



ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL  
**BENEVOLENT FUND**

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-2025







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## COVER IMAGE

HMCS Montréal transits through the North Sea during EX FORMIDABLE SHIELD as part of OP REASSURANCE in the North Sea on 7 May 2025.

Corporal Morgan LeBlanc, Canadian Armed Forces Photo



## OUR PATRON



OFFICIAL CANADIAN PORTRAIT 2024 © ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

PHOTO: MILLIE PILKINGTON

The Royal Canadian Naval Benevolent Fund (RCNBF) has a long and deeply appreciated association with the Royal Family. In 1942, His Majesty King George VI became our Patron when the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) established a fund to support sailors returning from the Battle of the Atlantic. In 1952, the King's patronage passed to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with whom we enjoyed a long and warm relationship. In 2023, the Fund requested that The Queen's patronage be passed to His Majesty King Charles III. His Majesty graciously accepted, and so, the tradition of having the reigning sovereign stand in support of our purpose and in friendship to our cause has stood for 83 years.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



2024–2025 marked a pivotal milestone in our evolution—from securing our new designation as a foundation to launching a strategic framework built for impact. Our successful rebrand positions us for greater national visibility and deeper connection to Canada’s naval family.

As I stepped into the role of Chair, following Tom Riefesel’s dedicated leadership, I was proud to help guide the organization through this period of transition. Foundation status allows us to distribute funds to organizations that run programming for and engage with the naval family. This allows us to pursue both our goal of helping individuals in financial distress as we have always done, and further engage with groups, reaching more clients than ever. Like its predecessor (*Strategy for Renewal 2021-2024*), the *Strategy for Impact 2024-2027* continues to honour our rich legacy by promoting three important initiatives: a strong presence, meaningful programs and financial sustainability. Our new identity is more than a name or visual update—it is a clear signal that we are evolving to remain relevant, responsive, and impactful. It reflects our role as a trusted partner, bridging legacy and innovation to deliver compassionate, targeted support in a rapidly changing world.

I would like to thank our board members for their invaluable time, thoughtful deliberations, and commitment to ensuring our decisions align with long-term impact. The care volunteers demonstrate in meetings, committees, orientation sessions, and the annual retreat reflects an organization that is actively engaged in setting a course that is both ambitious and sustainable. Our staff deserve a nod for keeping us on target and carefully managing through both planned implementation and the inevitability of unexpected events.

Our focused work on brand clarity and program design has laid a strong and confident foundation for the years ahead. We are ready to connect our 80+ year history with a bold, impactful future for Canada’s naval family.

We look forward to building on this momentum going forward.

Warm regards,

**Lauren Copeland**

Chair of the Board of Directors

# GOVERNANCE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Executive Officers

**Chair:** Lauren Copeland

**Vice-Chair:** Heng Chhay Chao

**Treasurer:** Linas Pilypaitis

**Secretary:** Michelaine Lahaie

### Directors

Jill Carleton

Tim O'Leary

Marta Mulkins

Cal Bricker

Louise Mercier

### Champion (Advisory Role)

Mark Norman

## COMMITTEES

Many thanks to our volunteers for the countless hours spent supporting the work of the board of directors and staff, and for their contributions and commitment to the organizational mission itself.

### Finance & Investment Committee

Linas Pilypaitis, Chair

Heng Chhay Chao

Marta Mulkins

### Program Planning and Review Committee (PPRC)

Michelaine Lahaie, Chair

Dave Hudock

Lauren Copeland

Heng Chhay Chao

Stephen Irwin

Al Kennedy

### Nominations Committee

Mark Norman

Lauren Copeland

### Board Retreat February 1-2, 2025

Since 2023, the board of directors has resolved to gather for thoughtful reflection in a retreat format. This dedicated time and space allows the board to engage in strategic thinking, relationship building, and organizational development. The retreat this year was a learning experience for new directors, an opportunity for board training and orientation, and a time for in-depth discussions, planning, and ideation that are not possible within the confines of regular board meetings. The sessions provide an ideal format for getting everyone on the same page.



