



## Arctic SAR Exchange 2025: Operating at the Speed of Trust

The Arctic Search and Rescue Exchange is built on one core idea: that relationships and collaboration constitute the foundation of an effective search and rescue system.

Relationships rooted in trust and respect allow SAR team members and partners to work together during operations, to understand each other's resources, capabilities, and limitations, and to overcome challenges.

A lot of progress has been made since Arctic SAR Exchange 2023 and the first Nunavik and Nunavut SAR Roundtables – how do we build on these positive developments to strengthen and sustain the relationships, frameworks, and procedures that foster collaboration in Arctic SAR? How can we work better together? How can we operate at the speed of trust? We will try to answer these questions in Arctic SAR Exchange 2025, but a great place to start is simply getting SAR partners together to meet face to face and get to know each other over coffee and conversation – these informal, personal discussions are as important as anything else we will do during the Exchange.

At the same time, while we have this group of experienced SAR responders and researchers together, we will take time to work through areas for improvement, share best practices and lessons learned, and co-develop tools that can help make SAR operations more effective. We will also explore best practices and critical requirements for SAR training, planning, and management. But remember, this is your Exchange. Do you have questions you want

answered? Any concerns you wish to raise?

Any suggestions you want to make? This Exchange provides the time and space to do so.

On Sunday and Monday, we will tour Joint Rescue Coordination Centre Halifax, the Canadian Coast Guard facilities in Halifax, and 413 Transport and Rescue Squadron at Canadian Forces Base Greenwood. On Saturday and Tuesday, we will meet at the Marriot Harbourfront Hotel, spending most of the time in small, breakout groups to discuss key issues.

To encourage free flowing and candid conversations, the Exchange will follow the Chatham House Rule – participants may use information from the proceedings, but the identity of the speakers will not be revealed in any reports or briefings. Participants can, however, request that specific stories or information be attributed to them.

If, at any point, discussions become exhausting or triggering, participants are encouraged to step away from the roundtable. Roundtable organizers can provide information on mental health and critical incident stress supports available to all participants.

This Exchange would have been impossible without the enthusiastic support of Major Chris Simm, the officer-in-command of Joint Rescue Coordination Centre Halifax. He took the lead on arranging our visits to the JRCC, the CCG facilities, and the CFB Greenwood. We would also like express our sincere appreciation to the



personnel from the Coast Guard and 413 Squadron for their willingness to ‘open their doors’ and showcase their side of the SAR system to Arctic responders.

Two weeks ago, one of the responders scheduled to attend this Exchange passed away. Junior Lingard was a skilled, dedicated, and experienced SAR responder, who was always willing to risk life and limb to help his fellow community members. He worked hard to improve SAR and was a regular participant in Nunavik SAR Roundtable activities. He lived our motto: That Others May Live. This exchange is dedicated to his memory.

## Schedule

### **27/28 February**

Arrival of participants in Halifax

#### **1 March - Marriott Harbourfront Hotel**

1000-1015: Welcome to Arctic SAR Exchange

1015-11:15: Participant Introductions and Expectations

1115-1200: Progress Made and Ongoing Challenges – Recap and Results of Arctic SAR Exchange 2023 and Nunavik and Nunavut SAR Roundtables

1200-1300: Lunch (provided)

1300-1430: Working Through Challenges and Opportunities: Breakout Groups

*During these sessions, participants will rotate among different thematic stations where they will discuss pressing challenges and opportunities for search and rescue in the Arctic or engage with their SAR partners (a great chance to ask questions and seek information in a smaller setting).*

1430-1445: Break (coffee and snacks provided)

1445-1700: Working Through Challenges and Opportunities: Breakout Groups

### **2 March – JRCC Halifax and Coast Guard Facilities**

\*Please remember to bring government issued photo ID with you

0830: Departure from Marriot Harbourfront Hotel to JRCC Halifax at CFB Halifax

0900-1130: JRCC Halifax Briefing and Tour

1130-1200: Transport to Canadian Coast Guard facilities

1200-1300: Lunch (provided)

1300-1600: Canadian Coast Guard Briefings and Tours

1600: Transport back to Marriot Harbourfront Hotel

### **3 March – Canadian Forces Base Greenwood**

\*Please remember to bring government issued photo ID with you

0800-1000: Transport from Marriot

Harbourfront Hotel to CFB Greenwood

1000-1030: Sign-in, Checkpoint Charlie, 14 Wing

1030-1130: Group address by Commanding Officer, 413 Squadron, LCol Mark Norris

\*Please note that box lunches will be provided to the group, which you can eat at your leisure

1130-1430: Split into three groups, touring CC130 Hercules, CH149 Cormorant, and SAR Tech Shop

