



# IE Focus

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## Increasingly sustainable bases

For a few years now, Canadian Forces bases have been invited to participate in the *Canadian Forces Sustainable Communities* competition to further foster civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification.

Since 1995, hundreds of cities and towns have participated in this cross-Canada competition through *Communities in Bloom*, an organization dedicated to the promotion of green spaces in urban settings. In light of the growing interest in the military community, in 2006, the directors of the organization responsible for the competition added a category to their list, thereby allowing military bases to take part. As such, in 2012, no fewer than eight bases will compete for the top prize. These bases are: Comox, B.C.; Cold Lake and Suffield, in Alberta; Shilo, Manitoba; Borden, Kingston and Petawawa, in Ontario; and finally Halifax.

"The DGENS provides start-up financial assistance to requesting bases. However, there is no way this amount will cover all expenses related to participation in this great competition. When a base applies for assistance, above all it is because its management staff has decided to improve not only the visual appearance of the base but also how it acts, thinks and anticipates the environmental impacts of its decisions," says Deni Gautron, Section Head, System Tools and Training at DGENS.

"If you read the six evaluation sections used by judges and all the associated councils, you quickly realize that you really have to be up to the challenge and that this is no easy task."

The six evaluation sections are:

- Tidiness
  - Environmental Action
  - Natural and Cultural Heritage Conservation
  - Urban Forestry
  - Landscape (including Floral Displays)
  - Turf and Sports Fields
- \* Community Involvement is included in each of these sections.

The last five years very clearly show that committees must be created in order to achieve tremendous success and maximum participation from base employees and residents. The committees must be able to create synergy such that everyone feels engaged and willing to do whatever it takes to achieve the desired goal: a more sustainable and more ecological base.

"Generally chaired by someone from the Civil Engineering team, the Base committee will usually be comprised of the Public Affairs Officer, a representative from the Housing Agency and from the Personnel Support Program, a heritage officer, a member of the community council and also individuals from associations, businesses and organizations involved in

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horticulture, heritage and the improvement of community living," maintains Mr. Gautron.

"Given the rising number of bases participating in the Canadian Forces Sustainable Communities competition over the years, the success of the initiative is easily measurable," Mr. Gautron proudly affirms. "But even more important are the effects that inevitably go along with their participation. We have all noted a marked increase in civic pride and community involvement on participating bases, as well as increased awareness of the importance of green spaces and, it goes without saying, a clear improvement in living conditions."



With the 10,000 yellow tulip bulbs offered to CFB Halifax in the fall of 2010 by the National Capital Commission local staff proceeded with the development of new floral arrangements on their land.

During the annual awards ceremony, representatives from participating bases also take the opportunity to meet with DGENS personnel in order to enhance the program. Moreover, meetings are organized with the judges who visit their facilities as well as the participating cities and towns. One constant that seems to have emerged in recent years on all bases is that there does not appear to be a comprehensive plan for urban forestry. "This is an area that will require further work in future years," states Stéphane Girardin, Environmental Management Systems Development Officer. "Our bases must find a way to develop short and long-term planning of trees and forests. In fact, to further maximize their chances of winning, they should find a way to further diversify the spaces used, implement adapted planting, develop hardier species and plant more commemorative trees."

"The Canadian Forces Sustainable Communities program is definitely on the right track. The efforts of hundreds of individuals are clearly improving the quality of life for thousands of individuals. Furthermore, the program is starting to gain recognition from organizations outside the DND; proof of this is that the National Capital Commission gave the Halifax base no fewer than 10,000 yellow tulip bulbs in the fall of 2010. The results seen the following spring and those to come in future years are most promising. We hope that this is just the beginning and that shortly, all our bases will be enrolled in this wonderful and very beneficial program," concluded Mr. Gautron.

## Awarding of bars and promotion

Major Yves Nadeau, Manager Business Planning and Financial, received the third bar to his Canadian Forces Decoration from MGen Chris Whitecross, COS(IE) accompanied by ADM(IE) Group Chief Warrant Officer, CWO Marc Lafontaine. The third bar acknowledges his 42 years of honourable service with the CF.



Is she too short or is he too tall?  
The general consensus is that he is definitely too tall!!! As such, Major Trevor Fenton of the Programs Directorate (Air) 3 had to bend over to receive his new rank from MGen Whitecross and LCol Maurice Arsenault, Programs Directorate (Air) 3.

