



**CHANGE OF COMMAND
CEREMONY**

**COMMANDING OFFICER
FLEET DIVING UNIT (PACIFIC)**

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
R.J.Watt, CD**

TO

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
J. Couillard, CD**

03 July 09

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- 1100 Guests Arrive and Seated
1120 Officers Take Post
1130 Arrival of Witnessing/Reviewing Officer
(Captain (N) J.P.G. Couturier)
General Salute
National Anthem
- Inspection** Captain (N) Couturier
and LCdr Watt
- Prayer** Padre - Major Acton
- Address** Outgoing CO- LCdr Watt
- Address** Captain (N) Couturier
- Signing** Certificates
- Address** Incoming CO- LCdr Couillard
- Presentations** Capt(N)Couturier, LCdr Couillard,
- Departure** Captain (N) Couturier
General Salute
- Dismissal**
- Reception FDU(P) Canteen

NAVAL PRAYER

This morning, Lord we pause to give you thanks that in every generation You raise among us leaders— men and women of vast knowledge and great ability.

We pray especially for Lieutenant Commmander Couillard Grant him the grace to lead with Wisdom, Compassion and Justice, to command with integrity and clarity of vision, Grant him the gift of patience to usher those he will lead into the future.

May we, who follow, follow with joy, be instilled with greater confidence and dignity in performing our duties, be inspired to pursue training and tasks entrusted to us with passion, dilligence and dedication, as we join together to serve one another, our beloved nation and our world.

Bless all the men and women of Fleet Diving Unit Pacific, whether at sea or ashore and bless our families and those whom we love that our work together may be pleasing in your sight.

O God in Heaven, hear our plea for Divers beneath the sea. While in the ocean's dark embrace keep up with Thy Grace hear us Lord, O Thou who saves, Thy servants beneath the waves We make these requests to you, O God, trusting that you hear and answer us.

Amen!

Captain (N) J.P.G. Couturier, CD
Commander



Fourth Maritime Operations Group

Captain (N) Couturier was born and raised in Sept îles, Quebec. Graduating from L'École des Hautes Études Commerciales in Montréal

in 1986 under the ROTP program, he joined the Canadian Forces on completion of university. After completing his initial training at VENTURE, The Naval Officer Training Center in Esquimalt BC.

Sub-Lieutenant Couturier joined his first ship, Her Majesty's Canadian Ship SKEENA, based in Halifax, as a bridge watchkeeping officer. His first deployment was off the coast of Haiti as part of OPERATION EXCURSION in January 1988. As a junior naval officer, Lieutenant (N) Couturier attended the Above Water Warfare director course and the Shipborne Air Controller course. He deployed in SKEENA for two Standing Naval Force Atlantic deployments. Lieutenant (N) Couturier came ashore in 1991 to be the Flag Lieutenant to the Commander Maritime Command in Halifax. Following the Operations Room Officer course in Halifax, he was promoted to Lieutenant-Commander and served as the Combat Officer of HMCS HURON from 1995 to 1997. He was a member of HURON during the ship transfer to the West Coast in July 1995. Following his tour at sea, he was posted to the Canadian Fleet Pacific staff where he first assumed the role of Weapons Officer and later Combat Officer for the fleet. During his three years in the staff, Lieutenant Commander Couturier had the opportunity to work closely with the US Navy, first as the coordinator for the first deployment of a Canadian frigate as part of a USN Battle Group; and then as the Operations Officer for USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN Battle Group for RIMPAC 2000. After attending the Command and Staff Course at Canadian Forces College in Toronto in 2000, Lieutenant-Commander Couturier was appointed Executive Officer of NCMS VILLE DE QUEBEC from July 2001 to July 2003. He was promoted to the rank of Commander in December 2002. Following his tour in VILLE DE QUEBEC, he assumed the function of Executive Secretary to the Chief of Maritime Staff in Ottawa in July 2003. Commander Couturier commanded HMCS FREDERICTON from December 2005 to July 2007. In May 2006, the ship was deployed to the coast of Africa for Operation Chabanel, an RCMP operation that resulted in the seizure of 22.5 tons of hash bound for the East Coast of Canada. Following his Command tour, he was appointed Executive Assistant to the Chief of the Defense Staff. He is a graduate of National Security Studies Program 10. Promoted Captain (N) in June 2008, he is now the Commander of Maritime Operations Group 4 in Victoria.

