



**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
- NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS-AT-  
LARGE AGM 2023**

Ref:

- A. NL (18) National By-Laws dated 11 April 2014 – para.6.5a
- B. NL (18) National By-Laws dated 11 April 2014 – para. 6.6d
- C. Nomination for Directors at Large Memorandum – January 2023

1. In accordance with Reference A the duly appointed 2023 Nominating Committee sought nominations for election of Directors-at-Large to be voted at the upcoming Annual General Meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. In accordance with the reference nominations and acceptances were required by February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

2. To remain in accordance with the Navy League's Articles of Continuance, the National Board of Directors can consist of no more than (24) Directors. With the Director terms from the 2021 AGM, three Directors – Mrs. Brenda Pinto, Mr. Ron Buck and Mr. John Philips were elected for a two-year term, which will expire at the 2023 AGM; however they remain eligible to serve on the National Board of Directors. During the last term, the National Board of Directors received resignations from Mr. George Forward and Mr. Pete Betcher.

Additionally, I will be completing my maximum term of service and am not eligible to be re-elected.

3. The Nominating Committee used the following criteria for recommending which nominees will be recommended to the Board for election at the AGM:

**RAPPORT DU COMITÉ DES CANDIDATURES  
- MISE EN CANDIDATURE AUX POSTES  
D'ADMINISTRATEUR PAR MANDAT  
SPÉCIAL, AGA 2023**

Réf :

- A. Règlements administratifs LN(18), 11 avril 2014 – paragr. 6.5a
- B. Règlements administratifs LN(18), 11 avril 2014 – paragr. 6.6d
- C. Nomination pour les administrateurs généraux Note de service – janvier 2023

1. Conformément à la référence A, le comité de nomination 2023 dûment nommé a sollicité des candidatures pour l'élection des administrateurs à voter lors de la prochaine assemblée générale annuelle le 15 avril 2023. Conformément à la référence, les nominations et les acceptations étaient requises avant le 14 février 2023.

2. Pour rester en conformité avec les statuts de prorogation de la Ligue navale, le Conseil national d'administration ne peut être composé de plus de (24) administrateurs. Avec les mandats d'administrateur de l'AGA 2021, trois administrateurs - Mme Brenda Pinto, M. Ron Buck et M. John Philips ont été élus pour un mandat de deux ans, qui expirera à l'AGA 2023 ; restent cependant éligibles pour siéger au Conseil d'administration national. Au cours de ce dernier mandat, le Conseil d'administration national a reçu les démissions de M. George Forward et de M. Pete Betcher.

De plus, je terminerai ma durée maximale de service et je ne suis pas éligible pour être réélu.

3. Le Comité des candidatures s'appuiera sur les critères suivants pour



- All current Directors-at-Large who are nominated, remain eligible to serve and indicate a willingness to continue to serve will be recommended to the Board;
- The total number of nominees that will be recommended to the Board will be up to (24) Directors;
- There will be (6) positions becoming vacant currently filled by (3) Directors, who remain eligible to serve for another term.

4. The Nominating Committee is currently seeking to fill (3) Director-At-Large positions, for which three nominations have been received.

5. Three (3) qualified nominations were received in favour of:

- Mr. Brett Anderson
- Ms. Jennifer Bennett
- Mr. Luc Cassivi

Respectfully submitted,

*Matt Waterman*

Matt Waterman  
Past National President  
National Nominating Chairman

recommander au conseil les candidats pour l'élection qui aura lieu à l'AGA :

- Tous les administrateurs par mandat spécial actuels qui sont mis en candidature, qui restent éligibles et qui manifestent la volonté de continuer à servir seront recommandés au conseil;
- Le nombre total des candidats recommandés au conseil pourra être d'au plus 24 administrateurs;
- Quatre (6) postes deviennent vacants et ils sont occupés par des (3) administrateurs qui sont éligibles pour un autre mandat.

4. Le comité des candidatures cherche actuellement à pourvoir (3) postes de directeur général, pour lesquels trois candidatures ont été reçues.