Col Jacques O'Keefe, Director General Military Engineering, received the second bar for his General Campaign Star – South-West Asia from MGen Whitecross who is accompanied by CWO Lafontaine. Col O'Keefe has served more than 390 days in Afghanistan. He was first deployed from August 2007 to May 2008, and then again from July to October 2010.



Lieutenant-Commander Mike Walker from the Director General Nuclear Safety team received a bar for his General Campaign Star – South-West Asia from MGen Whitecross who is accompanied by CWO Lafontaine. LCdr Walker has served more than 210 days in Afghanistan. He was deployed from April to November 2009.

# ABORIGINAL ISSUES UPDATE

## 8th Fire, CBC TV series

The CBC aired last month four programs entitled: 8th Fire, Aboriginal people, Canada & the way forward.

8TH FIRE is a provocative, high-energy journey through Aboriginal country showing you why we need to fix Canada's 500 year-old relationship with Indigenous peoples; a relationship mired in colonialism, conflict and denial.

With its energetic pace and stunning HD landscapes, 8TH FIRE propels you past prejudice, stereotypes and misunderstandings, to encounters with an impressive new generation of Aboriginal Canadians. A British-Columbian entrepreneur, à la Donald Trump, who states that his people "need a kick in the butt in order to stop relying on social assistance"; a hip-hop trio in Winnipeg who have achieved some measure of fame and who escape gang culture; a First Nations winemaker who has us taste his high-end wine; and a Quebec surgeon on a 4000 km trek to inspire Aboriginal youth and create bridges between Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals.

They are the fastest growing population in Canada. Half of their members are under 30 years old. In some Western Canadian cities, Aboriginals will soon form the majority. Close to half still live in reserves in Third World conditions. But they are increasingly standing up and claiming their fair share of the vast mineral and energy resources in their midst. And the Canadian justice system is backing them up.

The series is also a troubling indictment. Reconciliation between the three founding nations of our country, Anglophones, Francophones and Aboriginals, remains one of the most important unfinished projects of Canadian democracy.

Aboriginal Canadians are reclaiming both their culture and their confidence. This four hour HD series is an encounter with fascinating, complex people - as diverse as Canada itself. We meet the emerging leaders, artists, activists and thinkers. We explore the best ideas for change. Above all, 8TH FIRE examines the way forward to a second chance to get the relationship right.

According to the Seven Fires prophecy of the Anishinabe, the current Aboriginal generation is the seventh since Indians were subject to the Act. The 7<sup>th</sup> fire has the power to bring us back to a healthier life.

8<sup>th</sup> Fire is the harbinger of an era when we will all live as respected equals.

To find out more about the series or to view them, please visit:  
<http://www.cbc.ca/doczone/8thfire/index.html>

Source : CBC web site

## A collaborative approach to consultation

DND is custodian of the Jericho Beach property located in Vancouver, BC. It is approximately 21.12 hectares in size and is a high value property in the Kitsilano neighbourhood. Budget 1995 identified the Jericho property as one of the DND/CF sites that would close. Disposal activities on this strategic property are being managed within DGRP.



The complexity of this strategic disposal is heightened due to the many overlapping First Nation land claims.

In 2009, DND learned that PWGSC had a newly identified strategic disposal and DFO has a strategic disposal that has been dormant for a number of years. These properties are also located in Vancouver.

An interdepartmental meeting comprising DND, PWGSC, DFO, AANDC and DOJ in September 2009 determined that a joint approach would be the most effective way to commence First Nation consultation.

Representatives from DND, DFO, PWGSC (the consultation team) lead the consultation with support at each meeting from DOJ. AANDC is kept abreast of discussions and provides advice. This approach was presented to the TBS DG Committee on Real Property and subsequently endorsed by the TBS ADM Steering Committee on Real Property on 18 February 2010.

Three First Nations responded to the invitation to meet (Squamish Nation, Tsleil-Waututh Nation, and Musqueam Indian Band). They are claiming Aboriginal rights, including title, to these properties and assert the sale of these properties would seriously impact their Aboriginal rights. Consultation with the three First Nations commenced in June 2010.

Building on the goodwill that was generated from the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, the consultation team entered into talks, taking a collaborative approach, to explore ways that all parties could meet their objectives. The consultation team met with the First Nations on five occasions between June 2010 and March 2011.