# STAFF & EXTERNAL TEAM

## **Staff**

### **Executive Director**

Gay Hamilton

### **Administration**

Christine McPherson to July 2024,  
Leona Wall

### **Fundraising**

Robin Duetta

## **External Partners**

To maximize operational efficiency and capacity, we contract a professional network of fractional experts:

### **Communications**

Creative Direct

### **Technology**

Cole Systems

### **Fundraising**

Velocity Collaboration Corporation

### **Bookkeeping**

Bookkeeping Bureau of Ottawa

### **Auditors**

Vaive and Associates

### **Translation**

La Société Ardennes

### **Investment**

Exponent Investment Management  
and BMO Nesbitt Burns



Marine Technicians conduct routine maintenance in HMCS William Hall's main machinery spaces as the ship supports counter-narcotics patrols in the Caribbean Sea during Operation CARIBBE on 13 June 2025.

Photo Credit: Canadian Armed Forces Imagery Technician

# OUR FOUNDATION

## MISSION

Promoting the well-being of the naval community to enrich the lives of sailors, veterans, and their families.

## VISION

Supporting our naval family as our own.

## PRINCIPLES

### ENGAGED

Reach out and engage proactively with all stakeholders.

### INCLUSIVE

Welcome everyone from our broad and diverse community.

### PROGRESSIVE

Foster learning and embrace promising ideas and leading practices.

### AGILE

Be responsive to changing needs and opportunities.



# STRATEGY FOR IMPACT 2024-2027

2024-25 MARKED THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK,  
BUILT ON THE LESSONS OF THE PREVIOUS STRATEGY FOR RENEWAL.

## OUTCOMES

- Open and transparent communications that inspire support and build trust
- A strong presence in social media leading to connections and contributions
- An appealing brand
- A compelling narrative that inspires others to cooperate with and invest in the Fund



## OUTCOMES

- Effective programs demonstrated through monitoring and assessment
- Programs informed by the needs and interests of the naval family
- Programs responsive to changing requirements
- Capacity to respond effectively to unexpected events impacting upon the naval family

## OUTCOMES

- Promising fund generation opportunities/fundraising channels selected for their feasibility and aligned with organizational capacity
- An investment portfolio monitored to prudently exploit market opportunities for growth
- Progressive goals set for fundraising such that, within a defined period:
  - Programming is supported exclusively through fundraising
  - Operations are supported exclusively through investment income
- Fundraising methods and activities that promote donor trust
- Fundraising capacity enhanced by professional development provided for directors, staff and volunteers engaged in soliciting funds

# OUR PROGRAMS

## **Financial Assistance to Individuals**

The goal of this program is to help naval veterans, serving members and their immediate family members facing financial difficulties. Helping individuals in times of need is, in fact, the RCNBF's legacy program. It has been the raison d'être of the organization since the RCN leadership put their heads together to find a way to support sailors returning from WWII.

The RCNBF has helped more than 21,000 individuals since 1942. Today, the RCNBF works through partners such as the Royal Canadian Legion, SISIP, Support Our Troops, Veterans Affairs Canada, and others who manage cases and verify and determine financial need. The RCNBF supplements their financial aid programs to support individuals on a case-by-case basis.

## **Community Support Program (CSP)**

The Community Support Program was created to fund groups aligned with our mission and to reach a greater number of clients. Eligible organizations (qualified donees) may receive grants of up to \$25,000.

The RCNBF Community Support Program is entirely dedicated to services, programs and projects that support the naval community.

## **Grants > \$25,000**

The board of directors considers larger projects on a case-by-case basis and has, in recent years, funded commemorative monuments (naval) and contributed to building projects

## **Navalis Leadership Award**

Established in 2020, the award was created by VAdm (ret'd) Mark Norman, the organization's first champion and advisor, to recognize a serving shipmate of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) whose outstanding efforts and leadership contribute significantly to the broader naval community's overall quality of life and wellbeing.

