

Active members of the Royal Canadian Navy stand in remembrance on May 4 around War Memorial to the Unknown Soldier, the British Columbia Legislature Cenotaph at the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. See pages 8-9 for more photos and a detailed account of the remembrance ceremony. Photo supplied.



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Marks Change of Appointment, Recognizes Service, and Honours What's Worth Fighting For

Archana Cini

Lookout Newspaper

From shrimp fried rice to Canadian rights, CFB Esquimalt's Base Administration Branch town hall was one to remember.

On May 8, members of Base Administration gathered in Nelles Block for a town hall that meaningfully blended themes of change, gratitude, and reflection. The event featured a change of appointment for the Unit Chief, an Honours & Awards ceremony, and a powerful ethics briefing from CFB Esquimalt Base Administration Commanding Officer, Commander (Cdr) Nicolas Bruzzone.

The event opened with the official change of appointment for Base Administration's Unit Chief, as Chief Petty Officer First Class (CPO1) Francine Griffin succeeded the retiring CPO1 Steve Sheffar. CPO1 Sheffar reflected on an incredible career with the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) that spanned over 1,700 days at sea and countless leadership milestones.

"I couldn't have asked for a better team, or a better way to finish this chapter," CPO1 Sheffar said. "It's been an absolute honour." CPO1 Sheffar, who joined the RCN straight out of high school in 1991, expressed excitement to return home to New Brunswick and reconnect with friends and family after 33 exceptional years of service. His successor, CPO1 Griffin, brings an impressive wealth of operational and logistical experience, serving as the Chief Head of Department for Logistics in HMCS Regina and as the Regional Financial Services Administrator Services Occupational Advisor.

The change of command was followed by an Honours & Awards ceremony, where Cdr Bruzzone issued promotions, presented Bravo Zulus, and expressed deep gratitude and awe to all those who sustain CFB Esquimalt and support its members 365 days per year.

The town hall concluded with Cdr Bruzzone's final ethics briefing before his upcoming posting to Maritime Pacific Head Quarters (MARPAC HQ) in July. Titled "Worth Fighting For", the poignant talk focused on the democratic rights enshrined in a document Cdr Bruzzone keeps tucked in his pocket every day—the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Drawing on his own family's personal experiences in Chile, Cdr Bruzzone reflected on the honour it is to both serve in the RCN and be Canadian.

The event concluded with a moving reminder to cherish what's worth fighting for-each other.





(Cdr.) Nicolas Bruzzone, CFB Esquimalt Base Commander, Chief Petty Officer First Class (CP01) Steve Sheffar, retiring Unit Chief, and CP01 Francine Griffin, incoming Unit Chief marking the official



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

A Division of Personnel Support Programs

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Reach out to us, we'd love to hear your feedback and story ideach

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SISIP Financial

Esquimalt Team

We understand—insurance isn't very exciting. However, it's worth knowing the basics so that insurance can provide the money your family needs if something goes wrong. Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members, veterans, and military spouses, here's exactly what you need to know.

IS INSURANCE WORTH IT?

Yes! If a house fire, accident, or passing occurs, the cost of insurance will be relatively tiny compared to the benefit your family receives. Additionally, you experience the confidence of an additional layer of financial protection.

HOW DOES INSURANCE WORK?

Imagine a community where families rally to help others in need—insurance works in a similar way. For example, you might pay a "premium" for a homeowner's policy. This means the insurance company will take money from a pooled premium of all participating homeowners to pay your benefit in the case of a home flood. You would then use this benefit to fund the repairs.

WHAT TYPES OF INSURANCE ARE THERE?

There are three broad types of insurance to consider:

- 1. Property insurance is designed to protect physical property, like your home or vehicle. This type is usually mandatory since your landlord or mortgage lender will require you to have home insurance, and provincial laws will require you to have auto insurance.
- **2. Life insurance** is intended to cushion the financial impact on loved ones if you were to pass away. This could mean

funeral expenses, paying off mortgages, other debts, and/or creating a continuous stream of income for your family. A SISIP advisor is your guide to simplifying life insurance choices; we are experts on CAF survivor benefits and consider all factors to determine the protection you need, alongside insurance affordability.