Challenging factors in the current case are that we are dealing with three First Nations, three separate properties and overlapping claims to parts of Vancouver.

On 12 January 2012 a Framework Agreement for Negotiations was signed by all parties. This agreement is to facilitate and guide the negotiation between the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, Canada and Canada Lands Company.

# US military develops solar strategy to 'cover its bases'

By Cheryl Kaften

The U.S. military has found a way to go off-grid for weeks or months, and to produce revenues of as much as US\$100 million annually, by opening land on western military bases to private solar development.

In fact, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) could generate a total of seven gigawatts (GW) of solar energy at four installations in the California desert, according to the findings of a feasibility study released this month by the agency's Office of Installations and Environment. That's as much as the combined production of seven nuclear power plants, or two-thirds of the electricity that the military uses nationwide each year.

The comprehensive 12-month study, requested by the U.S. Congress and conducted by the Fairfax, Virginia-based environmental consultancy, ICF International, determined the "solar compatibility" of seven DoD bases in California's Mojave and Colorado deserts, as well as two command centers in Nevada.



ICF International determined the "solar compatibility" of seven DoD bases in California's Mojave and Colorado deserts. Flickr/sbisson

ICF found tremendous energy potential, despite the fact that fully 96 percent of the DoD property was deemed unsuitable for solar development for a number of reasons, including: Security required for military drills and missions, as well protection of radio frequencies and other communications or surveillance technologies; Topographic issues (such as steep slopes and flash-flood hazards); Biological resource conflicts (for example, protected species); and Cultural constraints (among them, the Native American property rights to the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation).

Taking all of this into consideration, about 25,000 acres in the Mojave Desert are "suitable" for solar development and another 100,000 acres are "likely" or "questionably suitable". None of the property in the Colorado Desert, part of which extends into California, or in Nevada was found to be solar-compatible.

The largest amount of appropriate acreage is located at Edwards Air Force Base (24,327 acres), a site that is familiar to worldwide television audiences as the field where NASA's Space Shuttles land. Property also is available for development at the Fort Irwin U.S. Army installation (18,728 acres), Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake (6,777 acres) and Marine

Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms (553 acres).

The Department of Defense is seeking to develop distributed energy sources on its bases both to reduce its \$4 billion-a-year energy bill and to make DoD less dependent on the commercial electricity grid. On-site energy generation, together with energy storage and smart-microgrid technology, would enable a military base to maintain its critical operations "off-grid" for weeks or months, if the grid is disrupted.

### **Private investors**

The study suggests that only private investors would find it attractive to invest in these projects, because they have access to U.S. federal and state tax-based incentives. The most important federal solar tax incentive - the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) created by Congress in 2005 - is expected to be available through the end of 2016; but it is possible that legislative action in the interim could phase out or eliminate this incentive, which would make private investment less appealing.

The research identified crystalline-silicon photovoltaics with single-axis tracking as the solar technology with the highest projected investment returns, due to its combination of low-cost installation and high electricity output. The other photovoltaic technology packages analyzed also would generate attractive financial returns on many large sites.

Assuming private development and ownership of economically-feasible solar capacity on the four California installations, the federal government could expect to receive more than \$100 million annually, in the form of rental payments, discounted power, in-kind considerations, or some combination thereof. Full development also would help the United States to avoid emissions of millions of tons of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants.

### **Unlikely**

While complete development of all of the identified solar energy potential is unlikely, enabling full solar development on approximately six percent of the identified, economically-feasible lands would generate enough electricity to meet all of the DoD's Energy Policy Act 2005 renewable energy goals. Solar development on less than half of the identified lands would be sufficient to meet all of the DoD's National Defense Authorization Act 2010 renewable energy goals - that is, 25 percent of facility energy produced by renewable energy sources as of 2025.

What's next? In order to expedite the development of solar energy on military bases, DoD must confront and solve two major issues. First, DoD must work with the Department of the Interior to clarify the status of "withdrawn lands" - that is, lands that are not available for public use. Withdrawn lands comprise the majority of the property considered in this study, and resolving their status and potential use in third-party financed projects is critical, if the DoD intends to develop utility-scale solar energy projects.

