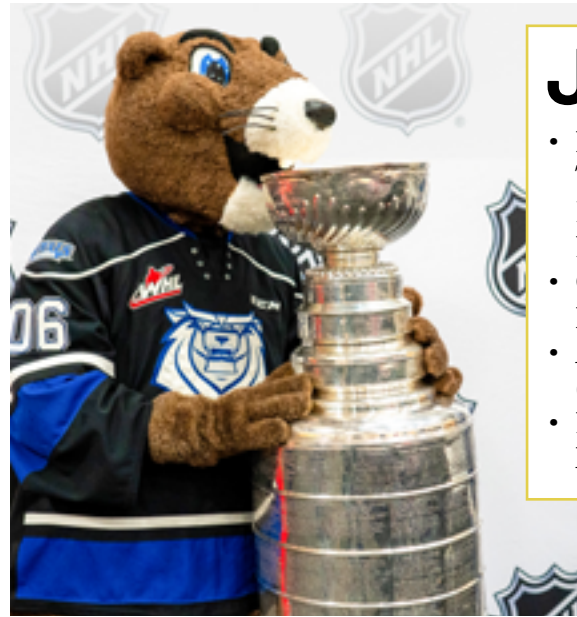
Year in Review

A look at the Lookout Newspaper's top stories in 2024

JANUARY

- Pacific Region Surgeon Honoured for Saving Teammate's Life
- RCN Honoured in Hockey Day in Canada Festivities
- CFAD Rocky Point Sends Ammunition Donation to Ukraine
- A Heartfelt Farewell to 103-year old Major (ret'd) Murray Edwards
- First Woman Appointed as Chief Boatswain's Mate

Marty the Marmot, Victoria Royals hockey team mascot, hoists the Stanley Cup during the 24th Annual Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada celebration. Photo supplied.



FEBRUARY

- Combat Divers Return to Metchosin Waters with Exercise Roguish Buoy
- Trading Places: RCN Ships Complete Hull Swap
- RCN Sailor Travels the Antarctic Waters with the Chilean Navy
- 'Globetrotting' Benefits Base Athletes
- Muggins, the Historic Pooch Remembered and Restored

Members of Victoria's Wong Sheung Kung Fu Club perform a Lion Dance, Feb. 14, at the Canadian Submarine Force Headquarters in Dockyard. Photo: Peter Mallett/Lookout



MARCH

- Bayleigh Rules as Base Commander for a Day
- International Day of Forests Highlighting Canadian Rangers' Role in Protecting B.C.'s Wilderness
- New Boats for FDU(P)
- FMFCB Secures New Radar System
- Dedicated Naval Communicator Named Sailor of the Year

Staff Sergeant Daryl Baswick of the Victoria Police Department waves during the Day 2 Woss to Sayward leg of the Wounded Warrior Run BC. Photo: John Penner Photography



APRIL

- Community Commemorates HMCS Esquimalt Tragedy
- Langford Pays Tribute to Heroes of Vimy Ridge
- HMCS *Max Bernays* Returns Home
- Y-Jetty Welcomes its Fluffiest Greeter, Teddy
- Comox Air Show Returns for RCAF Centennial
- RCN Recognizes Transgender Resilience

Teddy, a three-year-old Akita, greets a visitor at the Y-Jetty security gate. Teddy is a therapy dog who helps Commissionaire Bob Cosman. Photo: Bob Cosman



MAY

- A Royal Encounter: Her Royal Highness Princess Anne visits CFB Esquimalt
- Task Group Exercise 2024 Concludes
- First Battle of the Atlantic Ceremony for HMCS *Malabat* junior members
- HMCS *Max Bernays* Commissioned
- Swashbuckling Fun at Esquimalt Buccaneer Days

Captain (Navy) Kevin Whiteside, Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Esquimalt Base Commander, and Chief Petty Officer 1st Class Sue Frisby, CFB Esquimalt Base Chief, march in the parade at Buccaneer Days on May 11. Photo: Master Corporal Nathan Spence, MARPAC Imaging



