



Canadian Forces Personnel Newsletter

Best wishes for 2007 from CMP

Looking back over 2006 brings me pride and sorrow in equal measure – pride in the many forward-looking accomplishments achieved within the area of human resources (HR), and sorrow at the loss of many Canadian Forces (CF) personnel. I wish for their families a brighter new year, with renewed hope and determination to carry on.

Canadians recognize and value very highly the men and women of the CF – their professionalism, their compassion, their dedication to duty, their commitment to their mission, and the confidence and pride with which they represent Canada wherever they deploy.

We in CMP are in an enviable position, affording us the opportunity to devote our energies and resources to improving every aspect of work and life for CF personnel and their families. Keeping that goal in mind throughout 2006 has resulted in valuable advances in HR policies and programs.

Recruiting, Training, Compensation and Benefits, the provision of Health Services and Spiritual Care, Honours and Recognition, the delivery of programs and assistance to CF personnel and their families, and support to deployed operations – these are just some of the areas where we, working in HR/Personnel Programs, have endeavoured to expand existing—or introduce new—services, programs and benefits for everyone in the CF family.

I thank all the members of the HR team for their dedication and hard work throughout 2006.

Our work is never done, however. We pledge to continue pursuing the very best in programs, services and support for the women and men of the CF over the coming year. We will continue to “recruit, prepare and support military personnel for operations at home and abroad in the joint, interagency, multinational and public domains.”



**Rear-Admiral Tyrone Pile
Chief Military Personnel**

I wish for you and your families a safe, prosperous and happy 2007. ♣

Mission Information Line extends service

By Mr. Michel Morency,
Mission Information Line Manager

1-800-866-4546

The Mission Information Line (MIL) is a bilingual telephone service providing up-to-date information to families of Canadian Forces (CF) personnel deployed outside Canada.

We have extended the Mission Information Line personal service hours. As of January 15, our personal service is available from 8 a.m. to midnight EST, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

Since 1992, the MIL has helped thousands of family members get through loved ones' overseas missions. MIL personnel provide help by listening to callers, through supportive counselling, and by referring callers to other professional agencies or message relays into the theatre of operations. Callers' questions never go unanswered; our professional staff is quick to respond to calls, offering the proper support when needed.

We received many calls from CF family members voicing concerns because our personal service was available only between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EST. Most of these concerns arose because the callers did not want their work colleagues or classmates to know they were going through tough times during the deployment, and they had no one to talk to in the evening.

Our automated system will continue to be available 24/7. If something significant happens between midnight and 8 a.m. weekdays, or weekends, our Newsflash/press releases message box 15 (25, in French) will be updated as soon as confirmation is received from National Defence Public Affairs.

MIL personnel are not CF personnel, but they are professionals with extensive knowledge of the

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Family Services Program expands support

From CFPN

Services of the Military Family Services Program (MFSP) have been extended to include the parents of single Regular Force personnel. Parents can now seek support and information about their deployed son or daughter from Military Family Resource Centres (MFRCs) at bases, wings and stations throughout Canada, and at Canadian/MFRCs (C/MFRCs) in the U.S. and Europe.

If you are a single Reg Force member of the CF, you should familiarize your parents and your local MFRC with each other. If your parents live in a different community, you should provide your local MFRC with your written permission for information and support to be extended to your parents by the MFRC in their area.

You can assure your parents that any personal or contact information collected by any MFRC will be held confidential, guided by the MFSP Privacy Code.

As well, your parents are welcome to contact their local MFRC directly, or they can call the Mission Information Line, a national resource that provides support and mission-specific information to families and friends of deployed CF personnel.



HALIFAX—HMCS *Iroquois* crewmembers exchange goodbyes with family and friends before sailing on a four-month round of exercises with NATO ships and ships of other allied countries.

- Read Canadian Forces General Message (CANFORGEN) 161/06 at http://vcds.dwan.dnd.ca/vcds-exec/pubs/canforgen/2006/intro_e.asp for information.
- Go to <http://www.cfpsa.com/en/psp/dmfs/mfrccontact/index.asp> for contact information for MFRCs and C/MFRCs.
- Visit Director Military Family Services at www.cfpsa.com/en/psp/dmfs/re-sources/policies_e.asp for policy and privacy information.
- Call the Mission Information Line at 1-800-866-4546. ♣

