



# **The Deck Log**

**Newsletter of the Master Mariners of  
Canada (MMC)**

**NL Division**

**January – March 2021**

**Friday January 1, 2021**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL**



Friday January first the fireworks were to start at eight in the evening. However the weather did not allow this to go ahead. The next evening it took place following the COVID guidelines.

**Thursday January 14, 2021**

The Master Mariners of Canada NL Division held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) both in person and virtually. Some of the members took part at the Crow's Nest Officers' Club. The Divisional Master Captain Eben March was there in person and conducted the meeting virtually also (Zoom).

The Divisional Master Capt. Eben March presented his report. He said in 2020 we had two speakers. One of them was Ms Charlene Johnson, CEO of NOIA who was able to attend Crow's Nest. The other was a member of the faculty of the Marine Institute, Mr. John Cross who took part virtually due to COVID-19.

The Treasurer Capt. Paul Kean presented his report. Capt. John Ennis and Capt. Roy Marsh audited the Treasurer's Ledger. Capt. Paul Kean is retiring and Capt. Sean Quinlan accepted that position. Capt. Kean promised a smooth transfer.

The membership of the Division wanted to keep the current Councillors for another year. The only position change was that of the Treasurer.

The Divisional Council for 2021 – 2022 consists of the following:

**Divisional Master: Capt. Eben March**  
**Deputy Div. Master: Capt. John Ennis**  
**Treasurer: Capt. Sean Quinlan**  
**Assistant Div. Master – Membership: Capt. Richard Edwards**  
**Assistant Div. Master – Special Events: Capt. Jim Parsons**  
**Secretary: Capt. A. Zaki**



Present at the Crow's Nest, L – R:  
Andre Semoes Re, Richard Edwards, Eben March, Thomas Heppner, Paul Kean, Phil Lind, A. Zaki, Roy Marsh and John Ennis

Some of the members who attended the meeting using Zoom and one member who was on a ship also joined virtually.



One of the cadet members Mr. Andre Semoes Re won two (2020) scholarships. One of them was the MMC Captain G. O.

Baugh Memorial Scholarship (\$3000.00). The other was a Marine Atlantic Scholarship of \$1500.00



L – R: Capt. March presented Mr. Andre Semoes Re with the scholarship certificate.



Andre Semoes Re

## First anniversary of January 2020 “Snowmageddon”

The City of St. John's declared a state of emergency at 11 a.m. Friday. All businesses were told to close, though many buildings were already closed for the day. All vehicles except first responders were ordered off the road. The storm battering the eastern part of Newfoundland will not be forgotten soon.



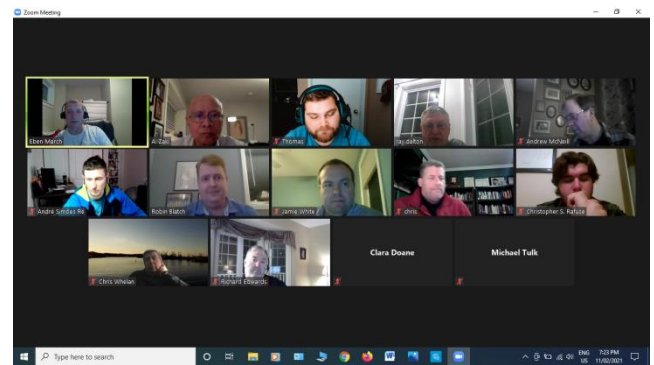
A large section of the island, including the city of St. John's, Clarenville and Bonavista Peninsula were under a blizzard warning Saturday with a total snowfall of 35 to 75 centimetres expected. More than 76 centimetres of **snow** was recorded on Friday at **St. John's** International Airport, shattering the previous one-day record from 1999. Other parts of **St. John's** received more than 80 cm of **snowfall**, while accumulation totals topped 90 per cent in the communities of Mount Pearl and Paradise.



## Thursday February 11, 2021

The monthly meeting of the Division took place by Zoom ONLY. In St. John's a sudden increase of the COVID 19 restricted any unnecessary movements. It is believed that there will be a big shutdown very soon. This was indicated by the Chief Medical Officer of Health of NL Dr. Janice Fitzgerald.

Sixteen people took part in this Zoom meeting. Here is one screen capture of that.



The Divisional Master Capt. Eben March took part in the 221<sup>st</sup> meeting of the MMC Board of Directors. Two other members of the Division, Capt. Chris Hearn and Capt. Jim Parsons also attended.

Capt. March said that Capt. George Iskander, Capt. Bret Maukonen and Capt. Marshall Dunbar are working to upgrade the MMC web site and other related items.

Capt. Jim Calvesbert who is the Secretary of the Maritimes Division is also the Chair of Education. He also has taken over the Professional Development program. Capt. Ray Dalton agreed to be the Professional Development Representative for this division.