Second, the lack of transmission capacity is the single largest barrier to large-scale solar development on the four California installations. The DoD and the many other stakeholders affected by this constraint could increase their efforts to encourage transmission owners and planners to expand capacity on existing transmission lines and hasten the necessary transmission build-out.

In related news, most of the installations considered in this study already have one to two megawatts (MW) of solar energy systems in operation, and Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada is host to the largest photovoltaic system sited on a military facility in the United States - a 14.2 MW photovoltaic facility completed in 2007.

Original story was published in PV Magazine in January 2012. Printed with permission.

Story can be found at:

[http://www.pv-magazine.com/news/details/beitrag/us-military-develops-solar-strategy-to-cover-its-bases\\_100005543/](http://www.pv-magazine.com/news/details/beitrag/us-military-develops-solar-strategy-to-cover-its-bases_100005543/)

## Acronyms galore!

I was at a meeting recently where, after a few seconds, I felt totally lost because of all the acronyms being used. I was relieved to see afterwards, that I was not the only one who felt left in the dark.

So, in order to spare you the same situation, here is a list of acronyms that are commonly used these days on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, in NDHQ:

APS - Annual Posting Season	IRM - Integrated Risk Management
AR - Annual Report	ISRB - Infrastructure Senior Review Board
ARV - Annual Readiness Verification (replaces DAG)	ITS - Infrastructure and Technical Services
BCP - Business Continuity Plan	KAF- Kandahar Air Field
BP - Business Plan	MAF- Management Accountability Framework
BSV - Base Shelter Value	MMGA - Manège militaire Grande-Allée
CAP - Capital Assistance Program	MMVQ - Manège militaire des Voltigeurs de Québec
CCPPVB - Capital Construction Program Priority Validation Board	MRPDP - Master Real Property Development Plan
CEO - Chief Executive Office	NNF - Nanisivik Naval Facility
CFTPO - CF Tasking, Planning and Operations	NPMP - National Portfolio Management Plan
CIP(Infra) - Capital Investment Plan (Infrastructure)	OPP - Operational Planning Process
CME - Canadian Military Engineers	PAA - Program Activity Architecture
CP - Campaign Plan	PILT - Payment In Lieu of Taxes
CRP - Corporate Risk Profile	PER - Personnel Evaluation Report
CS - Corporate Services	PMF - Performance Management Framework
DMOC - Defence Management Overview Committee	RHI - Residential Housing Information
DP - Decisive Point	RHP - Regional Housing Portfolio (PW=Pacific Western, C=Central, QE=Quebec Eastern)
DPR - Departmental Performance Report	RHU - Residential Housing Unit
DRAP - Deficit Reduction Action Plan	RPMC - Real Property Management committee -
EOPG - Engineer Operational Planning Group	RPMF - Real Property Management Framework
FA - Functional Assessment	RPP - Report on Plans and Priorities
FCI - Former Camp Ipperwash	RPTF - Real Property Training Framework
FPG - Functional Planning Guidance	SIVI - Société Immobilière Valcartier Inc.
FPRM - Finance, Planning and Resource Management	SM - Strategy Map
Hops - Housing Operations	SMA - Senior Military Advisor
HSC - Housing Services Centre	SOR - Strategic and Operating Review
IERMB - Infrastructure & Environment Resource Management Board	SPG - Strategic Planning and Governance
IMF - Integrated Management Framework	SR - Strategic Review
IP - Investment Plan	SRB - Senior Review Board
IPC/FPC - Initial and Final Planning Conference	SSMP - Suffield Sustainable Management Plan
	TCE - Trichloréthylène
	TTN - T'suu Tina Nation
	UXO - Unexploded Ordnances

If this short list can help you, great! If you knew all those acronyms, BZ! (Bravo Zulu)

For more acronyms, please consult the Defence Terminology Bank at:

<http://terminology.mil.ca/>

\* Please note that the translation of some acronyms was intentionally left out.

# Department delivers on Wetlands Conservation Initiative of DND and Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) partnership

By Isabelle Turcotte

In June 2009, the Department of National Defence (DND) and Ducks Unlimited Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that is resulting in sound management practices for protecting waterfowl habitat on DND land, while meeting DND goals and objectives for sustainable military training and natural resource management. The MoU serves as a national framework to facilitate the development of local agreements between DUC and the Defence establishments.

