



Canadian
Coast Guard

Garde côtière
canadienne



UNCLASSIFIED / NON-CLASSIFIÉ

Overview: Maritime Search & Rescue (SAR)

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Canadian Coast Guard, Arctic Region

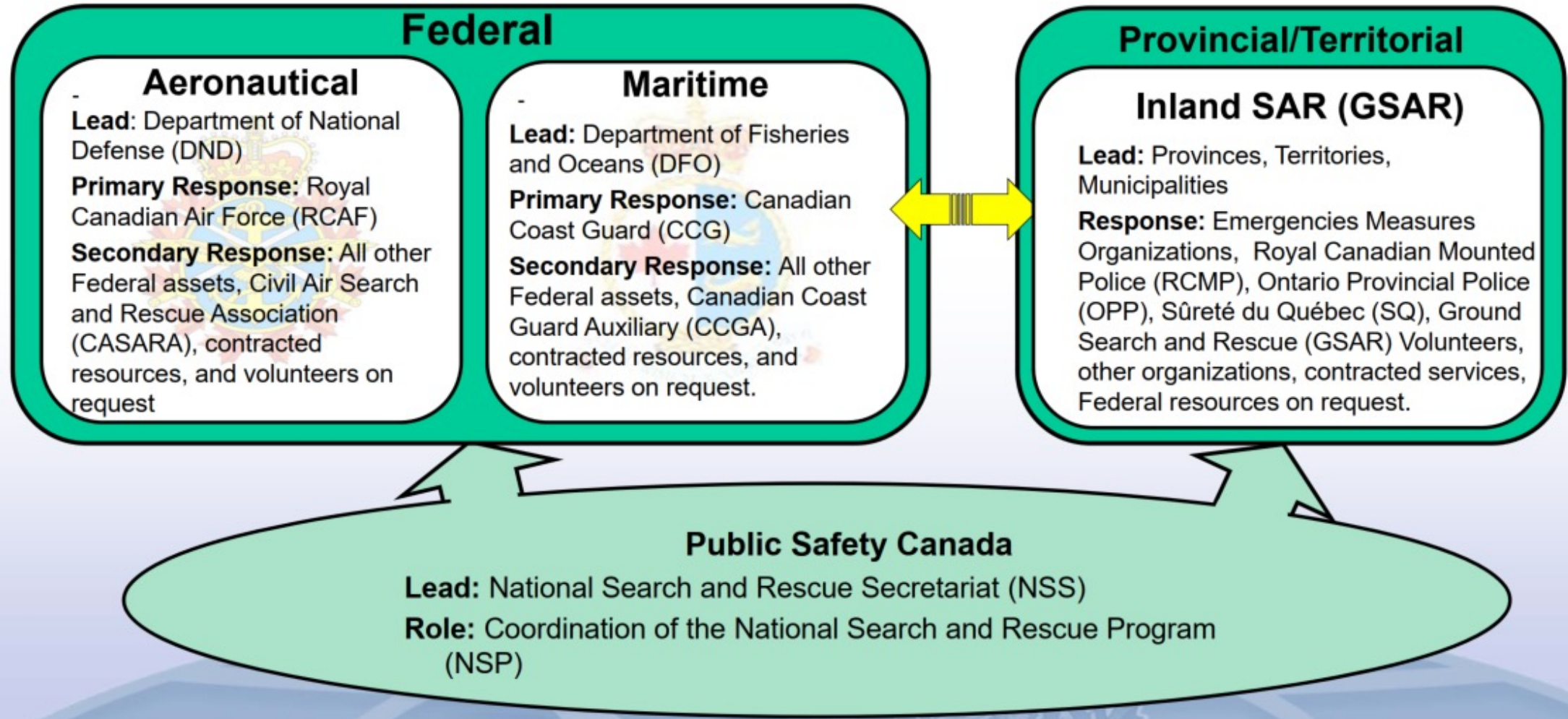
Hudson Bay Consortium Summit; Winnipeg, MB

February 13-15, 2024



Canada

Federal vs. Provincial / Territorial SAR Responsibilities



Canadian Coast Guard's Role in SAR

- CCG, in collaboration with Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) & Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA), provides 24/7/365 SAR services to mariners in coastal waters, Great Lakes, & St. Lawrence River System
- Provision of humanitarian SAR services outside of traditional coastal areas of responsibility
- **Maritime component of federal SAR program** rests with Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) & CCG
- Responsibility is assigned to DFO through *Oceans Act*
- **CCG has primary responsibility for provision of maritime component of federal SAR program**



Arctic SAR Agreement Boundaries

CCG SAR Activities

1. Provision of & participation in maritime component of joint rescue coordination centres (JRCCs) & provision, operation, & equipping of Quebec & St. John's maritime rescue sub-centres (MRSCs) & other SAR installations, in cooperation with CAF
2. In collaboration with CAF, coordination, control, & conduct of maritime SAR operations within Canadian AOR
3. Provision of maritime advice & assistance to CAF in coordination of aeronautical SAR & other emergencies which may require use of maritime facilities
4. Provision of maritime SAR units (SRUs) in response to SAR incidents within Canadian AOR, activities of which SRUs are coordinated by JRCCs & MRSCs
5. Provision of humanitarian assistance, as secondary task, when deemed best provided by CCG SRUs