Capt. March said that he is hoping the COVID situation will improve before our next month's meeting. At this meeting two of our members and the father of one of the cadet have indicated willingness to discuss some marine incidents about which they have some good knowledge. This will not be the regular speaker night format.

The cadets are very interested in finding members who may be willing to do some mentoring. Capt. March said members interested in this should put forward their name as soon as possible.

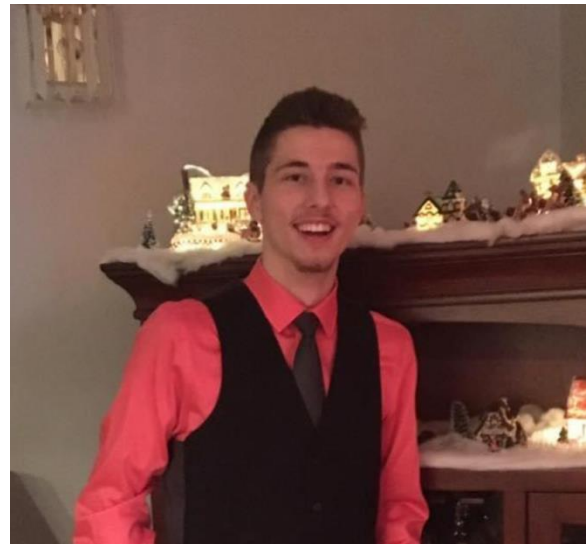
The cadets now have a Cadet Subcommittee. They are developing a very keen interest in the Division and the work they do.



Mr. André Simões Ré  
Cadet Subcommittee chair



Mr. Thomas Heppner  
Cadet Subcommittee vice-chair



Tyler Sheppard  
Cadet Subcommittee member

Capt. March said there is a possibility of an in-person symposium in Ottawa in 2022 in conjunction with MMC AGM.

## Monday February 15, 2021

Today is an extremely sad day for all the families of those who perished in the Ocean Ranger disaster. This is the 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



*“The sinking of the Ocean Ranger:  
**Ocean Ranger** was a semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit **that sank** in Canadian waters on 15 February 1982. It was drilling an exploration well on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, 267 kilometres (166 mi) east of St. John's, Newfoundland, for Mobil Oil of Canada, Ltd.”*

*“Four days after the Ocean Ranger slips beneath the waves, families across Newfoundland struggle to cope with the loss of the 56 islanders who perished in the disaster. In coastal village churches, in schools and at a crowded service at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist in St. John's, friends and relatives attend memorial services to pay tribute and search for answers. It is a province all too familiar with maritime disaster. (From CBC Digital Archives)”*



(Radio Canada International - RCI)

## Wednesday March 10, 2021

### This is from Memorial University Gazette

#### Ocean watch

Marine Institute launches underwater ocean observatory in Conception Bay

The Marine Institute (MI) and partner, the University of Victoria's Ocean Networks Canada, installed a seafloor observatory in Conception Bay last month to enable real-time monitoring of oceanographic conditions and marine life.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/ocean-watch/>

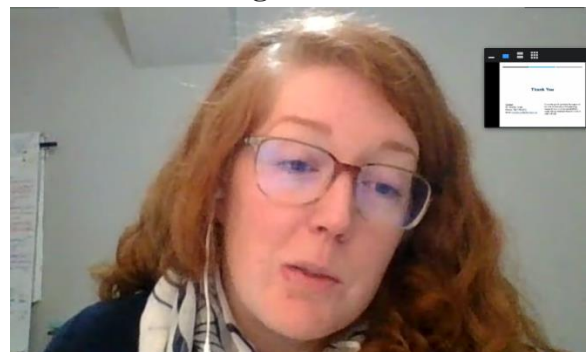


From the Gazette

## Thursday March 11, 2021

The monthly meeting of the NL Division was held completely using Zoom. This virtual meeting was well attended which included members of MMC from across Canada.

At this meeting we had Dr. Jennifer Smith PhD give a presentation on: "Using Simulators to Investigate Offshore and Maritime Training Needs"



Dr. Jennifer Smith

This presentation was of very much interest as not too long ago Mr. John Cross gave a presentation on "Autonomous Ships".

