



NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA - LA LIGUE NAVALE DU CANADA
OTTAWA BRANCH - SUCCURSALE OTTAWA
RCSCC FALKLAND NLCC VADM KINGSMILL

NEWS RELEASE

June 28, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Navy League of Canada marks 125th anniversary with launch of Ottawa Branch flagship

OTTAWA – Today, the Ottawa Branch of the Navy League of Canada launched its flagship – MV *Howard* – to commemorate the occasion of the League’s 125th anniversary. The event, which took place at Dow’s Lake in Ottawa, was attended by members of the League’s Ottawa Branch as well as representatives from the League’s National Office.

“Congratulations on the 125th Anniversary of the Navy League of Canada!” said Ottawa Branch President Karen Duval, adding, “As we launch the *Howard* from Dow’s Lake we want to celebrate this milestone by taking a ride on the Rideau Canal.”

“Although our cadets could not be here in person today to mark this historic occasion out of an abundance of caution against COVID-19,” said Ottawa Branch Director of Communications Marc Viau, “I know they are with us in spirit, and I know they share in our pride and excitement at seeing the *Howard* back on the water after so many months of uncertainty.”

Celebrating its 125th anniversary throughout 2020, the Navy League of Canada is a civilian organization that aims to help Canadian youth learn life skills including citizenship, teamwork, and self-discipline. Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, both the Ottawa Branch and the League’s National Office continue to plan additional events to commemorate the League’s milestone year.

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**BACKGROUNDER:
THE NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA – OTTAWA BRANCH**

Established in 1895, the Navy League of Canada is a community-based, volunteer-led organization dedicated to developing the resourcefulness, vitality, and leadership of young Canadians from coast to coast to coast through an appreciation of our great naval traditions. Celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2020, the Navy League is a civilian organization that aims to help Canadian youth learn life skills including citizenship, teamwork, and self-discipline.

The Ottawa Branch, as a member of the Navy League of Canada, is a registered charity and sponsors two of the largest and most diverse Cadet Corps in the country in partnership with the Department of National Defence: Navy League Cadet Corps VICE ADMIRAL KINGSMILL for children between the ages of eight and 12, and Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps FALKLAND for youth between the ages of 12 and 18.

Participating in national, regional, and local heritage and commemorative events, our cadets are instantly recognizable in their regular activities afloat. We provide a reliable, structured, and safe environment at almost no cost to parents. In addition to our own training for boat handling, seamanship, and emergency procedures, we endeavor to represent our cadet presence at civic events. As well, the Ottawa Branch operates a Summer Program of its own to provide on-the-water opportunities for cadets, and we strive to maintain our presence in the community throughout the year.

For more information regarding the Navy League of Canada, our Ottawa Branch, and our two Corps, please visit the following websites:

- Navy League of Canada: <https://navyleague.ca/>
- Navy League of Canada, Ottawa Branch: <https://www.ottawanavyleague.org/>
- RCSCC FALKLAND: <https://www.falkland.org/>
- NLCC VADM KINGSMILL: <https://www.kingsmillcadets.org/>

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