JUNE

- Naval Innovation: 3D Scanning Revolutionizes Ship Repair and Manufacturing
- Community Marks Air Force Century
- Naval Training Group Turns Ten
- Victoria Bids Fond Farewell to Beloved Veteran, Commander (ret'd) Peter Chance
- HMCS Vancouver Departs

JULY

- NATO Delegation Visits FMFCB
- Marine Technician Keeps HMCS Vancouver's Heart Beating
- Sailor of the Quarter Revolutionizes Shipboard Living
- EOD Operators Lead Successful Ordnance Disposal Operation
- POESB Breaks Records with Harbour Clean-up for World Ocean's Day 2024



Peter Godwin Chance, CD Cdr RCN (Ret'd) Nov. 24, 1920 - Apr. 9, 2024. Photo supplied

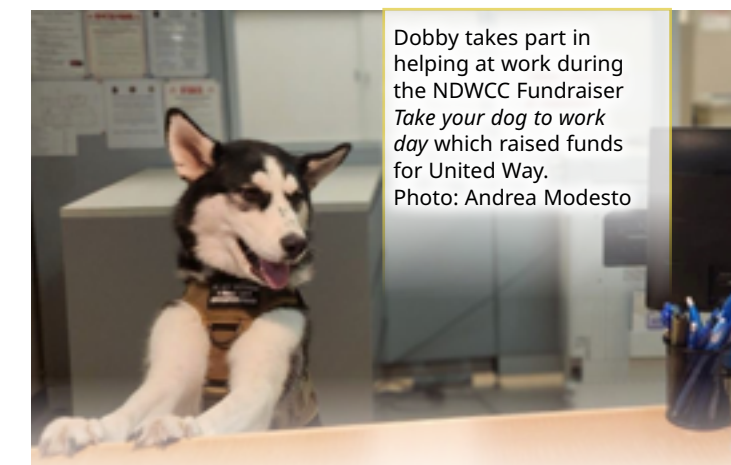


A member of 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry walks the area of a recent wildfire burn looking for hotspots with his team in the area of Jasper, Alta. during Op Lentus.

Photo: MS Dan Bard, Directorate Army Public Affairs.

AUGUST

- 442 Squadron Honoured
- CAF Members Triumph in Grueling Nijmegen Marches
- Pacific Fleet Club Reopens
- CANSUBFOR Unveils New Commemorative Plaque in Building Naming Ceremony
- Vancouver Island's MUSAR Team Trains for Earthquake Recovery



Dobby takes part in helping at work during the NDWCC Fundraiser *Take your dog to work day* which raised funds for United Way. Photo: Andrea Modesto

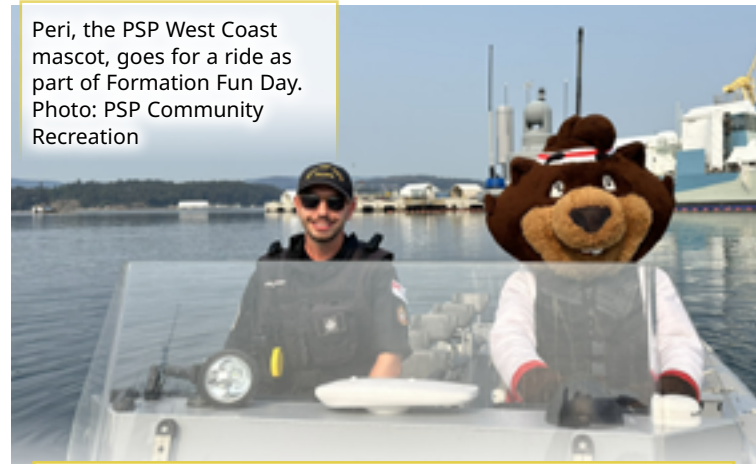
OCTOBER

- HMCS *Edmonton* and HMCS *Yellowknife* Return from Operation CARRIBE deployment
- HMCS *Vancouver* completes Exercise Rim of the Pacific
- RCN Welcomes Republic of Korea Navy: A Golden Era of Cooperation
- Ship-to-Shore Trade Show Showcases Success
- RCN and Canadian Rangers Unite for Humanitarian Response Exercise