Today, the award takes on the organization's new brand and will henceforth bear the name Navalis Leadership Award. We work with the RCN to select a sailor whose volunteerism and desire to improve the life and working environment of fellow sailors earns them recognition through the RCN Certificate of Achievement Program (Bravo Zulu).



# IMPACT REPORT

## SOME OF THE WAYS WE PROVIDE POSITIVE CHANGE

### **\$25,000 annual support (5 years) for the Canadian Veterans Service Dog Unit (CVSDU)**

Veterans living with PTSD and service-related injuries face unique challenges, and research continues to highlight the life-changing impact of service dogs on their well-being. Recognizing this, we are proud to strengthen our commitment to supporting naval veterans by funding the Canadian Veterans Service Dog Unit (CVSDU) on an ongoing basis for five years. Each year, we enable the purchase, matching and training of a service dog, and follow-up with a naval veteran suffering from PTSD, injuries, or other conditions.

In 2024, Peter, a 26-year veteran of the RCN, suffering from PTSD as well as mobility issues was selected to receive a service dog. In October 2024, he was paired with 2-month old Roscoe. Roscoe has received 38 weeks of training in various PTSD related skills, and together they are completing foundational obedience and public access training with an introduction to agility training.



ROSCHIE PROVIDES PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE  
AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR PETER ON LEFT.

*“Roscoe brought me a sense of peace, hope and something to look forward to again. He has become a big part of me, I can hardly wait for the times in between the training sessions [when he has to be away]. The continued communication with the CTFFR team that supports me helps a lot. I can’t believe how much he [Roscoe] knows already. I also am happy that he remembers me every time I see him, but he goes berserk (I know not allowed, haha!) but it makes my heart full.”*

PETER, RCN VETERAN



V/ADM ANGUS TOPSHEE (RIGHT), CRCN IS SHOWN AROUND THE SIMULATOR PROJECT BY SLT DON FIGOL, TRAINER.

## **\$25,000 project support for #22 Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps (RCSCC) UNDAUNTED for the Boatswain Mate Training Program (BMTP)**

The BMTP program provides land-based training for future mariners. The central feature of the program is a commercial grade ship simulator which teaches ship handling utilizing RCN procedures to the cadets.

SLt Don Figol volunteers his time and welcomes 20 Cadets for three-hour training sessions each Saturday morning. The BMTP uses technology to reach Cadets, teach them teamwork, promote leadership and confidence, provide mechanisms for handling stress and, most importantly, developing confidence in what they can do.

Ultimately the program encourages cadets to consider maritime related careers at sea, in the Navy or in industry.

We allocated funds to upgrade the existing simulator and increase the number of external screens to serve more cadets and incorporate an instructor console.

The experience of one of the cadets confirms how the navigation and bridge simulator has filled a big gap in Sea Cadet training.

In the winter of 2024, a special weeklong cadet voyage was organized aboard an Orca Class training vessel. One fortunate cadet from #22 Undaunted, with extensive training on the simulator, was chosen to sail on this voyage.

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*“Upon returning from training on the ORCA vessel, one cadet reported the skills she learned on the simulator (helming the ship, acting as a lookout, identifying and reporting radar contacts, etc.) allowed her to immediately be effective on the Orca”*

SLT DON FIGOL, TRAINER



## \$25,000 support for the Legion Veterans Village Research Foundation

Support for naval veterans to participate in the Anchor Project

This program aims to expand access to cutting-edge therapies for PTSD and chronic pain at the Centre of Clinical Excellence at Legion Veterans Village in Surrey, BC. Research will determine whether rTMS treatment protocol can meaningfully reduce PTSD symptoms such as flashbacks and anxiety, while also alleviating chronic pain. Monitoring includes changes in depression, anxiety, and cognitive function. The program encompasses five consecutive days with multiple rTMS treatments each day followed by a check-in after six to 12 weeks for 30 veterans suffering from PTSD & chronic pain. The program is led by psychiatrist Dr. Venu Karapareddy, whose expertise includes working with veterans and first responders, focusing on conditions such as PTSD and chronic pain. RCNBF funding is dedicated to the treatment for five (5) naval veterans participating as part of the sample for 2024-25.



