



Building Bridges: Trenton Arctic SAR Exchange

3-5 November 2023

Canadian Forces Base Trenton and Belleville, Ontario

Community responders at each of last year's Nunavut and Nunavik SAR roundtables suggested an exchange between the Joint Rescue Coordination Centres (JRCC) and their Northern partners could strengthen relationships and improve SAR operations in the region. The primary purpose of the Trenton Arctic SAR Exchange is to provide Northern responders from Nunavut, Nunavik, and the NWT with a chance to see how the JRCC functions, discuss operational level challenges, strengthen collaboration, and reflect on some of the challenges identified at the 2020 and 2022 regional SAR roundtables.

This exchange has five primary objectives:

- 1) To educate Northern community and government responders on how the JRCC works and the benefits of working together during SAR operations.
- 2) To determine how JRCCs, RCAF personnel, Northern government personnel, and community responders can best work together during SAR operations.
- 3) To discuss how local/traditional knowledge can enhance the support provided by the JRCCs.
- 4) To dive deeper into some of the challenges identified at the roundtables, particularly those shared across the North, and explore solutions, particularly technological possibilities.
- 5) To allow community responders from across the North the opportunity to share their experiences and learn from each other.

We would like to thank each Northern responder for taking time out of their busy schedules to participate and share their experiences at this exchange. We are also grateful to Jeff Gordon, Stuart Thibert, and Mark Gagnon from Coast Guard Arctic Region for their support in transporting Northern responders to Belleville/Trenton. Finally, we would like express our sincere appreciation to JRCC Trenton and 424 Transport and Rescue Squadron for their willingness to 'open their doors' and showcase their side of the SAR system to Northern responders. In particular, the work of Major Marc Crivicich and Sgt. Rob Featherstone made this event possible.

Agenda

Friday, 3 November – Canadian Forces Base Trenton

0830: Depart Ramada Inn, Belleville for Canadian Forces Base Trenton

0900-1130: Tour and briefings, JRCC Trenton and Canadian Mission Control Centre



1130-1245: Lunch at Canadian Forces Base Trenton

1245-1600: Tour and meetings with RCAF 424 Transport and Rescue Squadron

1615-1700: Tour of Air Force Museum

1730: Group Dinner

Saturday, 4 November – Ramada Inn, Belleville

0900-1200: Working Better Together.

- Discuss how JRCCs, RCAF, Coast Guard, Northern community and government responders can best work together during SAR operations.

1200-1300: Lunch

1300-1430: Technology and Search and Rescue in the North.

- A discussion of Starlink, Emergency SOS, SmartICE, PLBs, and EPIRBs and how they can assist in SAR operations.

1400-1600: Sharing Stories and Lessons.

- Building off the results of the SAR roundtables, we will dig deeper into the challenges experienced during SAR operations. We will ask responders (community, territorial, federal) to share past SAR cases to breakdown challenges that emerged, lessons observed, and best practices.

Sunday, 5 November – Ramada Inn, Belleville

0900-1200: Sharing Stories and Lessons.

- Continue to explore SAR cases and work on identifying solutions to common issues.

1200-1300: Lunch

1300-1600: Future Requirements for SAR in the North.

1600: Departure for airport hotels.



Trenton Arctic SAR Exchange Participants

Northwest Territories

- Noella Cockney Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit Leader
Community: Tuktoyaktuk
- Robert Wilkins Arctic Director, Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary / Canadian Ranger
Community: Hay River

Nunavut

- Angulalik Pedersen Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (leader and trainer) / Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator / CASARA / Canadian Coast Guard Arctic Region
Community: Cambridge Bay
- Savanna Moore Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary / Ground Search and Rescue volunteer
Community: Cambridge Bay
- Bobby Klengenbergh Ground Search and Rescue volunteer
Community: Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
- Roger Hitkolok Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary / Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator / Canadian Ranger
Community: Kugluktuk
- Samuel Pallaq Huyer Combat Engineer, Canadian Armed Forces (2013-2018) / Student, Trent University
Community: Gjoa Haven / Peterborough, Ontario
- Daniel Kablutsiak Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator / Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit Leader
Community: Arviat
- Kaviq Kaluraq Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator
Community: Baker Lake
- Valerie Qaunaq Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator
Community: Arctic Bay
- Mark Kilabuk Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit Leader
Community: Pangnirtung
- Andrew Arreak Regional Operations Leader, SmartICE / Search and Rescue Volunteer
Community: Pond Inlet
- Blaine Heffernan Acting Director, Nunavut Emergency Management
Community: Iqaluit
- Tony Comella Director, Nunavut Emergency Management
Community: Iqaluit



Nunavik

Craig Lingard	Director, Kativik Civil Security / CASARA Unit Leader Community: Kuujjuaq
Kris Tukkiapik	Kativik Civil Security Community: Kuujjuaq
George Kauki	Ground and Marine Search and Rescue Coordinator / Fast Rescue Boat Captain Community: Kuujjuaq
Jeff Gordon	Canadian Coast Guard Arctic Region / Fast Rescue Boat Crew Community: Kuujjuaq
Michael Cameron	Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator / Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit Leader Community: Salluit
Tony Annanack	Ground Search and Rescue volunteer / Fast Rescue Boat Captain Community: Kangirsualujjuaq
Charlie Kumarluk	Ground Search and Rescue volunteer / Fast Rescue Boat Captain Community: Uumajuit

Federal, Academic, and Non-Profit Participants

Maj. Marc Crivicich	Joint Rescue Coordination Centre Trenton
Sgt. Rob Featherstone	Joint Rescue Coordination Centre Trenton
Chris Armour	Joint Rescue Coordination Centre Trenton
Stuart Thibert	Canadian Coast Guard Arctic
Jeff Gordon	Canadian Coast Guard Arctic
Mark Gagnon	Canadian Coast Guard Arctic
Trevor Bell	Founding Director, SmartICE
Peter Kikkert	St. Francis Xavier University / Nova Scotia Ground Search and Rescue Volunteer
Sean Lizzolla	St. Francis Xavier University
P.W. Lackenbauer	Trent University / Honorary Lt. Colonel, 1 Canadian Ranger Patrol Group
Ian Belton	University of Strathclyde
John Quigley	University of Strathclyde
Jack Gallagher	Maximum Expected Time to Rescue Project / Hammurabi Consulting
Robert Brown	Maximum Expected Time to Rescue Project / Marine Institute, Memorial
Floris Goerlandt	Maximum Expected Time to Rescue Project / Dalhousie University
Alex Ker	NVision Insight Group