DECEMBER

- HMCS *Vancouver* returns after six-month Indo-Pacific deployment
- CFB Esquimalt hosts first annual holiday Shop & Sip event
- MARPAC hosts NATO submarine medical course in Esquimalt
- Exercise Northern Lights 24 and Exercise Sea Ranger 24 conclude

Peri, the PSP West Coast mascot, goes for a ride as part of Formation Fun Day. Photo: PSP Community Recreation



SEPTEMBER

- Canadian Submarine Force Trains Future Allied Captains
- Resiliency Within Our Military Families: Acknowledging Military Family Appreciation Day
- Commodore's Cup Taken By Force: RCAF Beats the RCN in the Third Annual Game
- HMCS *Malabat* Premieres Full-Length Documentary



National Indigenous Veterans Day was recognized by CFB Esquimalt and local Indigenous communities in a ceremony held Nov. 8. Photo: Master Corporal William Gosse, MARPAC Imaging

NOVEMBER

- MARPAC on Watch: National Sentry Program features CFB Esquimalt's MS Jed Garcia
- HMCS *Regina* participates in Joint Littoral Targeting Exercise 2024
- Remembering the Sacrifices of Punjabi-Canadians
- A Hero Gets His Wings: Mr. Jay Hammond recovers his uncle's Halifax bomber 13 years later
- S1 Jacob Barrett Awarded Sailor of the Quarter

The first kiss is celebrated during HMCS Vancouver's homecoming from Op Horizon at C-Jetty Dec. 5. Photo: Sailor 1st Class Koller



DEPLOYMENT NEWS: HMCS OTTAWA

HMCS *Ottawa* Honours Canadian War Hero in Onagawa, Japan

Defence Stories

Canada.ca

Members of His Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) *Ottawa*, currently deployed on Operation Horizon, participated in a special ceremony in Onagawa, Japan, on Nov. 26, honouring a Canadian war hero. Lieutenant (Lt) Robert Hampton Gray, a Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Pilot, received the Victoria Cross as a result of his actions and sacrifice in the skies over Onagawa Bay during the Second World War.



This particular monument is very special: it is the only monument to a foreign military person ever built in Japan. The main local supporter for the project was Mr. Yoshio Kanda, a former communications officer in the Onagawa Defense Force. Taking into consideration the climate between our nations at the time of Lt Gray's action, Mr. Kanda chose to raise a memorial in 1989 to honour the sacrifice of all parties and to create a symbol of peace between nations.

Mr. Kanda was instrumental in convincing the local population to change their existing narrative on the tragic end to the conflict and make Lt Gray's sacrifice in Onagawa Bay a symbol of enduring peace. "It is not enemy soldiers we hate, but the war itself," Mr. Kanda stated. This is not Mr. Kanda's first involvement with memorials as he was also among those who had helped build a memorial to commemorate the area's Japanese victims which was completed in 1966.

The Lt Gray monument was relocated from its original site following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami that wreaked havoc across the bay. Local volunteers from the Onagawa Lions Club found the monument and relocated it next to the local hospital where it remains to this day. The local legacy of the monument will be assured by Mr. Kanda's grandson, Mr. Yoshitake Kanda, and other influential members of the community who welcome Canadians as Indo-pacific partners vested in protecting this enduring peace.

During the ceremony, the Canadian sailors and aviators present were touched by the profound respect that the community showed to Lt Gray and the reverence they gave to the gesture of peace. In keeping with this sentiment, Commander Adriano Lozer, Commanding Officer of HMCS *Ottawa*, said during his address, "We are honoured by the welcome we have received and the commitment to peace

by the Kanda family and the community."

On conclusion of the ceremony, the Canadian contingent placed their poppies on the wreaths at the foot of the monument. They posed for pictures alongside community members prior to their return journey to the ship via train and bus. During the long journey back, all would reflect on the peace that both nations hold dear before returning to HMCS *Ottawa* and their duties in the Indo-Pacific region.