5. Trois (3) candidatures qualifiées ont été reçues en faveur de :

- Mr. Brett Anderson
- Ms. Jennifer Bennett
- Mr. Luc Cassivi

Le tout respectueusement soumis,

*Matt Waterman*

Matt Waterman  
Président national sortant  
Président du Comité des candidatures

**BOARD MEMBER STATUS REPORT**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Years on Board</u> <u>Division President</u>	<u>Elected to</u> <u>National Board</u>	<u>Current</u> <u>Term Expiry</u>	<u>Eligible to Serve</u> <u>Until</u>
Richard Edwards	Director - Deputy RC Sea Cadets	1	April 2022	April 2024	April 2028
		-			
Brenda Pinto	National President	7	April 2016	April 2023	April 2025 (Note 1)
		3			
Louise Mercier	Vice President - Maritime Affairs	1	April 2022	April 2024	April 2028
		-			
Matt Waterman	National Past President	6	April 2017	April 2023	April 2023
		3			
Bryn Weadon	National Treasurer	9	April 2014	April 2024	April 2024 (Note 2)
		-			
John Philips	Vice President - NL Cadets	2	April 2021	April 2023	April 2027
		3			
Ron Buck	Director - Governance	1	April 2021	April 2023	April 2027
		-			
Michael Barton	Director - Communications	1	April 2022	April 2024	April 2028
		-			
Dominic Richard	Director - Deputy NL Cadets	1	April 2022	April 2024	April 2028
		-			
Julie Hillsden	Vice President - RC Sea Cadets	1	April 2022	April 2024	April 2028
		3			

**Note:**

(1) Para 6.6 (h) - If a Director is appointed to the office of National President in his/her fourth (4th) term as a Director, such Director shall be eligible for re-election to a fifth (5th) term in order to complete his/her two (2) year term as Immediate National Past President.

(2) As approved at the National Board Meeting on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, a 5<sup>th</sup> Term as a Director-At-Large was approved for Mr. Bryn Weadon for the position of National Treasurer.



## NOMINATIONS AND ACCEPTANCES:

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Current Appointment</u>	<u>Acceptance</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Nominator</u>
Mr. Brett Anderson	Past President – VI Division	Yes	Vancouver Island	Mr. Earle Corn
Ms. Jennifer Bennett	Vice President – Division Presidents' Representative	Yes	Ontario	Mme Louise Mercier
Mrs. Brenda Pinto	National President	Yes	Newfoundland and Labrador	Not required
Mr. Ron Buck	National Director – Governance and CAF Liaison	Yes	Ontario	Not required
Mr. Luc Cassivi	Member – Ottawa Branch	Yes	Ontario	Mr. Ron Buck
Mr. John Philips	Vice President – NL Cadets	Yes	NS Mainland	Not required



### Mr. Brett Anderson

Brett Anderson was born in Toronto, Ontario and after moving to London, Ontario, continued a voyage west in 1974 with his family and landed on Vancouver Island. While prior to his son joining the Sea Cadet program, Brett had no experience with "Cadets". He is however, by no means unfamiliar with maritime ways as he is the son of a British Merchant Mariner who's father spent many years as Chief Engineer on both the Canadian Coast Guard – western based weather ships CCGS Quadra and Vancouver stationed out of the graving docks adjacent to CFB Esquimalt.

Brett's introduction to the cadets was through his son Josh, who joined RCSCC Admiral Budge in Sidney, BC in 2009. Shortly after his son joining Brett found himself rolling up his sleeves as a "Cadet Parent" that eventually landed him on the Saanich Peninsula's Branch Executive. As is familiar to many, through default Brett was soon appointed as interim Branch President and the following year – Branch President, a position he held through 2016 when a jump to Vancouver Island Division was made as Division President where he served from 2016 through 2019.

Professionally Brett Has over 30 years' experience holding various Management and Sr. Management positions and has played key roles in the development of private sector omni-channel customer service call centers servicing a wide range of private sector and government agencies. As Vice President of Operations, he has been charged with the delivery of best in class results through strong analytics, creation of effective growth strategies leveraging industry leading technologies while ensuring alignment with client directives & expectations.