3. Health insurance is designed to offset the financial impact of health crises. For example, critical illness/injury policies could provide lump sum benefits in the case of sudden diagnoses like heart attacks or cancer. As a CAF member, you are automatically enrolled in long-term disability insurance. This can provide you with ongoing monthly income if an accident or illness makes it impossible for you to work.

HOW MUCH INSURANCE IS ENOUGH?

The concept behind insurance is to replace what has been lost—whether that is a tangible asset or your ability to provide for family. With a home or car, insurance companies usually dictate policy terms. In terms of life insurance, changing family needs, responsibilities, and time means that policies also often change over time. A SISIP advisor's recommendations, and our Insurance Needs Assessment (created specifically for the CAF community) can help ensure that coverage is tailored to you.

WHERE SHOULD I BUY INSURANCE?

An insurance broker represents you by identifying policy deals from across multiple companies, making brokers a good source for car and home insurance policies. On the other hand, an insurance agent only sells the policies of one company. This may require caution as agents have less pricing flexibility and choice than brokers.

However, agents like SISIP advisors are extremely valuable as salaried professionals who deliver honest, unbiased, and personalized financial advice tailored to the CAF community.

Banks may also offer life, disability, or critical illness insurance policies to cover outstanding balances. Be wary, as these can be expensive and benefit the bank rather than your family. Finally, know that legitimate insurance providers will never ask for upfront fees or direct payments to agents or brokers.

WHEN SHOULD I REVIEW MY INSURANCE?

It's best practice to review your financial plan (including insurance) every year—especially if there have been recent changes in your life. Changes that impact insurance include welcoming a new child, buying or selling property, marriage, divorce, a promotion or new job, retirement, and large purchases. These changes can result in needing more/less insurance or needing to update existing coverage to remove an ex-spouse beneficiary or modify an address.

WHAT'S THE TRUTH ABOUT INSURANCE?

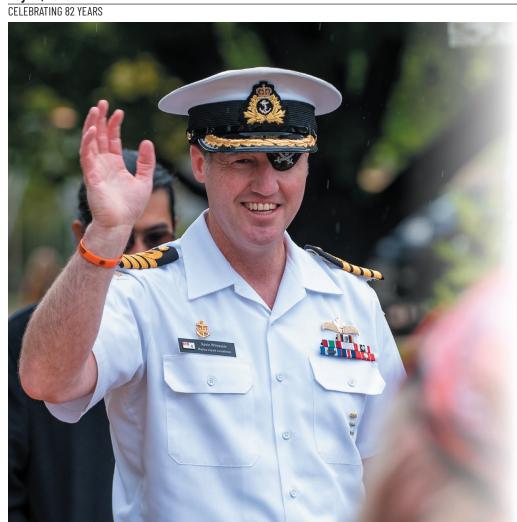
If you wait until a home floods or a doctor shares bad news, it may be too late for the insurance you need. Generally, buying insurance early is best. Work with an SISIP advisor to secure coverage now, because owning insurance will place you in charge of your financial security without needing to ever rely on digital fundraising platforms or the kindness of others.



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CFB Esquimalt Brings Naval Spirit to Buccaneer Days Parade

Consolidated by Archana Cini

Lookout Newspaper

On 10 May, Victorians came together in Esquimalt for the Buccaneer Days Parade, an anticipated part of Esquimalt's annual Buccaneer Days festival. Full of families and other local community members dressed in naval and pirate attire, 2025's Buccaneer Days festival included over 20 local organizations and hundreds of attendees over the weekend. CFB Esquimalt proudly participated in the May 10 parade, with CFB Esquimalt Base Commander Captain (N) Kevin Whiteside and the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) marching through local community streets with Canadian pride as whoops and cheers connected the community.













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Tips for Road Sharing

with CFB Esquimalt Road and Vehicle Safety

Corporal (Cpl) Adam Hardy

This May 5-9, Defence community members at CFB Esquimalt participated in a variety of initiatives in observation of Road and Vehicle Safety Week 2025.

To Corporal (Cpl) Adam Hardy, Road and Vehicle Safety Week offers an opportune moment to reflect on the importance of care on the road. "Every life is important," he shared. "Take that extra second to shoulder check. For pedestrians, that age-old adage of looking both ways before crossing the street? It really is just as important now as it was decades ago."

With more electric vehicles, scooters, and bikes sharing the road than ever before, here are some essential tips and habits to promote road safety and awareness

Do you drive an electric vehicle (EV)? Continually watch for pedestrians that may not hear you due to noise-blocking technology. Remain alert, and do not assume that every-

one (including bikers and other motor vehicles) is aware of your presence while driving.

Are you a biker or electric scooter rider? Wear helmets and reflective clothing and follow all traffic laws motor vehicles follow. Additionally, be mindful of the weather, potentially hazardous conditions, and how they affect vehicle stopping distance. Never assume that you are seen by others and remember to both shoulder check and signal before merging or changing lanes.

Going somewhere as a pedestrian? Be mindful of your surroundings, always look both ways before stepping on the road, and use designated crosswalks. If listening to music or using a device, prioritize listening to the space around you—particularly around blind corners.

Trying to recognize an EV on the road? Identification often starts by noticing their quieter operation at low speeds, as well as distinctive badges and marks like leaf or plug silhouettes.









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Architect Behind New RCN Tugs Awarded Prestigious

Archana Cini

Lookout Newspaper

Not every hero sails a ship, some design the ship instead.

The Royal Victoria Yacht Club was the scene of both official recognition and naval tradition on April 24, when Mr. Robert Allan, President of Robert Allan Ltd., was presented with the 2024 Admirals' Medal for exceptional contributions to Canada's maritime legacy.

The ceremony, hosted by Vice-Admiral (Retired) Nigel Brodeur and Commodore David Mazur, Commander of Canadian Fleet Pacific, brought together Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) representatives, veterans, and local Defence community leaders to honour a man whose work will power our national fleet for decades to come.

Through the exclusive design of four new Naval Large Tugs (NLTs) developed for the RCN, medal recipient Robert Allan played a direct role in strengthening Canadian maritime operations and morale.

Built under Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy, these vessels are designed to handle everything from critical emergency response and coastal towing to firefighting. The NLTs represent a leap forward in power, maneuverability, and mission support. The tugs will replace aging equipment and expand operational readiness for the Navy's growing fleet, boasting the ability to maneuver challenging weather conditions alongside a staggering 60-tonne bollard pull.

Allan's commitment to innovation and technical excellence exemplifies the spirit of the Admirals' Medal itself, which recognizes key innovative contributions made to Canadian maritime affairs. First created in 1985 by Vice-Admirals Bob Stephens, Dan Mainguy, and Nigel

Brodeur, the medal was named in tribute to their fathers, men whose naval service helped shape the RCN's identity, alongside its values of courage and technical excellence. As a civilian Admirals' Medal recipient, Allan joins a very small group of contributors, including Arctic researcher Moira Dunbar and last year's honouree, Captain David (Duke) Snider.