1430-1630: Transport back to Marriot Harbourfront Hotel



#### **4 March (Marriott Harbourfront Hotel)**

##### **(lunch will be provided)**

0930-1030: Operating at the Speed of Trust:

Major Lessons from Sunday and Monday

1030-1045: Break (coffee and snacks provided)

1045-1200: Working Through Challenges and

Opportunities: Breakout Groups

1200-1300: Lunch (provided)

1300-1500: Working Through Challenges and

Opportunities: Breakout Groups

1430: Working Break (coffee and snacks provided)

1500-1530: Wrap-up and Next Steps

#### **5 March**

Departure of participants from Halifax

### **Participants**

#### **Nunavut Community SAR Responders**

Neil Kigutaq	Iqaluit SAR
Robert Bourassa	Iqaluit SAR
Rosie Akavak	Kimmirut SAR
Adamie Nuna	Kinngait SAR
Julai Alikatuktuk	Pangnirtung SAR
Mark Kilabuk	Pangnirtung SAR
Gina Paniloo	Clyde River SAR
Sandy Simon Kautaq	Clyde River SAR
April Taqtu	Arctic Bay SAR
Steven Taqtu	Arctic Bay SAR
Lorna Netser	Rankin Inlet SAR
Peter Kadlak	Rankin Inlet SAR
Daniel Kablutsiak	Arviat SAR
Barnie Aggark	Chesterfield Inlet SAR
Kaviq Kaluraq	Baker Lake SAR
Angulalik Pedersen	Cambridge Bay SAR
Savanna Moore	Cambridge Bay SAR

Rosemary Maksagak Cambridge Bay SAR

Baba Pedersen Kugluktuk SAR

Roger Hitkolok Kugluktuk SAR

Ryan Nivingalok Kugluktuk SAR

Jack Himiak Kugluktuk SAR

#### **Nunavik Responders**

Tony Annanack	Kangisualujuaq SAR
Sandy Kooktook	Kangisualujuaq SAR
George Kauki	Kuujjuaq SAR (virtual)
Bryan York	Kuujjuaq SAR
Justin Lingard	Kuujjuaq SAR
Billy Dan May	Tasiujaq SAR
Eva Grey	Aupaluk SAR
Martin Scott	Aupaluk SAR
Zebedee Annahatak	Kangirsuk SAR
Tommy Kudluk	Kangirsuk SAR
Maryam Ilgun	Quaqtuq SAR
Naalak Mifsud	Kangisujuaq SAR
Quppia Jaaka	Kangisujuaq SAR
Michael Cameron	Salluit SAR / Zone 6
	Director CCGA
Putulik Cameron	Salluit SAR

#### **Kativik Civil Security**

Craig Lingard	Director
Mitch Vail	KCS Coordinator
Kris Tukkiapik	KCS Technician
Steven Walker	KCS Technician
Jordan Jones	KCS Technician

#### **Nunavut Emergency Management**

Calvin Pedersen	Manager, SAR
Susan Peter	Office Manager / Duty Officer, SAR



## Canadian Armed Forces

Major Chris Simm      Officer-in-Command  
 JRCC Halifax  
 Cpt. Stephen      JRCC Halifax  
 MacFadgen

## SmartICE

Trevor Bell      SmartICE  
 Gillian Davidge      SmartICE

## Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary

Serge Jacques      Arctic Director, CCGA  
 Quebec  
 Erin Pigott      A/Supt. Maritime SAR,  
 CCG Arctic Region  
 Jeff Gordon      CCG Arctic Region  
 Stuart Thibert      CCG Arctic Region  
 Jessica Cucinelli      CCG Arctic Region

## Researchers

Peter Kikkert      StFX / Team Leader,  
 Nova Scotia GSAR  
 Claire Morrison      STFX  
 Rory Jakubec      STFX  
 Liam Smith      STFX  
 Samuel Chapman      STFX  
 Robert Brown      Marine Institute,  
 Memorial University  
 Kerri-Ann Ennis      Marine Institute,  
 Memorial University  
 Yang Ji      Marine Institute,  
 Memorial University  
 Amin Amini      Memorial University  
 Floris Goerlandt      Dalhousie University  
 Ronald Pelot      Dalhousie University  
 Mahroo Mohammadi      Dalhousie University  
 Mona Hakimipناه      Dalhousie University  
 Ian Belton      University of Strathclyde  
 Archie Rudman      University of Strathclyde

## Civil Air Search and Rescue Association

Samantha Grant      National RPAS Training  
 Officer  
 John Vander velde      Director, CASARA  
 Nunavut

## Public Safety Canada

Steve Nason      National Search and  
 Rescue Secretariat

Funding and support for Arctic SAR Exchange 2025 was generously provided by:

