

The Naval Officers' Association of Canada



L'association des Officiers de Marine du Canada

Mayor Sharon Shepherd  
City Hall,  
1435 Water Street  
Kelowna, BC  
V1Y 1J4

CITY OF KELOWNA

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ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT

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**Canadian Navy Centennial Essay Contest  
and Educational Resource.**

Dear Mayor Shepherd,

We would like to introduce the City of Kelowna to a unique project. The Naval Officers' Association of Canada would like the City to consider becoming a sponsor of a nationwide essay contest and educational resource in celebration of the Centennial of the Canadian Navy in 2010. This branch of the armed forces was established under Prime Minister Sir Wilfred Laurier and came to fruition through the Naval Service Act on April 4, 1910. Our project will invite High School students across Canada to consider the history of the service and through essay, poem or artwork, submit their perceptions for adjudication.

The Naval Officers Association of Canada (NOAC) formed in 1946 has been a continual supporter of the Canadian Navy and Maritime Affairs. Through their Endowment Fund they have provided scholarships to Junior Naval Officers and Sea Cadets and other Maritime efforts.

We plan to provide Scholarships to the contest winners from each Province and the Territories with an additional award to the National Winner. It is also proposed that the winners from Ontario east will be guests at the 2010 Fleet Review in Halifax and the winners from the west and Territories be guests at the Fleet Review in Victoria. In addition, a full text and electronic report, and history resource will be made available to every high school in Canada.

The educational resource we are also developing will include a study project that invites students to research HMCS vessels of the Battle of the Atlantic theatre, specifically of that named for their city or town. *HMCS Kelowna* was one such vessel. We believe such a unit will serve to link students and their community with the service of those brave young Canadians who served in the longest and most critical battle of WWII.

We feel that the support of communities after which RCN vessels past and present were named would be an exciting and fitting role for this project. The budget for the contest is \$150,000 of which the NOAC branches of Toronto and Calgary have each pledged \$1000 and the NOAC Endowment Fund and ING DIRECT have each committed \$20,000. Our request is that City of Kelowna becomes one of our partners in this historic celebration with a contribution of \$1,000 spread over the period 2009/2010.

In addition to media coverage during the approximately two years, the contest will have its own web site and in addition be carried on the NOAC web, the Canadian Naval Centennial web, the Navy League of Canada, and the Royal Canadian Naval Association web.

We trust that you will see the value of a partnership and look forward to a favourable response. Should you have any questions please contact the writer at 905-274-0429 or email [airwinr17@sympatico.ca](mailto:airwinr17@sympatico.ca)

Yours truly,

Andrew A. Irwin  
Fund Campaign Chair  
NOAC Endowment/Essay Project

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