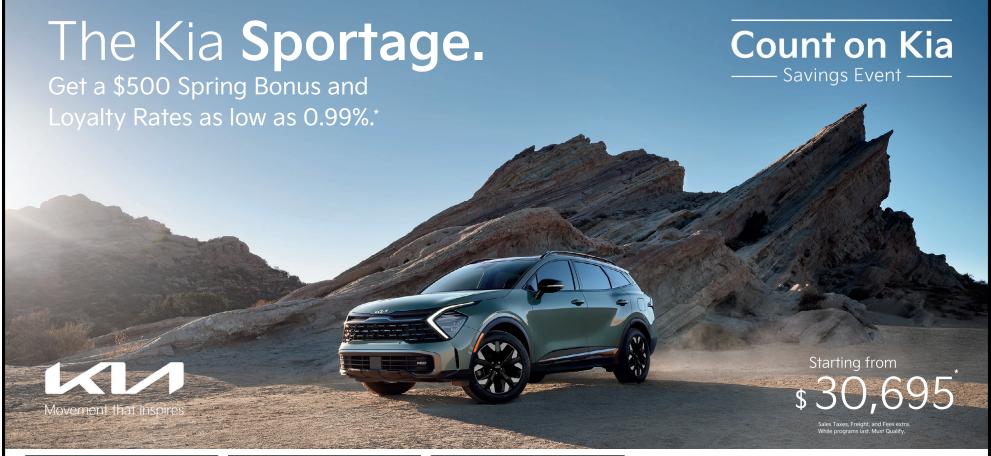
To Allan, the medal ceremony was a humbling experience—an acknowledgement of years of work and care poured into supporting those who

He shared, "I just draw the boats, that's as close to being in the Navy as I'll ever get!"

In recognizing Allan, the Admirals' Medal reminds us that maritime excellence is developed not only at sea, but also in the minds and hands of those who build the future of our Canadian fleet.



Vice-Admiral (retired) Nigel Brodeur (left) and Commodore David Mazur, Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific (right) alongside Robert Allan, 2024 recipient of the Admiral's Medal at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.
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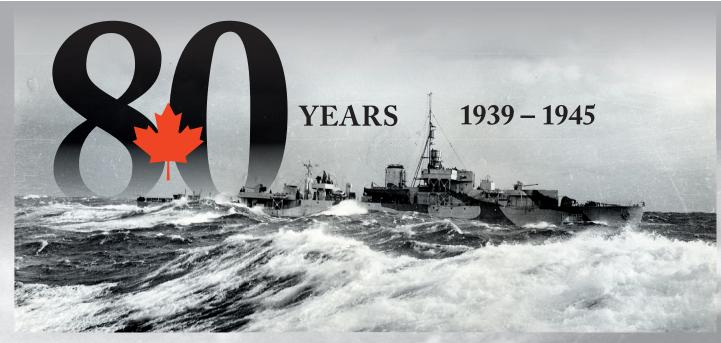
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Legislature Ceremony Unites Victoria in Remembrance of the

Battle of the Atlantic

Archana Cini

Lookout Newspaper

The sea remembers – and so do we.

On May 4, Victorians gathered at the lawns of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia for Battle of the Atlantic Sunday, an annual day of remembrance of the Second World War's long-

The 1100hrs service drew representatives of the Naval Association of Canada, members and veterans of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) and Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), the media, and local community members in observance of those who served in the battle. Of the nearly 100,000 Canadians who served, over 4,600 hundred lost their lives.

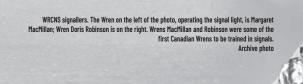
The 2025 event marked eight decades since the tide turned in the Atlantic and coincided with the RCN's 115th anniversary, weaving remembrance, historical pride, and present-day service into a commemoration of unity. The sacrifices of Canada's Navy, Air Force, and Merchant Mariners were formally honoured at the cenotaph, where silence was observed, wreaths laid, and moving tributes shared.

The Battle of the Atlantic began for Canada even before war

was officially declared, when HMCS Fraser and St. Laurent departed the Pacific Coast in August 1939 to escort the first Allied convoys across the Atlantic. By the war's end in 1945, the RCN had escorted nearly half of all Allied convoys across the Atlantic, destroyed 33 German U-boats, and scuttled 42 enemy surface ships. The RCN also suffered heavy losses with over 2,000 naval fatalities and 30 vessels lost.

