



19 Jan 24

## CO REPORT - CNMT SAGM'24

Hi Everyone,

HMCS Sackville returned to HMCS Dockyard on 1 Dec 23. It was the longest stay downtown for the ship. We do hope to continue this trend in 2024. Our planned return to downtown is 1 May 24.

The following discussion points are offered:

- a. Ship's Crew. We have a slight change in crew. CPO2 (Ret'd) Austin Collett is the new Chief of the Ship and CPO2 (Ret'd) RJ McDonald is the Assistant Chief of the Ship. Both are totally engaged with the maintenance and upkeep of HMCS Sackville. We continue to be blessed with a wonderful crew. Their commitment and amazing dedication to Sackville is incredible. Our ship would not be in the condition it is without their untiring work.
- b. Committal of Ashes. We continue to provide this service twice a year. Many thanks to KHM for their unwavering support. Committal of Ashes service in Sep were interrupted by a Tropical Storm but we managed to get everything in order for Fri 22 Sep 23. We are now commencing the planning for BoA and Committal of Ashes services on Sunday 5 May 24.
- c. Ship's Maintenance. This is our main focus for the next 4 months. We are delighted to see FMF show an increased interest and engagement in the process this year. As you can imagine there are many challenges but we continue to work closely with FMF to progress the needed work
- d. NAC Support. Each year the ship receives wonderful financial support from NAC. We have successfully completed all NAC funded projects except the fabrication and installation of Splinter Mats. I refer you to c. above. The crew is tracking but there are material issues that need to be overcome. Our hope is to have this work completed for the start of this year's summer tourist season.
- e. Mess Manager. We are in the process of bringing on a new Mess Manager. Duties will be to address the Mess and Bar functions. Weepers will start again on Thurs 25 Jan 24. We plan to keep Thursday as our day and hold weepers every two weeks. The new Mess Manager will have the authorization to organize selected events during the year.



These events will be planned in consultation with the COTS/ACOTS to ensure we have the requisite personnel to support.

- f. Ship Inspection. Our personnel supported the Strategic Plan Goal – Preservation – prior to Christmas. Mr. Joe Lombardi, SME in ship preservation, was onboard for an extensive internal inspection of the ship. Our Ship's EO, Greg Cottingham, and Chief Shipwright, Jeff Morrison, were key players ensuring Joe had the required access to spaces. Our crew was totally engaged in this effort. Joe's initial comments were very favourable but I will leave any further comments to the Preservation Goal lead.
- g. Trustee Guides. Can't say enough about our Trustee Guides. We continue to seek your support in this area. A call for volunteers will be sent out in the spring.
- h. Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ). Our application is in for summer 2024. MP Andy Filmore is our provider and has been very generous with his support. We had 8 students last year and hope to achieve the same for 2024.
- i. Ham Radio. We are up and running. The system is shut down over winter but will re-open in the spring. Great work by Dan Matte, our lead, and the Ham Radio Club of Halifax.
- j. Grand Pre - Sail. Big event coming to Halifax 1 – 2 Jun 24. Grand Pre - Sail will be in town. Very impressive event that will bring people to the waterfront. We are working out details on the event to ensure the ship is open. MTF!
- k. Coxswain. Our Coxswain, CPO2 Conrad Johnson, will be promoted, in Feb, to CPO1. Awesome news! Johno is posted within Halifax but the Fleet Chief is looking for a replacement. Good news for us. Congratulations Johno – well deserved!

Have a wonderful winter! Stay safe and warm! The Crew!

Continue to Serve!

// OSB //

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