

## **ESCAPE – WINTER 2010**

**Host Hotel: Inn on the Forks, Winnipeg**

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
April 30<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010**

### **ESCAPE Participation with Canadian Naval Centennial Events of H.M.C.S. Chippawa**

Many events are being organized across Canada throughout the year 2010 to celebrate the Canadian Naval Centennial.

The plan is that the Winter 2010 ESCAPE members will, in part, join Manitobans gathering in Winnipeg on the weekend of April 30<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Canadian Navy. This will be a unique opportunity for ESCAPE to join our Prairie sailors and their families as they honour the past and showcase our current Navy, in particular, the Naval Reserve of H.M.C.S. Chippawa.

#### **Canadian Naval Centennial - Background**

The Naval Service Act (Canada) of May 4, 1910 formally established our Canadian Navy and in the 100 years since then Canada has sent to sea more than 850 warships under our naval ensign. During the second world war Canada's Navy was one of the largest in the world and made a very significant contribution to anti-submarine defence during the Battle of the Atlantic, in addition to many other notable air, sea and landing actions on all oceans.

#### **Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (H.M.C.S.) Chippawa**

H.M.C.S. Chippawa is located at 51 Navy Way, Winnipeg. Navy Way is the one-block southmost extension of Smith Street and the main entrance to Chippawa is at the south end of the building: off Assiniboine Avenue at the intersection with Navy Way. Chippawa is an easy walk (six blocks) from the Inn on the Forks or a short walk of two blocks from the Fort Garry Hotel.

H.M.C.S. Chippawa is one of two dozen naval reserve establishments located in major cities across Canada. It is the home of our local naval reserve, several Royal Canadian Sea Cadet and Navy League corps, and many related groups and organizations known as “the Chippawa family”. H.M.C.S. Chippawa is named after the vessel which led the line of Commander Robert Barclay into action against the Americans at the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. The name “Chippawa” was derived from the First

Nations tribe that inhabited the area east of the present site of Winnipeg. The naval establishment in Winnipeg came into being in March 1923 when Eustace Brock assumed command of the Winnipeg Company R.C.N.V.R. The Winnipeg Company became the Winnipeg Division in 1936 and, finally, H.M.C.S. Chippawa in 1941.

### **The Naval Centennial Ball (Winnipeg) – Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> Canad Inns, Polo Park**

The Naval Centennial Ball will be held at 6:30 p.m. (cocktails) for 7:30 p.m. (dinner) on Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> in the ballroom of the Canad Inns, Polo Park, Winnipeg. Dress is formal attire, medals optional, or business suit with tie (men) (women accordingly). The Canad Inns, Polo Park is a twenty minute drive from the Inn at the Forks or the Fort Garry Hotel. The cost is \$55 per person. The Chippawa dance band will entertain and there will be a limited number of speakers drawn mostly from the naval community. The Ball should be a lively and worthwhile event hence a very good kick-off evening for Winter ESCAPE 2010.

Note there is more than one Canad Inn in Winnipeg: the Naval Centennial Ball will be at the Canad Inn located close to Polo Park.

Please make your centennial ball payment direct, by cheque, made out to HMCS CHIPPAWA CONSOLIDATED FUND. Diners with special dietary restrictions or who require a vegetarian meal should include an explanatory note. Please make your payment by cheque and mail directly as soon as possible to HMCS Chippawa, 1 Navy Way, Winnipeg MB, R3C 4J7. Please ensure you include a return address for purposes of sending you a receipt and ticket to the ball. After April 21<sup>st</sup> tickets will not be mailed and will be available for pickup at H.M.C.S. Chippawa between 8:00 and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. If there appears to be a mix-up of any kind please phone 204-943-7745 extension 3221 (8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday).

### **Battle of Atlantic Sunday Church Parade – Chippawa: 9:30 a.m. Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Winter ESCAPE 2010 is invited to attend the Battle of Atlantic Church Parade to be held onboard H.M.C.S. Chippawa on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is no cost for attendance nor for the lunch following. Guests should be seated on the drill deck of H.M.C.S. Chippawa by 9:30 a.m. (you are advised to come early as we expect significant attendance).

On the first Sunday of every May since the end of the second world war, the Canadian Navy has held a ceremony to commemorate the Battle of the Atlantic and acknowledge the achievements and sacrifices by sailors, both Naval and Merchant, and aircrew made both on and over the Atlantic while defending Allied supply routes from North America to Britain. The ceremony this year at H.M.C.S. Chippawa will be made specially

significant as part of our Naval Centennial celebration.

Immediately following the church service the members of ship's company accompanied by veterans and cadets will march on parade to the cenotaph on Memorial Boulevard for a wreath-laying ceremony and then to the rear of the Legislative Building for a historical photograph (the parade and photograph will take about an hour). During the time of the parade and photograph members of ESCAPE will probably want to relax a bit in the Wardroom Officers' Mess and visit Chippawa's exceptional Naval Museum. Upon completion of the parade and picture taking, an informal reception and lunch will follow in the three messes of H.M.C.S. Chippawa (the Wardroom Officers' Mess, the Chief and Petty Officers' Mess, and the Men and Wren's Mess). Members of ESCAPE are invited to visit each of the three messes and "meet and greet" the many fine sailors, and their families, of H.M.C.S. Chippawa. The activities at H.M.C.S. Chippawa will start winding-down and about 12:30 or 1:00 p.m.

Please plan on making full use of this invitation to Naval Centennial events.