To Captain(N) Kevin Whiteside, Commander of CFB Esquimalt, the event was equally an occasion to commemorate the past as an opportunity to reflect on the challenges ahead. "The accomplishments of those who served before inform and inspire those of us in uniform today. It is right that we remember their service but equally important that the lessons of the past are never forgotten. As we mark the 115th year of the RCN we must continue to honour those historic sacrifices through our current and future commitment to defend Canada."

Captain (N) Whiteside also acknowledged the City of Victoria, local municipalities, Indigenous communities, and other organizations that allowed the Defence community and public to conduct the moving event at the Legislative Assembly of British



"The Battle of the Atlantic was the longest battle of the Second World War and was fought at sea from 1939 to 1945. Much of the burden of fighting the battle fell to the RCN which, at the outbreak of the war, was comprised of only six destroyers and a handful of smaller vessels."

~ Canada.ca

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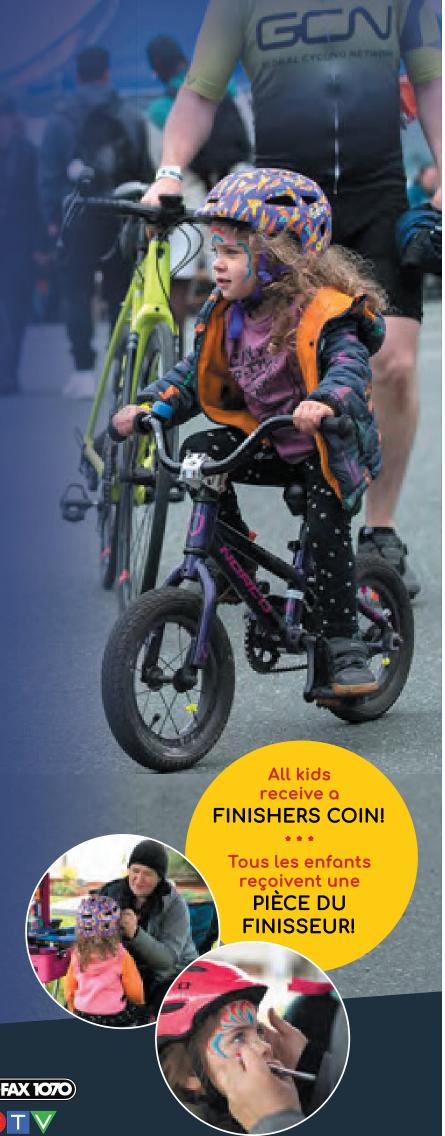
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HMCS Calgary Celebrates

Years of Service

Join them in celebrating this milestone throughout the month of June.

Sub-Lieutenant Isabelle Scatland Lebel

On May 12, 2025, HMCS Calgary proudly marked its 30th anniversary of service, dedication, and excellence to Canada.

Commissioned in 1995, the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) Halifax-class frigate has participated in numerous international operations and continues to serve as part of the Maritime Forces Pacific (MARPAC). Notable past deployments include Op APOLLO, Canada's military commitment following 9/11, and Op ARTEMIS, a multinational effort to combat terrorism in the Middle East. During Op ARTEMIS in 2021, HMCS Calgary set a Canadian naval record by destroying record quantities of illicit narcotics, disrupting funding sources for criminal organizations. On a global scale, the vessel has engaged in numerous multinational exercises that have strengthened Canadian alliances and exemplified RCN professionalism.

Today, HMCS Calgary continues to serve as a symbol of resilience and commitment. The 30th anniversary celebration not only honours the vessel itself, but also recognizes its sailors, whose service and sacrifices continue to shape the frigate's legacy. To commemorate this milestone and celebrate the ship's upcoming return to service, a series of events open to both the Defence community and public will be held in June.



Friday, June 13 • 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Olympic View Golf Club, 643 Latoria Road

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OPEN HOUSE & CELEBRATION

HMCS Vancouver will be alongside and open to visitors.

Sunday, June 15 • 9:00 am - 4:00 pm **Ogden Point**

Cost: Free!