Captain (N) Couturier is married to Sylvie Tremblay and they have four wonderful children.

Lieutenant-Commander Rob Watt
Commaner
Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific)



Lieutenant Commander Watt began his military service as a reserve infantryman in the Loyal Edmonton Regiment in 1985. In 1986 he joined the Regular Force as an Officer Cadet, graduating from Royal Roads Military College in Victoria in 1990. Upon successful completion of NOTC VENTURE he volunteered for Submarine service, and served in the Oberon-class submarines ONONDAGA, OJIBWA and OKANAGAN from 1991 to 1994. Having developed an interest in diving as a Ship's Diving Officer in submarines, he completed the Clearance Diving prelim in 1994 and was selected for training as a CLDO, graduating in 1995.

On completion of the Clearance Diving Officer Course he was posted to Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific), where he served as Battle Damage Repair Team Officer, Mine Countermeasure Team Officer, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Officer between 1995 and 1997. During that time he also attended training at the U.S.N. Diving and Salvage Training Centre (graduating as top student), and at the U.S.N. Explosive Ordnance Disposal School, as well as carrying out experimental diving serials at DCIEM Toronto.

In 1997 he was selected for a Post-Graduate scholarship and attended the Royal Military College in Kingston, receiving a Master's Degree in War Studies in 1999. He was then posted back to Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific). During a short posting at the Unit he proceeded to Belgium to complete the NATO Mine Countermeasures Staff course at EUGERMIN. In 2000 he was selected for an exchange diving position with the Royal Navy. He served a year and half as Operations Officer on HMS LEDBURY, and two years as Executive Officer of HMS QUORN, both Hunt-class Minehunters. Onboard these MCM vessels he carried out numerous live mineclearance operations in the Baltic and North Sea, and deployed as part of the multi-national NATO MCMFORNORTH. While in the UK he also deployed as OIC of a British Clearance Diving Team to Dubai and Oman, carrying out counter-terrorist security diving operations in support of Op ORACLE. Upon his return to Canada he was posted to Fleet School (Halifax) to attend the Operations Room Officer course, graduating in December 2005. He was then appointed to the frigate HMCS VANCOUVER as Weapons Officer. In the summer of 2006 he took over as Combat Officer and in December of the same year was promoted to his present rank of Lieutenant Commander and successfully challenged his Surface Ship Command Board.

Lieutenant Commander Rob Watt lives in Victoria with his wife of 17 years, Ann and his two daughters, Sarah and India. Due to the fact that his eldest daughter Sarah is living with Juvenile Diabetes, he is active in fundraising for Diabetes research. In addition to his interests in diving and competitive running, he is an avid motorcyclist and spends an inordinate amount of time keeping his two vintage Harleys running.



Lieutenant-Commander Jean Couillard, CD
Incoming Commanding Officer

Born in Hauterive Quebec, a small town near Baie-Comeau. After high school he was accepted into the Regular Officer Training Program and graduated from the College Militaire Royale (CMR) de St-Jean in 1994 with an Honours degree in Business Administration.