*“The impact of this research reaches beyond the veterans involved in the study. By helping to fund this project, you contribute to building a research-backed treatment model. This evidence will strengthen the case for making innovative therapies more accessible to the wider veteran and first responder community who need it most.”*

DEBBIE GREENE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
VETERANS VILLAGE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

## \$18,000 for Legacy Place House / Legacy Place Society

Sponsorship of a “Navy” room for a veteran in each of the Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary locations

Legacy Place Society offers safe places, real conversations, and the support that keeps people going—one night, one breath, one moment at a time

A civic worker regularly checked on vulnerable people in back alleys and train stations — always showing up, but behind the scenes, he was struggling. He was stressed, could not sleep and didn’t feel like himself anymore. It became too much to carry alone and he needed a break. He left and spent several nights in his truck. Then he made a call—to Legacy Place Society.

He rested. He finally slept. He talked. He found someone who listened. The RCNBF wants to support these simple acts of caring.

The RCNBF established a “navy” presence in each of Legacy Place Society’s three locations to help the organization respond to veterans in need with care, efficiency, and dignity.



LEGACY PLACE SOCIETY  
RECOGNITION OF RCNBF  
SUPPORT.

*“We’ve just received our RCNBF recognition plaques, and I truly believe they beautifully represent your organization’s impact and generosity. We’re proud to display them as a meaningful reminder of your commitment to supporting the well-being of our Navy members and their families.”*



BRENT LALE / CTV NEWS LONDON

UNVEILING OF THE NATIONAL MONUMENT OF THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC IN LONDON (ONTARIO), MAY 4, 2025.

## **\$10,000 for the Battle of the Atlantic National Monument to create the Wall of Honour**

Under our new brand Naval Foundation, we donated funds to create the Wall of Honour at the monument site in London Ontario. The naming plaques memorialize those sailors who gave everything during the Battle of the Atlantic and have no gravestone to visit. The Wall of Honour is located at HMCS PREVOST where the names of all 2,000 members of the Royal Canadian Navy and 750 Airmen of the Eastern Command, lost in the battle, are etched on metal panels standing over six feet tall and surrounded by beautiful landscaping. In addition, the project recognizes and honours the contributions made by the Merchant Navy and the 1600 members who lost their lives at sea.

*“The monument represents a space like no other in Canada, at once honouring, remembering, and educating Canadians.”* JEFF TOPPING, BOA MONUMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

## **\$10,000 for the Halifax & Region Military Family Resource Centre (HRMFRC)**

### **Support for the Community Pantry**

The pantry continues as a self-sustaining military family community initiative and sees daily usage. The RCNBF provided seed money to set up a facility where families access non-perishable food items to supplement their monthly grocery requirements. The RCNBF grant is supplemented by donations from local families, the CAF units, and community donors. The H&R MFRC also offers a monthly meal kit complete with all the ingredients to create a healthy meal for each family.

In 2024, the HRMFRC spent a total of \$15,000 getting the pantry fully stocked and maintaining the inventory. With increased awareness, more donations of non-perishable items from Units and community partners are enabling the organization to make a real difference.



*“We are so thankful for this pantry. Food insecurity is real.”*

COMMUNITY PANTRY USER



# THE 2024-25 NAVALIS LEADERSHIP AWARD

## LIEUTENANT (NAVY) NICHOLAS MILLER, NWO

Lt(N) Nicholas Miller was posted to HMCS Venture in 2023 and assigned to the Training Support Division to help launch the Naval Warfare Officer (NWO) Orientation Program. This program was designed to re-energize NWOs in their chosen occupation, provide opportunities to complete post-NWO IV training (such as Officer of the Day qualification and NWO Professional Qualification requirements), and broaden their experience through Second Language Training, dive courses, and operational employment with Joint Task Force (North) and Regional Joint Operations Cells.