Additional responsibilities have included oversight of corporate compliance and audit processes both internally and in cooperation with clients. Extensive knowledge in policy development, process creation, change management and project management. Has held the position of Corporate Ombudsman, responsible for management of corporate complaint management ensuring organization is operating within both provincial and federal regulatory requirements as well as PIPEDA and FOIPPA regulations.

Brett currently lives in Saanichton, BC with his wife of 29 years Rochelle who also stepped into "Cadets" at same time as Brett and who is herself, is very capable committed and passionate towards The Navy League and is the current Branch President of the Saanich Peninsula Branch.



### Ms. Jennifer Bennett, CMM, CD



Jennifer Bennett successfully pursued two concurrent careers, one with the Canadian Armed Forces as a member of Canada's Reserve Force and the other as a teacher and school administrator. She retired from the Canadian Armed Forces in December 2019 after serving for more than 44 years, rising through the ranks to assume key institutional leadership positions and was a trailblazer who became Canada's first female Rear-Admiral, leading and influencing significant change across the institution.

A native of Hamilton, Ontario, she enrolled in the Naval Reserve in 1975 in HMCS STAR and served full and part-time in a variety of training, staff, leadership, and command positions across Canada while also working as a teacher and school administrator in elementary and secondary schools in Ontario and British Columbia.

Jennifer Bennett holds a Bachelor of Physical Education from McMaster University, a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University, a Master of Arts in Leadership and Training from Royal Roads University Victoria, an Honourary Doctorate from University of Alberta (Doctor of Laws) and an Honourary Doctorate from McMaster University (Doctor of Science). She is also a graduate of the Canadian Forces Staff School, Canadian Forces Staff College, NATO School, and NATO Defence College.

She gained experience with the cadet programs and Navy League of Canada through various positions in the CAF working as a Liaison Officer while commanding HMCS MALAHAT in Victoria, BC and visiting many Cadet Corps and Cadet Summer Training Centres, Junior Canadian Ranger Patrols, Competitions, and Annual Cadet Reviews as the Director of Reserves (2000 – 2003), Commander Naval Reserve (2007 – 2011), and Chief of Reserves and Cadets (2011- 2015).

Promoted to Rear-Admiral in April 2011, she was appointed as Canada's Chief of Reserves and Cadets and was responsible for the oversight and delivery of the two DND sponsored youth programs, Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers as well as implementation of Canadian Armed Forces policies, procedures and programs for Reservists and oversight and implementation of the national employer support programs and engagement with a national Board of civilian volunteers. During this time, she worked directly with the three National Leagues to partner in the delivery and support of the Cadet Programs and was also engaged with Maritime Affairs through the Navy League of Canada.

In addition to primary military appointments, Jennifer Bennett was also engaged as an advisor and Champion in Employment Equity; Gender, Diversity and Inclusion programs and served as the National Capital Region Champion for Visible Minorities 2011 through 2013 and the National Champion for Women in Defence 2013 through 2018.



Since May 2020, Jennifer Bennett has served as the President for Ontario Division of the Navy League of Canada and a member of the Navy League Foundation and National Board of the Navy League of Canada. Subsequently in April 2021 she also was elected as the National Vice President, Division Presidents Representative of the Navy League of Canada.

Jennifer Bennett has been recognized for outstanding leadership, change management and exemplary service in the military and civilian communities. In 2011, she was named as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women as a Public Sector Leader and in 2013 she was promoted from Officer in the Order of Military Merit (OMM) which she received in 2005 to Commander (CMM). She has received the Canadian Forces Decoration with three clasps, the Canada 125 medal, Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals, Departmental Awards of Excellence from the Department of National Defence and Department of Justice, and a Chief of the Defence Staff Commendation.



### **Mr. Ron Buck, CMM, CD**

Ron was born and raised in Montreal and joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1967. He graduated from McGill University in 1971 and was commissioned as a Sub-lieutenant in the Navy. He served his formative years from 1971 to 1975 in many HMC Ships. From 1979 to 1981 he served on exchange with the Royal Navy where he trained and assessed RN Command teams as the Cooke Trainer Training Officer. He was appointed Executive Officer (second in command) of HMCS ATHABASKAN in 1983 and on promotion to Commander he was posted to National Defence Headquarters in 1985.