Representatives from HMCS *Ottawa*, the Town Council of Onagawa, and the Kanda family, surround the memorial to Lieutenant Robert Hampton Gray VC, DSC, following the ceremony on Nov. 26 in Onagawa, Japan. Photo: Sailor 3rd Class Jacob Saunders.

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Teri McKinnon, HMCS *Protecteur's* Sponsor, speaks during Naming Ceremony at Seaspans Shipyards.



The Right Honorable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada.



Vice-Admiral Angus Topshee, Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy.

It's official: HMCS *Protecteur* is named!

His Majesty Canadian Ship (HMCS) *Protecteur* during its Naming Ceremony at Seaspans Shipyards, Vancouver on Dec. 13.

Photos: Sailor 3rd Class Jordan Schilstra, MARPAC Imaging Services



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6.....	Bicycle / 21 -speed / Men's
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8.....	Bicycle / Hybrid Electric / 20-speed / Unisex
9.....	Bicycle / 21 -speed / Men's

Claimants can contact Stephen Joseph Galipeau, Disposal Team / Materiel Service Account (MSA) @ Base Logistics at 250-363-5204 from 0800-1200 and 1300-1530 with a detailed description of the object to claim.

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CFB ESQUIMALT

AWARDS CELEBRATION



Captain Simpson serves Corporal Lacadin as the salads come out for all of the junior members. Photos: Master Warrant Officer Samantha Crowe



The head table (left to right) prepare to cut the turkey: Captain(N) Whiteside, CFB Esquimalt Base Commander, Sailor 3rd Class Copegog, the Captain for the day, Corporal Whalen, Chief Warrant Officer for the day, Chief Petty Officer 1st Class Frisby, the Base Chief, Petty Officer 2nd Class Eves, the Cook, and Padre Offor.



The traditional swapping of the ranks with the youngest and wisest of the unit and the presentation of the turkey. The head table (left to right) Corporal (Cpl) Whalen, the wisest (oldest) Cpl, Chief Petty Officer 1st Class Frisby, Base Chief, Sailor 3rd Class (S3) Copegog, the youngest S3 of the unit, Captain (N) Whiteside, the Base Commander.

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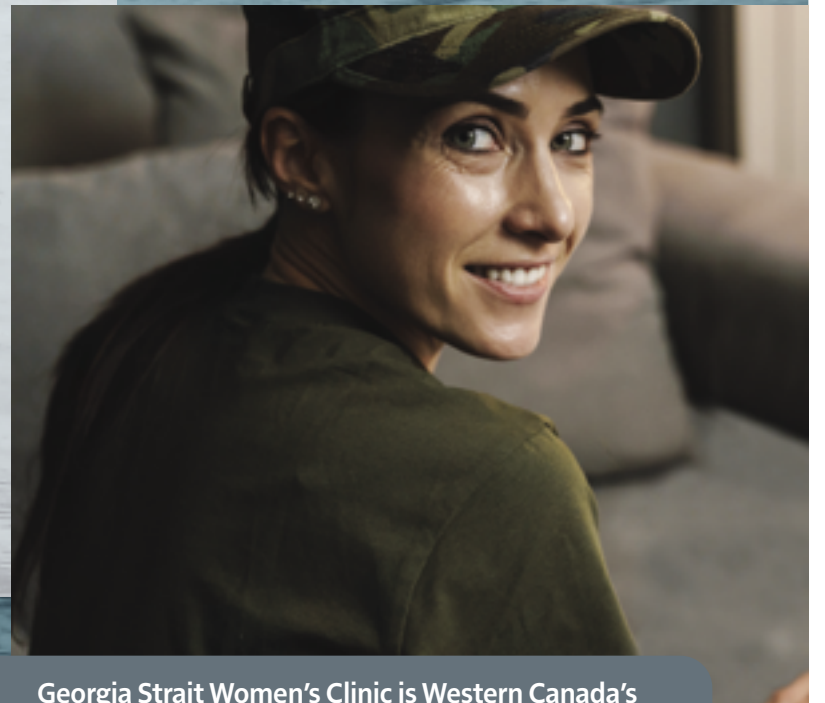
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