



# **The Deck Log**

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

**NL Division**

**April – June 2020**

**Wednesday April 1, 2020**

**COVID-19**

COVID-19 has crippled most of the world and that includes Newfoundland and Labrador. We are in a very sad situation indeed.



Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, N.L. Chief Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Fitzgerald said that now we have 23 new positive cases in the Eastern Health. She also gave the following figures: Total 175; 166 cases in the Eastern Health; 3 in the Central Health; 1 in the Western Health and 1 in Labrador Grenfell Health.

**Monday April 6, 2020**

**COVID-19 and Hibernia**



(File photo – Hibernia Platform, a Great Lakes self-unloader pumping ballast into the outer shell of the Platform)

The following from CBC News:

*There may soon be more bad news for Newfoundland and Labrador's oil sector — this time at the project that launched the offshore industry more than two decades ago.*

*The Hibernia Management and Development Company say Hibernia production operations continue, but it is "looking to reduce spending as a result of market conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic."*

*HMDC says it is "evaluating all appropriate steps to reduce capital and operating expenses in the near term."*

*The company is notifying contractors, vendors, and others affected as decisions are being made.*

*HMDC did not provide further details, but said in a statement that "this process will be managed safely and with respect to all our employees and service partners."*

*Hibernia became the first producing project in the Newfoundland offshore, pumping first oil in 1997, and celebrated its billionth barrel in 2016.*

*According to its benefits report for the last quarter of 2019, Hibernia employed 1,400 full-time equivalent workers. Some 92 per cent of them were residents of Newfoundland and Labrador.*

*Last year, CBC News reported that the consortiums of companies behind Hibernia were considering more subsea drilling to further extend the life of the field.*

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The first Hibernia crude was transferred to a vessel some twenty three years ago. That ship was the very first Canadian shuttle tanker registered in St. John's, NL.



M/T Kometik

The first Hibernia Crude Oil was pumped into the tanker Kometik at 0510 hrs. NT on December 21, 1997.

## Thursday April 9, 2020

Today was one of the first nice spring day with bright sunlight. The St. John's harbour was somewhat quite. Here are a few pictures of the harbour.

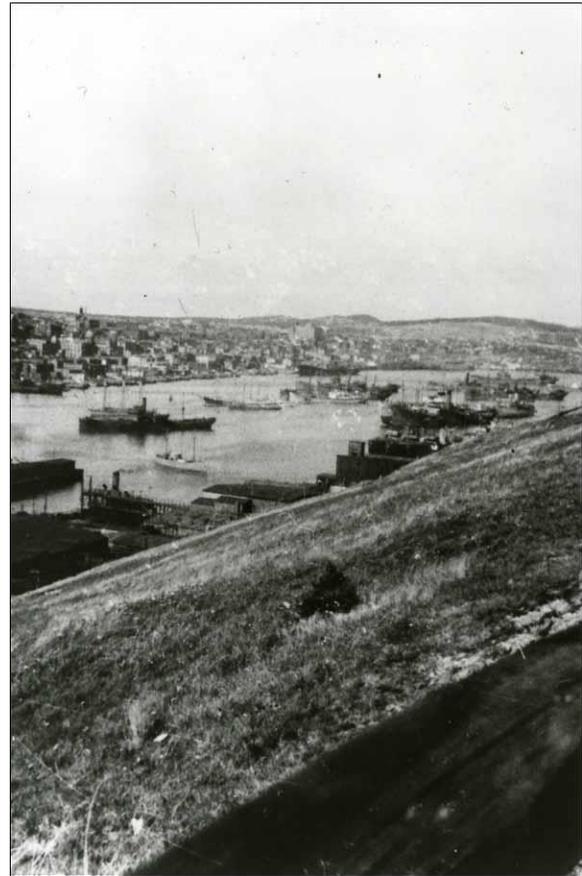


## Sunday May 3, 2020

Today we are marking the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the **Battle of the Atlantic**. Even to this day there is a great relationship between Netherlands and Canada.

That relationship will last forever.

The following from Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador:



*St. John's Harbour, July 1941*

*During the course of the Second World War, St. John's evolved from being merely a defended harbour to a naval base of considerable importance.*

*Photographer unknown. Reproduced by permission of Archives and Special Collections (MF 413 3.04), Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL.*

## War at Sea – Newfoundland's Role

*During the course of the Second World War, St. John's evolved from being merely a*

*defended harbour to possibly the most important escort base developed by the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) in the North Atlantic. It was second only to Halifax, which had been an established naval base since before World War I*

*General Charles Foulkes, commander of the 1st Canadian Corps, accepted the surrender of German forces in the Netherlands on 5 May. Two days later, Germany formally surrendered and the war in Europe came to an end.*

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, this year all the related functions were cancelled in St. John's and across the country.

## Friday May 8, 2020

Friday May 8, 2020 is VE Day, in other words Victory in Europe Day. This is the day the World War Two (WW II) came to an end, when fighting against Nazi Germany came to an end in Europe.