## Here is a Biographical Note on Dr. Smith:

*Dr. Jennifer Smith joined the School of Maritime Studies in January 2021 as an Instructor (Research). Dr. Smith holds a PhD and Master's degree in Ocean & Naval Architectural Engineering from Memorial University, a Bachelor's degree in Biological Engineering from Dalhousie University, and a Bachelor's degree in Applied Science from Acadia University. She has 12 years of experience conducting research at Memorial University with a focus on marine simulation and human factors. Her experience includes designing experiments with prototype simulator technology and employing pedagogical theory and data-driven tools for assessing maritime education and training curriculum. She is building her research program to focus on the development and evaluation of adaptive simulation-based training and investigating the influence of automated systems on seafarer competence and skill retention.*

Here are some screen shots:

### Using Simulators to Investigate Offshore and Maritime Training Needs

**Dr. Jennifer Smith**  
Instructor (Research)

School of Maritime Studies  
Fisheries & Marine Institute  
Email: [jennifer.smith@mi.mun.ca](mailto:jennifer.smith@mi.mun.ca)

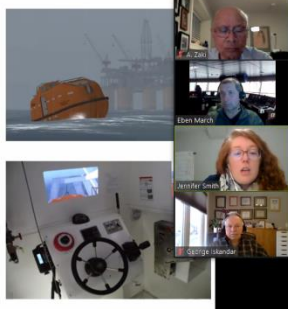
### Marine Simulation Research at MUN

Dr. Veitch's NSERC & Husky Energy  
Industrial Research Chair in Safety at Sea.

- Developed marine simulators prototypes.
- Lifeboat Simulators
  - Fast Rescue Craft Simulators
  - Virtual Emergency Egress Trainer
  - Ice Management Bridge Simulator

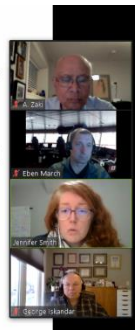
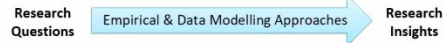
Conducted pedagogical and human factors studies using simulators.

- Evaluating different training methods
- Employing a human-centered approach to develop decision support systems

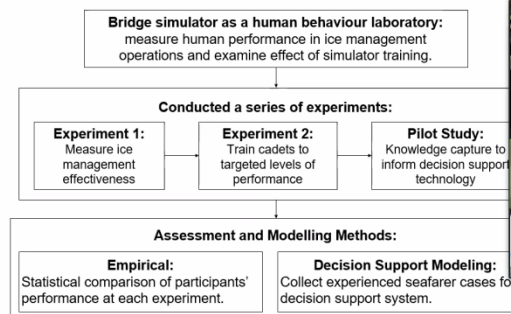


## Outline

1. Describe a series of simulation-based experiments related to offshore pack ice management.
2. Discuss research using marine simulators as experimental venues to test the impact of adaptive training and automated technologies on marine operations.



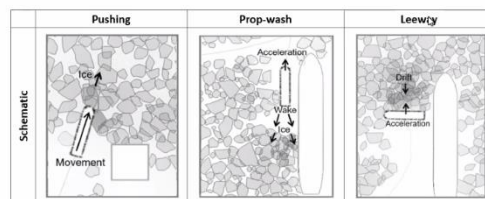
## Scope of Research



## Experiment 2: Training for Pack Ice Management Operations

Learning Objectives (based on IMO Polar Code and model courses):

1. Demonstrate three ice management techniques
2. Comply with POLARIS speeds in ice
3. Demonstrate keeping lifeboat launch zone clear for evacuation



(Thistle et al., 2019)



## Summary of Research Insights

- Marine simulators are useful experimental venues to investigate human factors issues.
- Empirical evidence from the experiments demonstrated the utility of simulation-based training.
- Introducing new training interventions and assistive technology requires careful evaluation.
- Involve domain experts early and use simulators to evaluate training and operational issues and support the development of early-stage decision support systems.





**Friday March 12, 2021**

CBC News · Posted: Mar 12, 2021 3:02 PM NT

## **12 years after Cougar crash, N.L. pays respects to lives lost**



*A memorial wreath pinned to the fence near the Cougar hangar in St. John's marks the anniversary of the Cougar Flight 491 crash. (Jeremy Eaton/CBC)*

*For many people in Newfoundland and Labrador, it feels like a lifetime — and yet just yesterday — since Cougar Flight 491 crashed, killing 17 people while en route to the oil fields off of the coast of St. John's. The memory of those who died in the March 12, 2009 tragedy remains front of mind for many across the province each year when March 12 nears. Friday was no different. Families, friends and loved ones visited the fence outside of the Cougar hangar in St. John's, pinning to it pinning to it notes, pictures and flowered wreaths dedicated to the ones they lost. Some also made their way to a memorial at Quidi Vidi Lake,*

*which recognizes Cougar Flight 491 as well as the Universal helicopter crash off of the coast of Placentia on March 13, 1985 that killed six people. "We're remembering everyone who went down that day, especially my nephew Corey," Karen Delaney told CBC News from the memorial site at the Cougar hangar.*

## **March of 2021 the busy Suez Canal was blocked for days....**



From BBC News: Container ship blocking the Suez Canal finally on the move.



In this photo released by Suez Canal Authority, the Ever Given, a Panama-flagged cargo ship, is pulled by a tugboat in the Suez Canal, Egypt, on March 29, 2021. (The Associated Press)