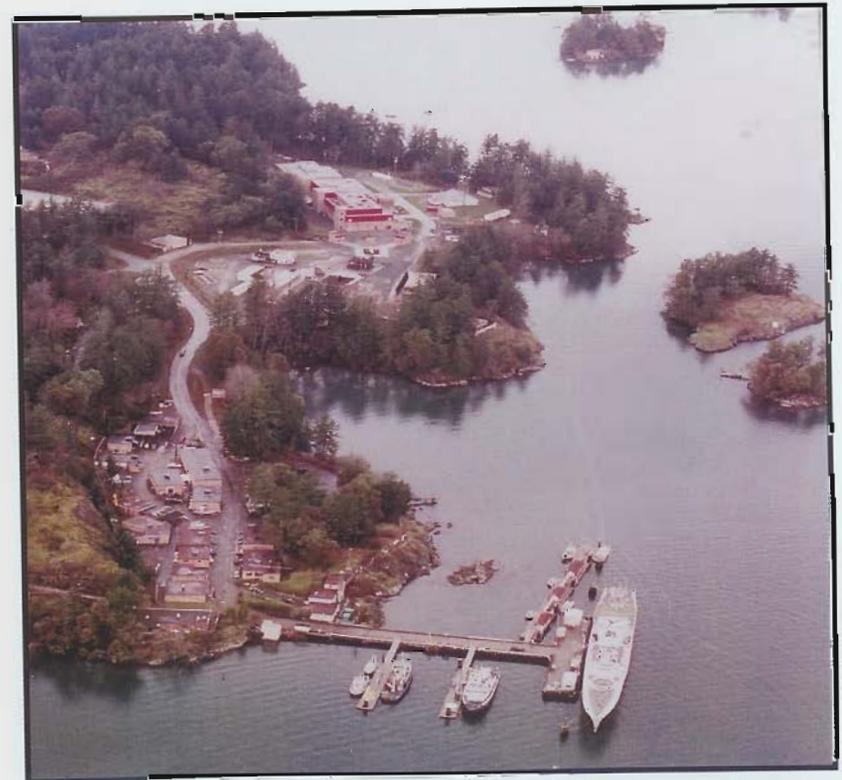
After completing Naval Officer Training in 1995, LCdr Couillard joined his first operational unit HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC where he earned his Bridge Watch Keeping Certificate and was subsequently promoted to Sub Lieutenant. Shortly after joining VILLE DE QUEBEC, he deployed for 6 months in the Adriatic Sea for operation Sharp Guard.

In 1996, he was selected to participate in the highly desired exchange with the Royal Australian Navy and sailed onboard HMAS DARWIN and HMAS ADELAIDE, participating in multiple international exercises. He also took the opportunity to complete the Australians ship's team diver course prior to his return to Canada in 1997.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Navy on completion of the Fleet Navigation Officer course in 1998 after which he navigated HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC, HMCS ATHABASKAN, HMCS TORONTO, HMCS HALIFAX and HMCS FREDERICKTON, spending most of his time at sea in operations with the Standing Naval Force Atlantic (STANAVFORLANT), Standing Naval Force Mediterranean (STANAFORMED). During that period of time he also participated in the search and rescue operations of Swiss Air flight 111 and Vessel Leader L. After completion of the CLDO course in 2004, he was appointed the Naval Mine Warfare Officer at FDU(A). In 2005, he completed the Staff Mine Warfare Officer in Eguermin Belgium and in 2006, he qualified as an IED Operator in CFB Borden. In 2008, he successfully completed the ORO course and was appointed as the Weapons Officer onboard HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN. He then served the first six months of 2009 as the Combat Officer and was promoted to his current rank of Lieutenant Commander in spring of 2009.

Jean is married to Lisa Underhay of St-Johns's NFLD and proud father of 3 year old twin girls, Isabelle and Chantal. He is concurrently completing an online Executive Masters degree in Business and Administration at Athabasca University which he expects to complete this year.

STRENGTH IN DEPTH



Commanding Officers FDU(P)

LT(N) L. Cryderman	1951-1952
LT(N) C. Smedley	1952-1953
LT(N) L. Corbitt	1953-1954
LT(N) H. Myers	1954-1955
LT(N) P. Henry	1955-1957
LT(N) L. Chaney	1957-1957
LCdr G.H. Lowther,CD	1957-1959
LCdr B. Ackerman,CD	1959-1963
LCdr W. Palmer	1963-1969
LCdr A.W.Rowse,CD	1969-1973
LCdr L.M.Lafontaine	1973-1976
LCdr T.A. Essery,CD	1976-1981
LCdr K.J. Brown	1981-1986
LCdr P.S. Legallis,CD	1986-1990
LCdr N.L. Macdonald,CD1	1990-1994
LCdr W.E. Laing	1994-1997
LCdr E.C. King	1997-1999
LCdr H.L. Mark ,CD2	1999-2003
LCdr R.G. Dowker,CD	2003-2005
LCdr D.K. MacDonald	2005-2007
LCdr R. Watt,CD	2007-2009