Opening ceremony with military parade starts at 9:00 a.m.

- Free Stampede-style pancake breakfast
- Live music
- RHIB rides
- Bouncy castles
- Face painting
- Navy displays
- Beer garden Road hockey exhibition game

Donations and sales from the beer garden will help raise funds for the ship's charity, the Calgary Firefighter's Burn Treatment Society.

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Mental Health Strategies for the Defence Community:

Self-Care and Service

Archana Cini

Lookout Newspaper

Mental health matters —especially in a life of service.

For the week starting May 5 2025, Defence community members across Canada came together to challenge stigma, encourage connection, and explore strategies for mental well-being.

2025's Mental Health Week carried the theme of 'Unmasking Mental Health', a concept that recognizes the toll hiding mental struggles can take, especially on military members, veterans, Defence employees, families, and communities. In a culture of service and resilience, honest conversations about psychological and emotional wellbeing can feel like risk to those known for strength. But as reinforced during the Self-Care Strategies: Helpful Now and Always webinar held on May 8, vulnerability is not weakness—it's a strength that builds healthy people and communities.

Led by Human Relations Specialist and Criminologist Alexandra Hidalgo, the session offered Defence community participants with evidence-based tips to care for their mental and emotional well-being.

"Stress and mental heaviness, when left unchecked, impacts our immune system, memory, mood, daily functioning, and more," she explained. "The goal of self-care is to build consistent habits that work to boost our mental health before long-term, negative effects build."

With life in the Defence community often defined by deployments, irregular schedules, separation, or stress, Hidalgo's tools were both informative and actionable. Whether you're in uniform, supporting a loved one, or behind the scenes, here are some tips for mental wellbeing:

- Commit to caring for yourself. Prioritize selfcare like any other obligation. Plan ahead, forgive yourself, and understand you can't pour from an empty cup.
- Practice healthy thinking. Stay curious about your thoughts, create space from negative selftalk when needed, and recognize unhealthy thoughts as they arise.
- 3. Focus on what you can control. Redirect energy away from worry and try shifting towards positive actions you can engage in instead.
- Move your body and nurture your health. Adequate sleep, whole food, daily movement, and sunlight are foundational to a healthy mind. Give yourself care.
- Journal and practice gratitude. These actions help the brain process difficult emotions and create perspective or distance after a tough moment.
- Limit media intake. Don't be afraid to step back and protect your mental space by consuming news and social media in moderation, or not at all
- Stay socially connected. Support is strength, and asking for help is self-care. Resist withdrawing from loved ones, friends, and community members in times of difficulty.

Every Defence community member deserves to feel mentally seen, supported, and strong. For resources or support, visit helpstartshere.gov.bc.ca.







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Team Spirit Soars at CFB Esquimalt

Tritons and PFC Tridents Jersey Swap

Matt Carlson

Base Public Affairs

Kinship between the CFB Esquimalt Tritons and Pacific Football Club (PFC) Tridents soccer teams strengthened on May 8 as both teams swapped jerseys in anticipation of the May 10 CAF Appreciation game at Langford's Starlight Stadium. After observing a high-energy training session at the Tridents' Goudy Field training facility, the two teams came together to present each other with team jerseys, one of which was specially customized with a "CFB Esquimalt" fabric print.

The session fostered not only mutual respect, but authentic camaraderie between the Canadian Armed Forces members and the Canadian Premier League athletes.

Tritons' player-representative Captain Hannah Snetsinger and PFC team captain Josh Heard both participated in the event, with Heard sharing that seeing how hard the Tritons worked was incredibly inspiring. Snetsinger played a key role in organizing the event and agreed on the importance of the connection between teams. "They're learning about what we do, and we get to learn about what they do," said Snetsinger. "That's really valuable for us."