As Trg Spt Div Employment Officer, Lt(N) Miller developed shared databases to track and manage trainee progression through the Orientation Program and employment within the Formation. He worked closely with the Personnel Coordination Centre and the ships' Operations Officers to create numerous opportunities for bridge time, shipboard familiarization, and completion of OOD packages. He also collaborated with NDHQ and the United States Coast Guard to secure placements with the Chilean, Mexican, Brazilian, and U.S. navies, giving junior NWOs invaluable experience while strengthening international partnerships.

This role demanded far more than administration. It required leadership, mentoring, expectation management, and the ability to balance trade progression with individual aspirations to meet the needs of the service.

Through exceptional leadership and an outstanding work ethic, Lt(N) Miller successfully guided and managed over 300 junior NWO officers, making him a deserving recipient of both the Navalis Leadership Award and the Commander RCN Bravo Zulu Award.



LT (N) NICHOLAS MILLER - RECIPIENT OF THE 2024-25 NAVALIS LEADERSHIP AWARD.

LT (N) MILLER CHOSE THE FOLLOWING CHARITIES TO BENEFIT FROM THE \$5000 AWARD:

SOLDIER ON - \$3000

BOOMERS' LEGACY - \$2000

# OUR VALUED COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT



## The Navy Bike Ride

Every year the Royal Canadian Navy holds the Navy Bike Ride, with events spotlighted in Halifax, Quebec City, Ottawa and Esquimalt over a three-week period in May and June. The event encourages physical activity and raises funds for Support Our Troops and Soldier On as well as the RCNBF.

*The Navy Bike ride raised \$34,890 and the RCNBF received \$13,956.*

## Deep Blue Forum

We are always so grateful to receive a donation during the annual Deep Blue Forum gathering in Ottawa. *Contribution in 2024: \$650*



## Ship Tech 2025

We're thankful for the donation received at the ShipTech conference this year.

*Contribution in 2025: \$650*







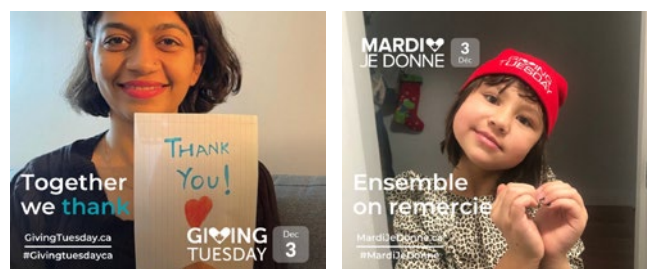
## The Landshark Group

The RCNBF benefits from the generous support of the Landshark Group. “Our truck,” as we like to call it, is branded with the RCNBF logo, and the company donates the proceeds from the truck’s work on Remembrance Day. *Over the past year, Landshark donated \$23,000.*

## Giving Tuesday

GivingTuesday is a worldwide movement that reimagines a world built upon shared humanity and generosity. Whether it’s making someone smile, helping out a neighbor or stranger, showing up for an issue or people we care about, or giving some of what we have to those who need our help, every act of generosity counts, and everyone has something to give.

Generosity is uplifting, generative, equalizing, and connecting. Each and every act of generosity is a worthy act in and of itself. Giving Tuesday unleashes generosity to drive generosity!



We participated in Giving Tuesday for the third time. This year we were fortunate to have a ‘matching partner’ in Pilypaitis Wealth Management Group, BMO Nesbitt Burns. As a result we tripled donations from the previous year. *\$14,000 in donations were received.*

**GIVING TUESDAY**  
Co-founded by CanadaHelps



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At our core, are our inestimable board members who work tirelessly to guide the organization and ensure its sustainability. However, those who served on the board in the past, former and serving members of the RCN, and their families, folks who know us through the defence industry, and even those who received support from the fund, come out to uphold our banner during events, raise funds, and spread the word about the work we do. We gain many new supporters every year, and we want them to know how much we appreciate their efforts. *Bravo Zulu.*

## Homes for Heroes – Kingston Veterans’ Village, Grand Opening

The RCNBF proudly attended the Grand Opening of the Homes for Heroes Kingston Veterans’ Village in June 2024. We sponsored one of the tiny home units in 2023-24, and named it “The Midshipmen’s House”.

