



Vice Admiral (Ret'd) Ron Buck, CMM, CD

Ron was born and raised in Montreal and joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1967. He graduated from McGill University in 1971 and was commissioned as a Sub-lieutenant in the Navy. He served his formative years from 1971 to 1975 in many HMC Ships. From 1979 to 1981 he served on exchange with the Royal Navy where he trained and assessed RN Command teams as the Cooke Trainer Training Officer. He was appointed Executive Officer (second in command) of HMCS ATHABASKAN in 1983 and on promotion to Commander he was posted to National Defence Headquarters in 1985.

In 1987 Ron was appointed as Commanding Officer of HMCS RESTIGOUCHE and in 1989 he was selected as the Project Manager for the Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel Project which he led to successful award of the implementation contract which delivered 12 ships to the Navy. In 1992, he was appointed as Commander Fifth Canadian Destroyer Squadron and during this period he led the operational acceptance of the Canadian Patrol Frigates and updated Tribal Destroyers to fleet operations.

On promotion to Commodore in 1994 Ron was appointed as Commander Canadian Forces Training System and was subsequently appointed as Chief of Staff of the Management Command and Control Reengineering Team (MCCRT) in Ottawa. In 1997 he was appointed as the first Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific and he was promoted to Rear Admiral and appointed as Commander of Maritime Forces Pacific in 1998. He served as MARPAC for three years through June of 2001 during which he was promoted to Vice Admiral.

Shortly after appointment as the Commander of Maritime Command (professional head of the Royal Canadian Navy) in 2001 he led the planning and execution of the naval component of Operation Apollo, the Canadian contribution to the Global War on Terrorism. Ron was appointed as Vice Chief of the Defence Staff and served as VCDS from 2004 to 2006.

He retired on 4 July 2006 after just short of 39 years of service in the Royal Canadian Navy and Canadian Armed Forces but quickly failed retirement. After retirement from 2008 to 2011 he mentored newly promoted Flag and General Officers at the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College.

During his military career, Ron had major Cadet related responsibilities going back to 1994 in Ontario, from 1998 to 2001 in British Columbia and as Vice Chief of Defence staff from 2004 to 2006. Upon retirement, this led him to join the Navy League of Canada which has a mandate for youth development and maritime affairs advocacy. He was elected to the Navy League National Board in 2009 first as Director Strategic Fund Raising and then as National First Vice President in 2010, as National President of in April 2012 and completed a two-year term as the Immediate Past President in 2016. Ron is a Vice-Chair of the Conference of Defence Associations and is active in providing commentary on Canadian defence and security issues. He is also a member of the Defence Advisory Board to the Department of National Defence and is a Governor of Commissionaires Ottawa.



In June 2013, he was elected to the Perley and Rideau Veterans Health Centre (PRVHC) Board of Directors because of his concern for veteran's/seniors' health care issues in the Ottawa community and in 2015 he was elected as Board Chair and served as such until June 2018. He now continues to serve as Past Chair and Director on the Perley Board. He is also an advisor to the NATO Veterans Organization of Canada (NVOC) which has as its mission to speak for modern veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces, in order that they receive the support they deserve from their country.

As can be seen from my CV I have led at all levels of the CAF and I have led the NL as National President. I have been a member of the Navy League since 2007 but as indicated earlier I have been deeply involved in Cadet program since 1994. In my time as National President and since I led the effort to rewrite the National By Laws in 2014 and I am still called upon from time to time to interpret them, I have acted as a mentor when asked and as an Adjunct Advisor to the Board. As an Adjunct Advisor I was the point person for the NL on the recently approved updated MOU with DND and similarly the Consultative Framework.

Finally, I have a working relationship and know the CDS, the Deputy Minister, the VCDS, and the Commander/Deputy of the National Cadet and Junior Rangers Support Group.