

NAMING OF  
**HMCS FREDERICTON**



*Stalker of the Seas*

**SAINT JOHN SHIPBUILDING LIMITED**

## **SPONSOR**



### **Jean E. S. Irving**

Mrs. Jean Irving grew up on a family farm in Petitcodiac, New Brunswick. She is the daughter of the late Adolphus and Edith Saunders. Mrs. Irving, and her husband, J. K. Irving, have four children: James, Robert, Mary-Jean and Judith Anne. They have eleven grandchildren.

In the early years of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Irving lived in St. Leonard, New Brunswick where Mrs. Irving often accompanied her husband to lumber camps, and on log drives along the St. John River.

A nurse by profession, Jean Irving has always had a strong interest in church and community organizations, including: the United Way, Social Service Council, the Kindness Club, the Heather Society, Refugee Aid, Community Hospital, Red Cross Society and the Salvation Army.

Mrs. Irving is an active member of the First Wesleyan Church and is involved in women's ministries of the Atlantic Wesleyan District. She has had many years' experience as a youth and bible teacher, as well as a frequent conference speaker for Christian Women's clubs in Canada and the USA.

Presently, she is a board member of Beulah Camp, Bethany Bible College and Caton Island Youth Camp. In 1976-77 she studied fine arts at Bethany Bible College, and is author of the book "R. H. Nicholson, Painter and Man of God". Her hobbies are art, music, floral arranging and landscaping.

# **PROGRAM**

**Saturday, 26 June 1993**

**Welcome**

**National Anthem**

**Her Worship, Mayor Elsie E. Wayne**

**His Worship, Mayor Brad Woodside**

**Mr. Robert A. Corbett, M.P.**

**Choir - *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"***

**Vice Admiral Peter W. Cairns**

**The Honourable Frank McKenna, Premier of New Brunswick**

**Presentation of Ship's Crest**

**Choir - *"The Ships Glide in at the Harbor's Mouth"***

**Mr. J. K. Irving**

**Chaplains bless the ship**

**The Sponsor, Mrs. J. K. Irving names the ship**

**Presentation of ceremonial scissors**

**Mrs. Irving's response and presentation**

**Benediction - *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"***

## **A NAVAL TRADITION**

The origin of launching ships can be traced back to the beginning of recorded history. The basis of the launching ceremony combines both religious and superstitious beliefs. In early launching ceremonies sailors attempted to appease the ruling gods of the weather who, they believed, controlled the destiny of the ship and her crew. Traditional launching ceremonies include three elements: a short address by the ship's builder, the blessing of the ship by specially appointed clergy and the naming or christening by the sponsor. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century the person who names the ship, known as the sponsor, has almost always been a woman. The sponsor christens the ship by breaking a bottle of champagne over the bow and officially declaring it a member of Canada's naval fleet.

## **BRIEF HISTORY OF HMCS FREDERICTON**

During countless Atlantic crossings in the course of her wartime career, the corvette, HMCS FREDERICTON, was never fired upon. Thus she was dubbed "the luckiest ship in the Canadian Navy" by those who served in her. She was launched 2 September 1941 at the same time as seven other ships, three corvettes and four minesweepers. The sponsors were the wives of the respective mayors of the cities or towns for which the ships were named. Built at Marine Industries Ltd., Sorel, Quebec, HMCS FREDERICTON was commissioned 8 December 1941 and arrived in Halifax 18 December.

Throughout the worst years of the war a shortage of ocean escorts forced corvettes including HMCS FREDERICTON into the ocean escort role, operating under various authorities as the need required. Her first assignment was 17 January 1942. Apart from two well-earned six month refit and work-up periods, HMCS FREDERICTON plied the seas as an escort vessel.

HMCS FREDERICTON's movements under the following authorities operated within the following limits:

- Halifax: within a few hundred miles of Halifax
- Western Local Escort Forces: New York to St. John's, Newfoundland.
- US Eastern Sea Frontier: New York to Aruba.
- Mid Ocean Escort Force: St. John's to Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

**On 9 July 1945 HMCS FREDERICTON was paid off**

## **Official Crest of HMCS FREDERICTON**

*Description: Vert, a bend wavy argent charged with a like bendlet azure and over all a Bengal tiger prepared to leap.*

*Significance: This ship is named after the city of Fredericton, New Brunswick, and the badge elements are derived from the unofficial wartime badge of the first HMCS FREDERICTON and references to the city's geography and history. The field of the badge is green, which represents both New Brunswick forestry and the fact that the city was carved out of virgin forest. The wavy band bisecting the field symbolizes the St. John River which runs through the city. The Bengal tiger is a device taken from the unofficial wartime badge of the first ship of this name. Although the animal is not native to Canada, it is retained as a link to the wartime badge. The tiger is superimposed upon the forests and straddling the river, similar to the city, and is crouched for a leap towards prey, an indication that the vessel is a warship.*





## Eternal Father, Strong to Save

WILLIAM WHITING, 1860

JOHN B. DYKES, 1861

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep,  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word  
The winds and waves submissive heard,  
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,  
And calm amid its rage didst sleep;  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

O Sacred Spirit, who didst brood  
Up on the chaos dark and rude,  
Who bad'st its angry tumult cease,  
And gavest light, and life, and peace;  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power!  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go,  
Thus ever let there rise to thee  
Glad Hymns of praise from land and sea.

Amen.

*Guests are invited to stand and join the choir singing this hymn.*



## Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HENRY VAN DYKE, 1908

Arranged from BEETHOVEN, 1826

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, Hail thee as the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Blossoming meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest;  
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou the Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are thine:  
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the Joy Divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus, Which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us, Brother love binds man to man  
Ever singing march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music lifts us sunward In the triumph song of life.

Amen.

*Guests are invited to stand and join the choir singing the last verse.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## The Ships Glide in at the Harbor's Mouth

MARGARET SANGSTER, 1893

A.B. PONSONBY, 1913

The ships glide in at the harbor's mouth, And the ships sail out to sea,  
And the wind that sweeps from the sunny south Is sweet as sweet can be.  
There's a world of toil and a world of pains, And a world of trouble and care,  
But O in a world where our Father reigns, There is gladness everywhere!

The harvest waves in the breezy morn, And the men go forth to reap;  
The fullness comes to the tasselled corn, Whether we wake or sleep.  
And far on the hills by feet untrod There are blossoms that scent the air,  
For O in this world of our Father, God, There is beauty everywhere!

The ships glide in at the harbor's mouth, And the ships sail out to sea,  
And the wind that sweeps from the sunny south Is sweet as sweet can be.  
There's a world of toil and a world of pains, And a world of trouble and care,  
But O in a world where our Father reigns, There is gladness everywhere!

Amen.