The village provides supportive housing and services to help homeless veterans reintegrate

into the community according to the Homes For Heroes Foundation. Designed to be a community hub, offering a safe and supportive environment for veterans to address the issues that led to their homelessness and prepare for independent living, it is already making a positive impact on the lives of veterans.



TOM RIEFESEL, FORMER RCNB CHAIR, ACCEPTING A RECOGNITION PLAQUE FROM H4H HONORARY PATRON, SHARON JOHNSTON.



PHOTO: MICHELLE DOREY FORESTELL

A PIPE BAND HERALDED THE OPENING OF THE KINGSTON VETERANS' VILLAGE.



## Ottawa Senators CAF Appreciation Day

PCL Construction graciously donated the use of their corporate box for RCNBF to host a networking event. The event, supported by the Ottawa Senators, Canadian Tire and other partners, honored members of the Canadian Armed Forces and their families. The RCNBF invited several friends and funders as a thank you for their ongoing support. *One of our regular sponsors, The Landshark Group, surprised us with a cheque presentation.*





# REMEMBRANCE



## Remembrance Day

Our volunteers never fail to attend important days of remembrance to honour the sailors who gave so much for Canada.

Lauren Copeland, Chair, did the honours at the National Cenotaph in Ottawa.

Our long-time volunteers, Lt (Ret'd) Russ Ingram and MWO (Ret'd) Paul O'Boyle laid wreaths at the monument at Sullivan's Pond in Dartmouth, NS on Remembrance Day and at the Sailors' Memorial in Point Pleasant Park in Halifax.





# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (SUMMARY)

## Royal Canadian Naval Benevolent Fund

### Statement of Operations

For the Year ended March 31,

	2025	2024
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations	\$ 76,165	\$ 39,822
Investment income	307,287	189,232
Unrealized gain on investments	162,708	350,765
	<b>546,160</b>	<b>579,819</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Advertising and promotion	19,949	2,934
Amortization	1,160	1,620
Grants and bursaries (note 3)	129,665	173,488
Insurance	1,361	3,204
Interest and bank charges	4,299	2,831
Investment management fees	15,188	14,926
Office and administration	21,150	26,445
Professional fees	26,513	26,652
Salaries and related benefits	202,593	204,714
Subcontract	61,598	63,854
Telephone and utilities	2,119	1,751
Travel, accomodation and hospitality	8,278	5,218
	<b>493,873</b>	<b>527,637</b>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses before other item</b>	<b>52,287</b>	<b>52,182</b>
<b>Other expense</b>		
Loss on foreign exchange	-	4,107
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 52,287</b>	<b>\$ 48,075</b>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (SUMMARY)

## Statement of Financial Position

For the Year ended March 31,

2025

2024

### Assets

#### Current

Cash	\$ 176,397	\$ 127,282
Short-term investments (note 4)	607,939	741,125
Accounts receivable (note 5)	12,995	5,546
Prepaid expenses	7,035	5,405

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	804,366	879,358
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Investments (note 4)

	3,501,610	3,274,220
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Property, plant and equipment (note 6)

	1,052	810
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\$ 4,307,028	\$ 4,154,388
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### Liability

#### Current

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 7)	\$ 97,500	\$ 10,169
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### Fund balances

Unrestricted	4,079,158	4,026,871
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The Marcelle Fontaine Hurst and

Douglas Charles Hurst Educational Fund

	130,370	117,348
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	4,209,528	4,144,219
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\$ 4,307,028	\$ 4,154,388
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Approved by the Board:



Chair



Treasurer

**NOTE:** Excerpt from the Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2025, audited by Vaive and Associates Professional Corporation, and approved by the RCNBF board of directors on July 8, 2025. The full set of Financial Statements is available at [rcnbf.ca](http://rcnbf.ca).