In 1987 Ron was appointed as Commanding Officer of HMCS RESTIGOUCHÉ and in 1989 he was selected as the Project Manager for the Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel Project which he led to successful award of the implementation contract which delivered 12 ships to the Navy. In 1992, he was appointed as Commander Fifth Canadian Destroyer Squadron and during this period he led the operational acceptance of the Canadian Patrol Frigates and updated Tribal Destroyers to fleet operations.

On promotion to Commodore in 1994 Ron was appointed as Commander Canadian Forces Training System and was subsequently appointed as Chief of Staff of the Management Command and Control Reengineering Team (MCCRT) in Ottawa. In 1997 he was appointed as the first Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific and he was promoted to Rear Admiral and appointed as Commander of Maritime Forces Pacific in 1998. He served as MARPAC for three years through June of 2001 during which he was promoted to Vice Admiral.

Shortly after appointment as the Commander of Maritime Command (professional head of the Royal Canadian Navy) in 2001 he led the planning and execution of the naval component of Operation Apollo, the Canadian contribution to the Global War on Terrorism. Ron was appointed as Vice Chief of the Defence Staff and served as VCDS from 2004 to 2006.

He retired on 4 July 2006 after just short of 39 years of service in the Royal Canadian Navy and Canadian Armed Forces but quickly failed retirement. After retirement from 2008 to 2011 he mentored newly promoted Flag and General Officers at the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College.

During his military career, Ron had major Cadet related responsibilities going back to 1994 in Ontario, from 1998 to 2001 in British Columbia and as Vice Chief of Defence staff from 2004 to 2006. Upon retirement, this led him to join the Navy League of Canada which has a mandate for youth development and maritime affairs advocacy. He was elected to the Navy League National Board in 2009 first as Director Strategic Fund Raising and then as National First Vice President in 2010, as National President of in April 2012 and completed a two-year term as the Immediate Past President in 2016.



Ron has served as the Vice-Chair of the Conference of Defence Associations and is active in providing commentary on Canadian defence and security issues. He is a past member of the Defence Advisory Board to the Department of National Defence and is a Governor of Commissionaires Ottawa.

In June 2013, he was elected to the Perley and Rideau Veterans Health Centre (PRVHC) Board of Directors because of his concern for veteran's/seniors' health care issues in the Ottawa community and in 2015 he was elected as Board Chair and served as such until June 2018. He now continues to serve as Past Chair and Director on the Perley Board. He is also an advisor to the NATO Veterans Organization of Canada (NVOC) which has as its mission to speak for modern veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces, in order that they receive the support they deserve from their country.

As can be seen from my CV I have led at all levels of the CAF and I have led the NL as National President. I have been a member of the Navy League since 2007 but as indicated earlier I have been deeply involved in Cadet program since 1994.

In my time as National President and since I led the effort to rewrite the National By Laws in 2014 and I am still called upon from time to time to interpret them, I have acted as a mentor when asked and as an Adjunct Advisor to the Board. As an Adjunct Advisor I was the point person for the NL on the recently approved updated MOU with DND and similarly the Consultative Framework.



## Mr. Luc Cassivi, CMM, CD



### PROFILE

Former Sea Cadet of RCSCC 236 Gaspesien from 1979-1983, achieving the rank of Chief Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class, as well received the Lord Strathcona Medal.

Through the work of his mother, she served as a member of the Navy League of Canada in Quebec Division from 1981 until early 1990s, he gained knowledge of the role of the Navy League of Canada.

Experienced executive with a strong track record of leadership, problem solving, critical thinking, institutional management, innovation, and creating a positive work environment.

Decorated naval officer who has lead many organizations from sea-going units to operational/industrial complexes as well as academic institutions. Skilled in resource, personnel and project management with experience leading and managing complex, multi-year projects in dynamic and complicated regulatory environments. Life-long champion for diversity, has actively broken down barriers for all in the workplace.