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23-004	Earphones, Black1	24-061	Knife1	24-120	Liquid Chalk1
23-005	Mask, Gas1	24-062	Syrim Bundle1	24-121	Weight Wraps1
23-006	Cutters, Bolt1	24-063	Gaming System1	24-122	Weight Wraps1
23-007	Bike, Men's1	24-064	Gaming System Gun1	24-123	SD Card1
23-008	Bike, Men's1	24-065	Backpack1	24-124	Backpack1
23-009	Bike, Men's1	24-066	Jacket1	24-125	Cellular Phone1
24-001	Knife1	24-067	Leggings1	24-126	Credit/Debit Card1
24-002	Multitool1	24-068	Pants1	24-127	Earbud1
24-003	Lighter1	24-069	Hoodie1	24-128	Cellphone1
24-004	Can, Aerosol1	24-070	Fleece Top1	24-129	E-Goggle1
24-005	Can, Aerosol1	24-071	Purse1	24-130	Duct Tape1
24-006	Plant Grinder1	24-072	Pants, Track1	24-131	Rachet Wrench1
24-007	Rolling Papers1	24-073	Jacket, Track1	24-132	Tablet1
24-008	Case, Plastic1	24-074	T-shirt, Cropped1	24-133	Knife1
24-009	Knife1	24-075	Ring, Gold1	24-134	Call Box1
24-011	Cable, Black1	24-076	Pants1	24-135	Beard/Hair Trimmer1
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24-022	Magnifying Glass1	24-081	Bicycle, Men's1	24-140	Purse1
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24-036	Knife1	24-095	Bike Lock1	24-156	Rifle Mount1
24-037	Box of Painter Supplies1	24-096	Bike Lock1	24-157	Camera1
24-038	Steering Wheel Airbag1	24-097	Bike Lock1	24-158	Veh Winch1
24-039	Sweater, Hooded1	24-098	Bike Lock1	24-159	Screwdriver Bits1
24-040	Shorts / Running Shoes1	24-099	Gym Bag1	24-160	Blueray Player1
24-041	Nails for Nailgun1	24-100	Shoes1	24-161	Crowbar1
24-042	Knife1	24-101	Headphones1	24-162	Wire Cutter1
24-043	Knife, Plastic9	24-102	Flannel Top1	24-163	Bicycle Pump1
24-044	Gloves1	24-103	Power Bank1	24-164	Items, Assorted (scissors,
24-045	Pliers1	24-104	Receiver1		rope, headlamps, etc)1
24-046	Sharpie Marker1	24-105	E-Device Wire1	24-165	Duffle Bag1
24-047	Flashlight1	24-106	Purse1	24-166	Boat Hook1
24-048	USB Cords2	24-107	Laptop Computer1	24-167	Padlock1
24-049	Designer Bag1	24-108	Ring, Men's1	24-168	Screwdriver1
24-050	Hand Bag1	24-109	Trail Camera1	24-169	Trailer Hitch1
24-051	Sunglasses, Various5	24-110	SD Card1	24-170	Utility Blade1
24-052	Flashlight/Utility Tool1	24-111	Wallet with Contents1	24-171	Knives4
24-053	Bicycle Screwdriver1	24-112	Ring, Woman's1	24-172	Steel Snake Cord1
24-054	GPS1	24-113	Earbuds1	24-173	Backpack and Contents1
24-055	Charger/Speaker1	24-114	Keys1	24-175	E-Scooter1
24-056	Glasses, Kit1	24-115	Wallet1	24-176	Ballcap1
24-057	Emergency Kit1	24-116	Barbell Strap1	24-177	Helmet1
24-058	Plastic from Vehicle1	24-117	Body Spray1		
24-059	Multitool Case1	24-118	Stapler1		

Claimants can contact Stephen Galipeau at Base Logistics, CFB Esquimalt Monday to Friday during the hours of 0800-1200 and 1300-1530, with a detailed description of the object to claim.