The year 2010 was the first year for which reporting on the progress of this MoU was coordinated. The 2010 Annual Report highlighting accomplishments made by DND and DUC in managing wetlands is now available at: [http://admie.ottawa-hull.mil.ca/dge/new/DND\\_DUC\\_MoU\\_e.asp](http://admie.ottawa-hull.mil.ca/dge/new/DND_DUC_MoU_e.asp)



A protected habitat in preparation at Base Wainwright, Alta.



A restored protected habitat at Base Wainwright, Alta.

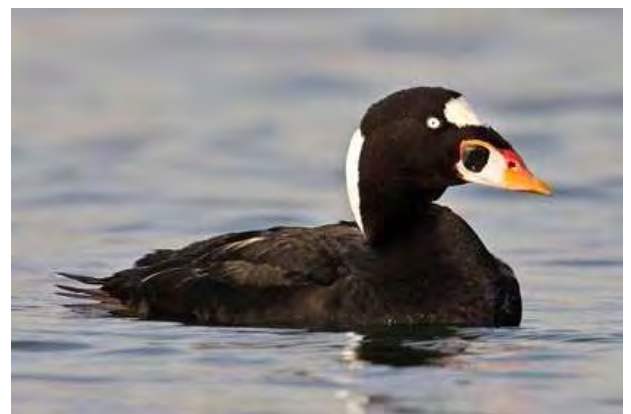
For more information, please contact: Ms. Isabelle Turcotte, Environmental Policy Analyst, at (613) 995-6722.

DGE would like to congratulate all DND employees and CF members who have contributed to local wetland conservation over 2010 and in past years.

Notably, a 73 hectares area was restored to wetlands at CFB Gagetown since 2006 and ongoing wetland management and maintenance efforts for water level control occur at CFB Wainwright (Alta.) around the 'Ribstone' area. Future plans and opportunities for wetland maintenance and restoration have been identified on DND establishments, such as METC Nicolet (Que.), CFB Borden (Ont.), and Royal Roads; among others.

Agreements for future work are being developed locally by DND and DUC employees, with support from the DGE and DUC offices in the national capital when needed.

It makes us proud to be able to report progress under this MoU, to demonstrate DND's commitment to environmental stewardship of the natural assets it is entrusted with. DGE will continue to explore avenues to promote these efforts, on our website and during Environment Week events in 2012 for example.



A surf scoter wades freely and safely in a protected habitat at Base Wainwright, Alta.

# Renovation of Royal Military College at Kingston Sawyer Modules 1 to 5 and the Girouard Building

**Aim:** To renovate facility in order to improve indoor air quality and deficient building envelope, plus comply with current building codes. Extend life of buildings by at least 25 years. Do all work without interrupting undergraduate curriculum.



Aerial view of the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont.  
An A is placed on the Girouard building and a B on Sawyer modules.

**Budget:** \$157 M.

**Highlights:** Teaching moves to a temporary purpose built structure (Swing Space) while a module is renovated. Work started in Jan 2009. One module is renovated per year. Beneficial Occupancy Date is scheduled for May 2016.

**Status:** Swing Space and Module 2 are completed. Module 1 is 80% complete. Module 5 renovation is scheduled to start in April 2012.



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## Greetings, welcomed back and farewells

**Between 1st and 31st January, 2012 ADM(IE) greeted or welcomed back the following employees to the organization:**

Sheila Jain  
Tracy Dannell

Victoria Morency  
Jaclyn Mistellbache

Kheir-Eddine Bousbia

**During that same period, ADM(IE) bid farewell to the following individuals:**

Nick Monteiro

Janine Ewing-Dolbec

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## Submission Guidelines

**Do you have a story to tell?**

**... an announcement to make, a special event to broadcast, a news item you'd like to share?**

Everyone within the IE Community is encouraged to write pertinent stories to be shared across the organization.

The follow guidelines will help authors to craft articles that are interesting and valuable to all newsletter readers:

**Articles:**

May be submitted in English or French

Should include the author's full name and rank (if applicable)

Should answer who/what/when/where/why/how questions

Should provide enough background information to be easily comprehensible

Must include acronyms with their full equivalents

Should include attention-grabbing quotes and pictures!

**Photos:**

Accompanying submissions are welcome

Should feature FACES and ACTION

Must give credit; provide the first and last name of the photographer and/or the source

Please send your submissions to [jean.morissette@forces.gc.ca](mailto:jean.morissette@forces.gc.ca)