Through active leadership, creates professional and positive work environments where people are valued and encouraged to flourish. Developed multiple generations of military and civilian leaders throughout the Canadian Armed Forces and Department of National Defence.

### EXPERIENCE

#### **Director General Culture Change - 10/2021 to 09/2022**

Establish a culture change framework across the Defence Team to enable the actualization of its diversity goals through a genuine commitment towards inclusive policies, processes, and behaviors.

#### **Champion for the Defense Team Pride Advisory Organization - 12/2020 to 09/2022**

Promote equality and fairness for the civilian and military LGBTQ2+ communities. Liaise with functional authorities to improve personnel policies and culture change supporting inclusiveness for the LGBTQ2+ team members.

#### **Canadian Armed Forces Senior Liaison Officer to Veterans Affairs Canada - 08/2020 to 09/2022**

Enhance cooperation and alignment in the area of policy development to ensure cohesion in the continuum of care for Canadian Armed Forces members and Veterans. Act as Senior Advisor to the Deputy Minister of VAC and the Minister of VAC in his role of Assistant Minister of National Defence.



**Defence Team Champion for Gender and Diversity for Operations - 07/2017 to 08/2020**

Promote the advancement of the Women Peace and Security agenda, the Vancouver Principles, Gender Based Analysis, and Inclusiveness from an institutional perspective. Guide the development of policies, studies and curriculum to support these activities and reduce barriers.

**Commander Canadian Defence Academy, Kingston, ON — 05/2017 to 08/2020**

Exercised oversight of 1 collegiate and 3 university campuses in 2 provinces (Ontario and Quebec). Developed strategic direction for professional military education for the profession of arms, including leading the evolution Canadian Military Leadership Doctrine. Managed a \$130M budget, 800 employees and 3000 students.

**Director General Naval Strategic Readiness, Naval HQ, Ottawa, ON — 08/2014 - 04/2017**

Exercised oversight of the sustainment and operations of the Royal Canadian Navy. Coordinated Fleet readiness plans to ensure mission success and adherence to strategic objectives. Prepared Human Resource and training strategy for the arrival of new classes of ships. Managed strategic risk for the Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy. Oversight of \$1B worth of activities, including major contracts, global supply chain management, operational training and personnel professional development. Championed integrated risk management at the strategic level.

**Base Commander, Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, Esquimalt, BC— 07/2013 - 07/2014**

Provided leadership, logistical and engineering support and emergency services to an industrial, operational, and residential complex totaling 1500 buildings. Coordinated activities with 12 other municipalities and 5 First Nations including disposal of land in accordance with treaty obligations and regulatory requirements. Designated Port Authority for Esquimalt Harbour including all aspects of licensing, operations, law enforcement, regulatory compliance and remediation activities. Managed approximately \$6B of assets, \$140M operating budget and 1300 employees.

**Commander of the Submarine Force and Chief of Staff Plans and Operations, JTFP/MARPAC, Esquimalt, BC — 01/2012 - 06/2013**

Managed operational programs and coordinated requirement for all naval and military activities in British Columbia and adjacent waters. Coordinated with Public Safety Canada, Emergency Management BC, RCMP, Transport Canada and others for intelligence fusion and response to maritime threats in the area. Lead a fleet of 4 submarines; coordinated readiness and maintenance plans, operational employment, personnel development and certification requirements. Developed leaders for the future. Managed a \$35M annual program with a team of 110 personnel.



## **Command of ships and submarines, Halifax, NS and Esquimalt BC - 07/2004 - 06/2010**

Commanded 3 submarines, the Submarine Sea Training Group and one frigate during demanding operational programs. Culmination of nearly 18 years of sea-going employment. Delivered mission success while developing future leaders. Delivered maritime diplomacy during multiple foreign visits in support of Canadian objectives. Managed significantly high risk operations in demanding maritime environment.