Stephen.Galipeau3@forces.gc.ca Tel: 250-363-5204 / CSN: 333-5204

or https://collaboration-navy.forces.mil.ca/sites/blog/web/SitePages/Disposal-Warehouses.aspx

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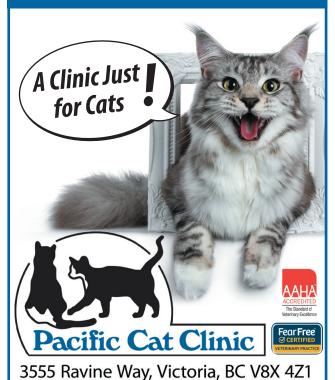
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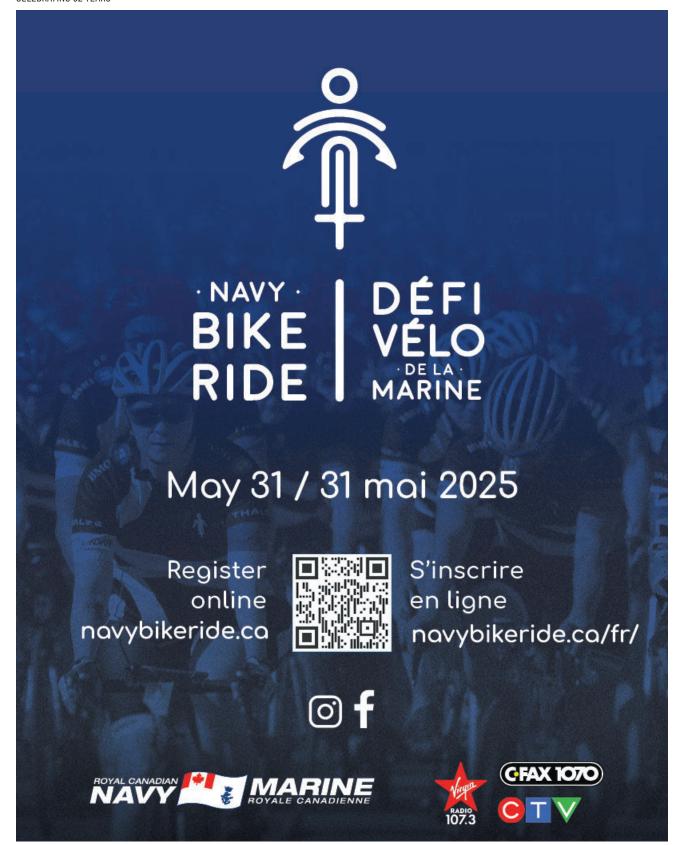


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2 BED 1 BATH APARTMENTS – Available now – \$2200/month, 2 apartments available in 4-plex on second floor. 700+ sq ft. with storage, shared coin laundry, includes gas, heat, water, parking, no smoking, no dogs, no aquariums, cat negotiable. Walking distance to CFB Esquimalt, on base route. Call Donna – 250-812-6753.

1 BEDROOM SUITE IN ESQUIMALT – \$1700 + utilities (Hydro and Internet), Full kitchen, dw, in-suite laundry. Close to Esquimalt town square and high rock park. Contact Peter at 250-580-6252 or email Petevanb@gmail.com

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ft.², east-facing patio. Any interest can be directed to whitlo.forde@gmail.com

1 BEDROOM GROUND LEVEL SUITE Fully renovated 1 year ago. Great layout. Private entrance, nice kitchen with stone countertops, tons of storage, no dishwasher. Small bathroom with stand up shower. Bedroom with ceiling fan, large closet. In-suite laundry, large windows, outdoor space/patio area with covered awning, quiet neighbourhood. Off-street parking. Ideal for a single person or couple. No pets unfortunately. No smoking in suite or on property. Available May 15th. Asking 1700 per month. Utilities not included. Application available and other questions answered upon request. Contact Jeremy at

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THE WITS PROGRAMS FOUNDATION

Is looking for a volunteer who is fluent in French with a background in elementary education to edit and review French translations of materials. Please contact us at info@witsprogram.ca for more information!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND THE RESTORE

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