# MOVING FORWARD...

In the coming year, we continue to move ahead with the *Strategy for Impact*, prioritizing impactful programming, fulsome communications and marketing, and a strong fundraising component that encompasses sophisticated methodology and corporate giving.

Programs were thoroughly reviewed, researched, and amended in the last strategic plan. Navalis now seeks to strengthen its resilience and capacity for lasting impact by expanding its cadre of supporters and keeping pace with modern trends in nonprofit management. It plans to explore an educational program that incorporates a high-end campaign and robust marketing to tap new funding markets, partnerships, and visibility.

The heart of our plan is reaffirming our purpose: to ensure that no one in Canada's naval family is left behind. This means continuing to fund life-changing programs, such as our multi-year commitment to the Canadian Veteran Service Dog Unit, while exploring innovative ways to meet emerging needs—from mental health supports to family assistance and legacy initiatives.

Most notable in 2025-26, is our status and brand repositioning. As of April 1, 2025, the organization will operate as a public foundation. This transition simply enables us to disburse individual financial assistance as we always have

and help larger groups with projects dedicated to our target audiences, enabling us to reach more people.

Central to this transition is our re-branding as the Navalis Foundation, a step that reflects our readiness to lead and inspire greater impact within the naval community.

Our new brand signals to partners, funders, and the public that Navalis is ready to take a leadership role in addressing the evolving challenges of the naval community—whether the cost of living, mental health, recruitment pressures, or supporting families through transition. We are not replacing the work of others, rather we are stepping in where our unique position and history allows us to make the greatest impact.

Looking ahead, the naval community will see us expanding our national voice, enhancing donor stewardship, and launching new initiatives that connect our 80+ year history with a bold, impactful future. We will continue to act with the same steadfast dedication that has defined us since our founding, while embracing the innovation and responsiveness that today's environment demands.



# THE BRAND REIMAGINED

After more than 80 years of unwavering service as the Royal Canadian Naval Benevolent Fund, we are proud to reintroduce ourselves as the Navalís Foundation. Our new name reflects a deeper understanding of the evolving needs of Canada's naval family—and a stronger commitment to meeting those needs. While our visual identity has changed, our mission has not. We remain grounded in our legacy of compassion, responsiveness, and trust. This rebrand is not a departure—it's a *renewal*.

## WHAT DOES NAVALIS MEAN?

It's a name that signals strength, agility, and tradition. It captures the essence of our work: standing ready to support sailors, veterans, and their families in times of need. We have redesigned our visual identity, will redesign our web site and modernize our communications to tell our story more clearly, and to reach more people than ever before.

*Navalis stands ready  
— anchored in legacy,  
powered by purpose, and  
charting a clear course  
to a stronger future for  
Canada's naval family.*



FONDATION  
**NAVALIS**  
FOUNDATION



Promoting the wellbeing  
of the naval community  
to enrich the lives of  
sailors, veterans, and  
their families.

Promouvoir le bien-être  
de la communauté navale  
afin d'enrichir la vie des  
marins, des vétérans  
et de leurs familles.



**WWW.NAVALIS.CA**  
**INFO@NAVALIS.CA**



PHOTOS COURTESY THE RCN | PHOTOS GRACIEUSEMENT DE LA MRC

A lookout stands watch on the bridge of HMCS William Hall as the ship sails in the Atlantic Ocean on Operation CARIBBE on 15 May 2025.

Canadian Armed Forces Imagery Technician



FONDATION  
**NAVALIS**  
FOUNDATION

**NAVALIS FOUNDATION**  
c/o Staples Studio Coworking  
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info@navalis.ca  
[www.navalis.ca](http://www.navalis.ca)

Please follow us on social media, sign up  
for our newsletters and get in touch if you  
have questions or would like to help.

