



President Annual Report 2020-2021

President: Karen L. Duval

PORTFOLIO OBJECTIVES 2020-2021

- Welcome email/meeting to all the members;
- Maintaining a relationship with HMCS Carleton to secure our use of their facilities for both corps. RCSCC Falkland, NLCC VAdm Kingsmill and the Navy League of Canada Ottawa Branch; engaging with the new the Commander of HMCS Carleton;
- Continuing a relationship with our the Legions;
- Good leadership and direction for the Executive and Members;
- Public Relations: to ensure the Branch and our cadets are seen as significant and positive influences for the community;
- Provide updates from Ontario Division Meetings that I will be attending as a Director-at-Large.

Comments of Achievement Status

It has been a great privilege to work with the Ottawa Board, HMCS Carleton and the Commanding Officers of our two corps and our cadets in 2020/21, so I look forward to our in-person journey in 2021/22 training year.

Summer of 2020; We could not have on-water training for our cadets due to the pandemic. We did celebrate our 125th anniversary with several trips on the Howard down the Rideau Canal to promote the Navy League program with just a few officers aboard.

2020/21 Training year; Has not been easy for us and our cadets, to have gone virtually for the past 16 months. I know the warm-hearted feeling I get when I walk out onto the parade square to see our cadets and have a conversation face-to-face - I miss that. This year was tough, but I know that our two corps had a good intake of cadets for on-line training, RCSCC Falkland was a strong 135 and NLCC VAdm Kingsmill was 54. Training plans for both corps were sent to Ontario Division for approval.

I was re-elected as a Director-at-Large and an Area Representative for Kanata, Kemptville and Lanark for Ontario Division. I had the honor of sitting on the Ontario Awards Committee this year as well. BZ to all of the winners!!

I am pleased with the progress and direction that our division has taken. I know that Ottawa and all of the branches are supported by the Executive of Ontario. I have attended several division meetings as well as CCC meetings. I must say that the positive outcome of these meetings makes me feel that we will continue to have a say and make a difference in the cadet program. The implementation of the changes to the Ontario Governance Model and Bylaws, makes me feel more confident that we are on the right path to success.

Ottawa Branch website:

<https://www.ottawanavyleague.org/>

Ontario Division website:

<https://navyleagueon.ca/>

ACRs 2021; virtual ACRs for RCSCC Falkland and NLCC VAdm Kingsmill were very well done. The Reviewing Officer was Rear-Admiral Casper Donovan. Congratulations to both corps for all of the hard work you put into the on-line ACRs. Bravo Zulu!

Summer of 2021; As the restrictions of COVID-19 continues over the summer, the plan is to use the Howard to promote both Ottawa Branch Corps. Take a walk along the Rideau Canal and you might see the HOWARD on the water - give us a wave!

We will continue to be supportive in your activities in the new training year.

Recommendations for 2021-2022 Objectives

- New parent volunteers are always needed to help with both of our corps in any capacity. They are always encouraged to attend the Ottawa Branch virtual meetings to see and hear what we do and to get involved;
- Continue to promote both corps on our website and through our Director of Communications and Director of Community Engagement;
- Keep the Howard on the water until October to promote the Navy League of Canada and to help keep cadets and the public engaged in the program from a distance.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- I want to move forward with planning so that the Corps can resume in-person training in September if approved by our Health experts, DND and the Navy League of Canada. I am hopeful that this will be allowed to happen and define the new normal we will face in the Fall.

SUMMARY

Congratulations on a very successful on-line training year. Amazing job!!

Here are a few highlights over the last year. A great deal of planning has been done and there are a number of initiatives the Council wishes to undertake. Moving forward, the Board and the Executive team will focus on member outreach, as well as encourage cadet intake by promoting the Navy League and educating the public.

We need to celebrate all of our achievements and at the same time recognize the dedicated staff at the corps and at the Branch. We therefore need to actively consider ways to simplify so that we spend our time on what matters, the cadets – connecting with parents and families of our cadets to bringing them back in the Fall.

I would like to thank the Ottawa Branch and the Executive for their energy, support, friendship, enthusiasm and sheer hard work. We are a great TEAM.

A special thank you to Lt (NL) B. Brown and LCdr (N) Robert Lafrance for your dedication and determination to ensure that your cadets had a successful year.

I want to personally thank Ms. Bennett, our Ontario President, for all of her support.

This is my last year as your President and I will ensure that all is in order for my successor.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L Duval

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President
Navy League of Canada, Ottawa Branch