



# News

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## CNTHA's Journey of Discovery

During this 100th anniversary year of the Canadian navy it is opportune to remember that the success of the navy in its endeavours over the past century has been due to the dedication and hard work of countless naval, government and industrial people. A major aim of the Canadian Naval Technical History Association is to capture the naval technical development side of their story and, in cooperation with the Directorate of History and Heritage (DHH), make it available for study by generations to come.

Since 1992, CNTHA's Canadian Naval Defence Industrial Base (CANDIB) project has been successfully investigating and documenting the industrial aspects of naval procurement, from the role played by marine industry in naval research and development, to the work of the design houses and shipyards. Over the last few years a number of highly interesting and important aspects of Canada's naval technical history have been documented and turned over to DHH for its archives. Where much of this information was once in real danger of becoming lost forever, it is now available for use by researchers, authors, students and anyone with a curiosity about events leading up to many important naval acquisitions.

We are pleased to report that the CNTHA/CANDIB effort continues to acquire important historical information, both in written form and through oral histories. Interviews continue with leading figures on the industrial and government sides of the design and build of the *Halifax*-class



frigates, as do those with key people involved in the genesis of the *Kingston* and *Orca* classes. We have been equally successful in interviewing people who were part of the build program for the supply vessel *HMCS Provider*, and the conversion of *HMCS Cormorant* to a diving support ship. The CNTHA is also now recording the events that gave rise to key combat system technologies in which Canada played a vital and unique role, and will soon begin capturing more facets of Canadian naval technical history relating to marine systems, naval architecture and personnel. It has been a fascinating journey of discovery, to say the least.

We invite you to visit our updated website which showcases our interview transcripts, photo gallery, and other features. We are always interested in volunteers to help with our efforts, so please consider participating. Contact us through the website at <http://cntha.ca>, or by telephone (Tony Thatcher) at 613-567-7004 ext 227. We wish everyone associated with our great navy all the very best in Canada's naval centennial year.

— Pat Barnhouse and  
Tony Thatcher