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge MA— International and National Security for Senior Executive program, 2018

National Defense University, Washington DC - Capstone program, 2016

Naval War College, Newport RI - Naval Command College, 2011

Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh Scotland - Master of Business Administration - 2008

Submarine Command Course, Royal Netherlands Navy - 2004

HMAS Watson, Garden Island, Australia - Submarine Executive Officer Course - 2001

Canadian Forces Naval Operations School, Halifax, NS - Operations Room Officer Course - 1998

Canadian Forces Naval Operations School, Halifax, NS - Fleet Navigation Officer Course - 1993

Canadian Forces Naval Operations School, Halifax, NS - Submarine Officer Course - 1992

HMCS Margaree, on deployment - Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate - 1990

Naval Officer Training Center Venture, Esquimalt, BC - Naval Qualification - 1989

College Militaire Royal de St-Jean, St-Jean, QC - Bachelor of Computer Science with major in Operations Research - 1988

## **HONOURS**

Invested in the Order of Military Merit of Canada at the rank of Officer and subsequently promoted to the rank of Commander of the Order

Awarded the Canadian Decoration

Sea Service Insignia - Gold (highest level for recognition of time at sea)



## Naval Warfare Insigna - Gold

### **SKILLS AND EXPERIENCES**

Board of Directors and Canadian Armed Forces Strategic Committees membership:  
Armed Forces Council (2017 to 2022)

Partnership for Peace Consortium of Defense Academies Senior Advisory Committee  
(2017-2020)

Board of Governors of Royal Military College Kingston (2017-2020)

Board of Governors of College Militaire Royal de St-Jean (2017-2020)

Naval Board (2014-2022)

Naval Strategic Management Board (2014-2017)

Fleet Sustainment Oversight Committee (2014-2017)

Naval Succession Planning Board (2014-2017)

Canadian Forces Pension Advisory Committee (2014-2017)

United Way of Greater Victoria (2013-2014) Chamber of Commerce of Victoria (2013-2014)

Testified at parliamentary committees

Extensive (20+ years) experience in expenditure management in the Federal Government

Extensive (20+ years) experience in public speaking, public relations and strategic communications

Extensive (20+ years) experience in talent management and succession planning

Extensive (20+ years) experience in the administration of Military Justice

Significant (15+ years) experience in the administration/resolution of grievances

Significant international work experience (Australia, United Kingdom, The Netherlands and USA)

Significant experience in military diplomacy in support of Canadian National/International Interests



### **Mrs. Brenda Pinto**

A native of St. John's, Newfoundland, Brenda last retired from the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association after twenty-four years as Administrative Asst. Her work with the Boards/trustees included event planning, organizing meetings, provincial and national conferences, and AGMs for the provincial Trustees, employee payroll, pension, and insurance administration along with overall running of the provincial office.

Brenda joined the Navy League Wrenette Corps, Avalon 24, and later enrolled as a Navy League Officer. She enrolled in HMCS Cabot as a Naval Wren in 1969 and completed her basic training at CFB Cornwallis, and administrative courses at CFB Borden, followed by work with the Department of National Defence HQ, and Base Supply in St. John's.

Her four children all benefited from both the Navy League and Sea Cadet programs. Following her sponsor/branch roles, she was invited to join the Newfoundland and Labrador Division of the Navy League of Canada in 1996.

Brenda was instrumental in securing credits for Sea Cadets towards high school graduation in 1999 for the Newfoundland and Labrador Division, awarding 4 credits towards graduation.

She was Division President during 2005 - 2007. She continues to be an active volunteer with the Newfoundland and Labrador Division, and is a current member of #3 Terra Nova Branch and RCL Branch #56 in St. John's.

Brenda had represented the Division on the National Sea Cadet and Membership Committees. She received meritorious and service awards, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, and was presented the Chief of Defence Staff Citation in April 2015 for her meritorious service with the Navy League of Canada and work with Sea Cadets.

She was elected the Deputy Chair and National Sea Cadet Chair 2015-2017. She co-chaired the National Sea Cadet Advisory Panel 2015-2017. Brenda acted as Honourary Chair for the 2017 and 2018 National Sea Cadet Regatta at Kingston, Ontario, and was a National representative at the 2019 Regatta as 1st VP. Brenda represented the Navy League of Canada at the International Sea Cadet Association Conference (ISCA) at Brisbane, Australia, in 2017. She attended the AGMs for Quebec, Winnipeg, BC Mainland, Nova Scotia, VID, and Newfoundland. She also represented National at Quadra training site in BC in August 2019 for the GT graduation.

