



## Biography

# Combined Joint Operations from the Sea Centre of Excellence

### Captain Todd Bonnar, Royal Canadian Navy Branch Head, Strategic Plans and Policy

Captain Todd Bonnar, MSC, CD joined the Canadian Armed Forces as a Direct Entry Officer in 1997. After completing Maritime Surface Officer classification training in HMCS VANCOUVER in 1998, he was selected to represent Canada in an exchange with the Royal Australian Navy in HMAS HOBART and HMAS ANZAC during which time he participated in the UN Peace Keeping Mission to East Timor.

He returned to Canada's West Coast fleet in 2000 and subsequently served as the CANFLTPAC Flagship's Above Water Warfare Officer in HMCS ALGONQUIN. During this time he deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of OP APOLLO, Canada's response to the September 11th attacks earning a Task Force Commander's commendation for his Intelligence work. Captain Bonnar completed his Operations Room Officer course in 2004, returning to HMCS ALGONQUIN where he served as both the Flagship's Weapons Officer and Combat Officer. During this tour he also completed his Area Air Warfare Commanders qualification.

He was promoted to the rank of Commander on 6th of June 2010 at Juno Beach on the shores of Normandy, France and assumed the position of Executive Officer, HMCS PROTECTEUR in July 2010. In January 2012, he "Fleet'ed Up" and assumed the position of Commanding Officer. During his tenure in PROTECTEUR, he participated in numerous deployments in support to counter narcotics efforts in Central America with Joint Inter-Agency Task Force (South), earned the Operational Support Medal (Expeditionary) as well as a Commander Canadian Joint Operations Command commendation.

In 2017 he represented Canada as Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander of NATO's high readiness maritime Task Group, Standing NATO Maritime Group One, participating in Operation REASSURANCE in the Baltic Sea and Operation SEA GUARDIAN, NATO's enduring counter-terrorism and security operation in the Mediterranean, earning the Meritorious Service Cross for his leadership of the Task Group.

Shore duties saw him briefly at Canadian Forces Fleet School Esquimalt as the Acting Division Commander for Warfare Training Division in 2003 before being posted to Halifax for the Operations Room Officer course. In 2007, he was the J3 Operations at Canadian Expeditionary Forces Command in Ottawa, integrally involved with full spectrum joint operations in Afghanistan. In 2014 he assumed command of the Naval Officer's Training Centre charged with developing and mentoring the future cadre the Royal Canadian Navy's commanding officers. In 2015 as part of RCN Transformation, he assumed the inaugural command of Naval Fleet School (Pacific), the largest school in the Canadian Forces. Upon his return from duties at sea in Europe, he was promoted and assigned the position of Strategic Policy and Plans at CJOS COE in Norfolk, VA.

He holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences Degree from the University of Ottawa and a Masters of Defence Studies with a focus on Chinese Domestic Policy, from the Royal Military College of Canada. He is a graduate of CF Joint Command and Staff Programme 36.

He enjoys the truly outstanding support of his family and credits any success to his beautiful wife, Erin and his two amazing daughters, Kamryn and Lauryn. He spends what spare time he has in the gym training and trying to master his poor guitar skills. An avid fan of the Ottawa Senators hockey club, he tries to keep the dream alive and laces up the skates whenever possible.