Sir Winston Churchill and HM King George VI



The Queen gives her VE Day address



Prime Minister of Canada Honourable Justin Trudeau gives his VE Day address.



Retired Sgt. Norman Kirby, a Second World War Veteran interviewed by Global News.

## Thursday May 14, 2020

COVID-19 has made people to find ways and means to do things differently as the normal ways are absolutely impossible.

MMC NL Division conducted their first Council meeting using Zoom format. This very first Zoom meeting of 6 people proved to be a very successful and productive meeting. The Division is planning to have a general meeting this way very soon.

## Icebergs off Newfoundland



Traffic in and around Ferryland was busy in April 2017 as people flocked to get a glimpse of the giant iceberg. (Submitted by Jo-d Martin/Facebook)



A helicopter flies over the iceberg on Sunday. (Submitted by Alyssa Delaney)



People have been stopping to see the iceberg which first appeared last week on the Southern Shore. (Submitted by Ronald O'Toole)

## Wednesday June 3, 2020

Today is a very special day for one of our members who contribute to the causes of

Master Mariners of Canada and the NL Division. He marked a significant birthday today and he is Captain Glenn Fiander. Captain Fiander turned 60 today. We wish him all the best and many more years of good health and happiness.



Captain Glenn Fiander and his wife Patricia



Here are some of the members and friends who did a drive by his house in order to keep safe distance.

## Saturday June 6, 2020

Today, June 6<sup>th</sup>. is the **76th anniversary** of the Allied invasion of Normandy which eventually led to the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. Then Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was commander of the Allied forces.



In accordance with COVID-19 preventative measures, the June 6, 2020 commemorative ceremony was organized as a small, limited gathering and shared online. The festivities commemorating the 76th Anniversary of D-Day at the Juno Beach Centre have been cancelled.

The focal point was a Canadian ceremony outside the Juno Beach Centre, a private museum established in 2003 whose mission is to educate visitors about the role Canada played on D-Day and in the Second World War. And it was a significant role: the Canadians were responsible for one of the five D-Day beaches, with the others divided up between the British and Americans.

The Prime Minister, Hon Justin Trudeau, issued the following statement today on the 76th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy:

*“Today, on the 76th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, we remember*

*and honour the brave Canadians and Newfoundlanders who fought, and those who gave their lives, alongside Allied forces in a battle that became a turning point in the Second World War and changed the course of history.*

*“On June 6, 1944, over 14,000 Canadians stormed Juno Beach, as part of the largest combined sea, air, and land military operation in history. Together with Allies, Canadian soldiers broke through German defences on the beaches of Normandy and opened up a new Western Front in Europe.*

*“In breaching the Atlantic Wall, the Allies overcame difficult odds and achieved a critical victory. But the two-and-a-half months of fighting in Normandy that followed came at a terrible cost to Canada. More than 5,000 were killed and another 13,000 Canadian troops were wounded, some of whom suffered permanent and life-changing injuries.*

*“The bravery and selflessness demonstrated by Canadians on that day in Normandy, and throughout the war, remind us of the incredible cost of defending freedom, human rights, and democracy. We must remember them, and the more than one million Canadians who served during the Second World War.*

*“As the global COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to move this year’s [commemorative ceremonies](#) online, I invite all Canadians to pay tribute to the courage and sacrifice of those who fought in the D-Day landings and the Battle of Normandy. It is our solemn responsibility to remember those who served and sacrificed. They gave everything so that we can enjoy the peace and freedom that we hold so dear today.*  
*“Lest we forget.”*

## Thursday June 11, 2020

For the first time, the general meeting of the NL Division was conducted virtually. We have a feeling this may be the new way of doing this in the future (for a while).

The COVID-19 has placed all of us completely on a very different life style. It is hard to guess what may be the new norm.

Anyway Newfoundland and Labrador seems to be doing pretty good (now) with more than two weeks with no new cases. It is hoped that more openings will come soon, before too long.

Already some of the businesses are starting to open up allowing and maintaining the safety requirements. There is a feeling Level 2 will come before too long allowing more opening and more relaxed social gatherings.

The very first virtual (ZOOM) meeting of the NL Division Council was conducted on Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup>. at 1900 hrs. That proved to be a successful meeting. Following that success the Divisional Master indicated that he would like to try to have a general meeting virtually.

As a result the cadet members, associate members and the full members were notified. So this evening at 1930 hrs our very first general meeting was held using (ZOOM).

This was a test meeting with no big agenda to get a feel of how things may turnout. It was somewhat disappointing that we did not at a larger group.

Discussed at the meeting were some ideas regarding the Nautical Skills Competition, membership and how to encourage more people joining and how to encourage more

participation by the nautical science first year students (as cadet members).

Here are two screen shots of the virtual meeting:



## Sunday June 21, 2020

Today is a very big day, **FATHER'S DAY** and we wish all fathers a wonderful day.

## Monday June 22, 2020

Newfoundland and Labrador marks this day as **Discovery Day**. However there is talk of name change to **June Holiday**. I guess there are lots of changes in this world today.