In April 2021, Brenda was elected as the National President.

Going forward, Brenda would like to see the NLCC program reach its fullest potential including a recruitment strategy; work with and assist the Divisions Presidents; and, have a transparent open communication relationship with the full NL Board.



When there is time, she enjoys walking, gym time with friends, word searches, reading, and dabbling in paints. Brenda has over 40 years of fulfilling and rewarding volunteer experience. After some prodding her husband joined the NL Division in 2018.



### **Lt(N) Ret'd John Philips, CD**

John Philips started his life-long journey with the Navy League Cadet Program by following his father's footsteps, who was a 'plank owner' of RCSCC AJAX in 1943, by joining the NLCC ACHILLES, Guelph, Ont. in 1960 and subsequently becoming a member of RCSCC AJAX until he joined the navy as a Boatswain. During his naval career, he sailed to various parts of the world in numerous warships which also included two years serving with the United States Navy sailing out of San Diego, California in USN ships. In 1981, due to his outstanding leadership abilities he was awarded a Naval Officers Commission (CFR) and trained as a Maritime Surface / Sub Surface Officer and served as a Weapons Officer in HMCS IROQUOIS and HMCS SAGUENAY.

His last sea posting was Deck Officer in HMCS PROVIDER, Esquimalt, BC. John Philips retired in 1996 after serving three years as the Officer in Charge of the Leadership School in Halifax. Upon his retirement he started a successful business as an operator/owner of a courier and delivery service in Halifax, as well as volunteering with RCSCC Bonaventure, Stewiacke, NS.

In 1998 John Philips transferred from the reserve supplementary list to the Canadian Cadet Movement and it was at this time he realized there was a need in the Cole Harbour community to start a new Sea Cadet Corps. He started RCSCC IROQUOIS in 1999 where he served as the founding Commanding Officer for four years. He continued to volunteer with RCSCC IROQUOIS as a CIC in various roles for a total of 16 years.

In 1999 John Philips accepted a position working full time (Class B) at the Regional Cadet Support Unit (Atlantic), Halifax, NS. As a Staff Officer Sea Training he was involved in all aspects of the Sea Cadet Program which included coordination of the sea cadet training program, overseeing training standards for 75 Sea Cadet Corps in the Atlantic Region, management of international exchanges, sea deployments, regional and national courses as well as the organization, staffing, and training requirements for Cadet Summer Training Centre HMCS ACADIA and HMCS AVALON. He also served three summers as the Standards Officer and two summers as the Sea Operations Officer in HMCS ACADIA.

Upon his retirement after 45+ years of full-time service in uniform in 2015 from the CAF, John Philips, was elected to the Nova Scotia Mainland Division (NSMD) as the Vice President Sea Cadets. He served as the President of the NSMD 2017 – 2020. While serving as NSMD President, John Philips took on the additional role as the National Division Presidents Representative for two years with his term completing as of the AGM 2021. John Philips has continued to be an active member of the Cole Harbour/Eastern Passage Navy League Branch.

Notwithstanding, John Philips's commitment to his naval career and the Navy League Cadet Program, he has always been actively involved with various fraternal and charitable organizations within the community. He has been recognized by receiving numerous accolades for his volunteer involvement over the many years and was



recently awarded the Governor General Sovereign Medal for Volunteers, as well as a Certificate of Achievement from the NS Lt Governor for his volunteer work as a Liaison Officer for International performers for the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo.

John Philips lives with his wife Sheila in Cole Harbour; NS and they have two sons and three grandsons which live in Edmonton and Victoria.

John Philips has been involved in various aspect of the Navy League Cadet Program from an early age. His father, brother and one son were also members of the program. As indicated above, John Philips is committed to the Navy League Cadet Program and will be there for the cadets, volunteers, and sponsors, to come together, not only to bounce back from the pandemic, but to help improve and enhance the Cadets programs when training is forecasted to resume at full strength in September 2021.