SAR Activities - Continued

6. Formulation & promulgation of federal SAR policy (in collaboration with the Interdepartmental Committee SAR)
7. Establishment of levels of service, performance, & operating standards
8. Provision of maritime SAR training for coordinated SAR system in collaboration (when appropriate) with CAF
9. Organization, coordination, & administration of CCGA activities
10. Evaluation of SAR services, equipment & procedures, in collaboration with CAF
11. Review of SAR services, installations, & units, in collaboration with CAF
12. Provision of maritime distress & safety communications & alerting services



CCG Complementary SAR Tasks

1. Provide maritime SAR units (SRUs), when & where available, to assist in prosecution of humanitarian incidents
2. Support Transport Canada (Office of Boating Safety) in SAR prevention through:
 - Participation in related educational programs
 - By advising appropriate agencies of areas of concern identified in SAR operations



CCG SAR Service Standard

- Internationally & nationally established standards adopted in whole/part as appropriate (e.g., CCG uses International Aeronautical & Maritime SAR manual)
- SAR mission co-ordination services provided 24/7
- All reported maritime SAR alerts/incidents will be investigated & assessed
- SAR preparedness & response services provided on risk basis during normal local navigation season:
 - Designated SAR Units, with specially trained crews operational 24/7
 - SRUs will depart on SAR tasking within 30 minutes or less 99% of the time
 - All SRUs carry trained Rescue Specialist capable of providing pre-hospital medical care
 - SRU Sea Island in British Columbia, specially trained crew provides diving services 24/7 basis
 - Dive team can enter capsized vessels in certain circumstances when backed up by 2nd specially trained team
 - Inshore Rescue Boat units will depart on SAR taskings within 30 minutes or less, 99% of the time, during on-duty time
 - When in operational status, all other CCG vessels depart on SAR taskings within 1 hour of notification



SAR Incident Types

- SAR Incident: reported situation with potential to require response from SAR System
- 4 types of SAR incidents:
 1. **Aeronautical** –SAR incident involving aircraft
 2. **Maritime*** – SAR incident on water involving vessel or person(s) from vessel, including medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) of person(s) from vessel
 3. **Humanitarian** –SAR incident not otherwise classified as aeronautical or maritime incident
 4. **Unknown** –SAR incident of unknown origin - source remaining untraced at conclusion of incident



***Note:** Maritime SAR Cases on Mackenzie River, Great Slave Lake, & Baker Lake are classified as Humanitarian (Inland waters), as they fall under the jurisdiction of province/territory, not Federal SAR



Primary & Secondary SAR Assets

- CCG uses categories of SAR assets to respond to maritime SAR incidents:
 - Primary SAR vessels
 - Secondary SAR assets
 - CCGA vessels
- CCG SAR response services provided 24/7 & coordinated by JRCC
- Properly reported maritime SAR alerts/incidents to be investigated & assessed
- Maritime SAR preparedness & response services provided on risk-analysis basis during operational season



Primary SAR Assets

- Specially designed, equipped, & crewed asset, where SAR is designated as main responsibility
- Stationed in areas that have shown high risk for SAR incidents
- CCG assets maintain 30-minute SAR departure **standby** time
- Includes RCAF under DND, CCG Fleet lifeboat stations, & Inshore Rescue Boat stations

Secondary SAR Assets

- Government assets tasked to deliver SAR as secondary designation from their main operational program
- Remain within specific area & maintain all SAR operational standards
- Maintain 60-minute SAR departure **standby** time
- Includes icebreakers, research vessels, etc.



Other Responding SAR Resources

Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA)

- Highly effective volunteer organization which augments government SAR assets in delivering National SAR mandate
- Trained community volunteers with SAR capable vessels & equipment



Tasking of CCGA units is considered:

1. In the absence of &/or to augment other SAR units;
2. Determination that by utilizing CCGA units, SAR incident can be managed more efficiently



Arctic Region - SAR Response Available Assets



Royal Canadian Air Force



CCG Arctic Marine Response Station



CCG Icebreakers



CCG Helicopters



Royal Canadian Navy



Provincial & Territorial SAR Assets



Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary



Royal Canadian Mounted Police



Vessels of Opportunity



CCG Auxiliary in March 2016



...Where we
are now
(January 2024)



CCG Auxiliary: Community Boats

Since 2017, CCG has awarded community boats to Arctic communities to enhance local response capacity, including:

Under Construction:

- Waskaganish, QC



Delivered / Livré:

- Cambridge Bay, NU
- Rankin Inlet, NU
- Gjoa Haven, NU
- Ulukhaktok, NT
- Clyde River, NU (electronics)
- Kugluktuk, NU
- Tuktoyaktuk, NT
- Pond Inlet, NU
- Innu Nation, NL (x2)
- Yellowknife, NT
- Churchill, MB
- Inuvik, NT
- Arviat, NU
- Hay River, NT
- Aklavik, NT
- Nunatsiavut Govt., NL (x2)
- Sanirajak, NU
- Igloolik, NU
- Nauyasat, NU
- Kangiqsujuaq, QC
- Pangnirtung, NU



Other Responding SAR Resources Continued

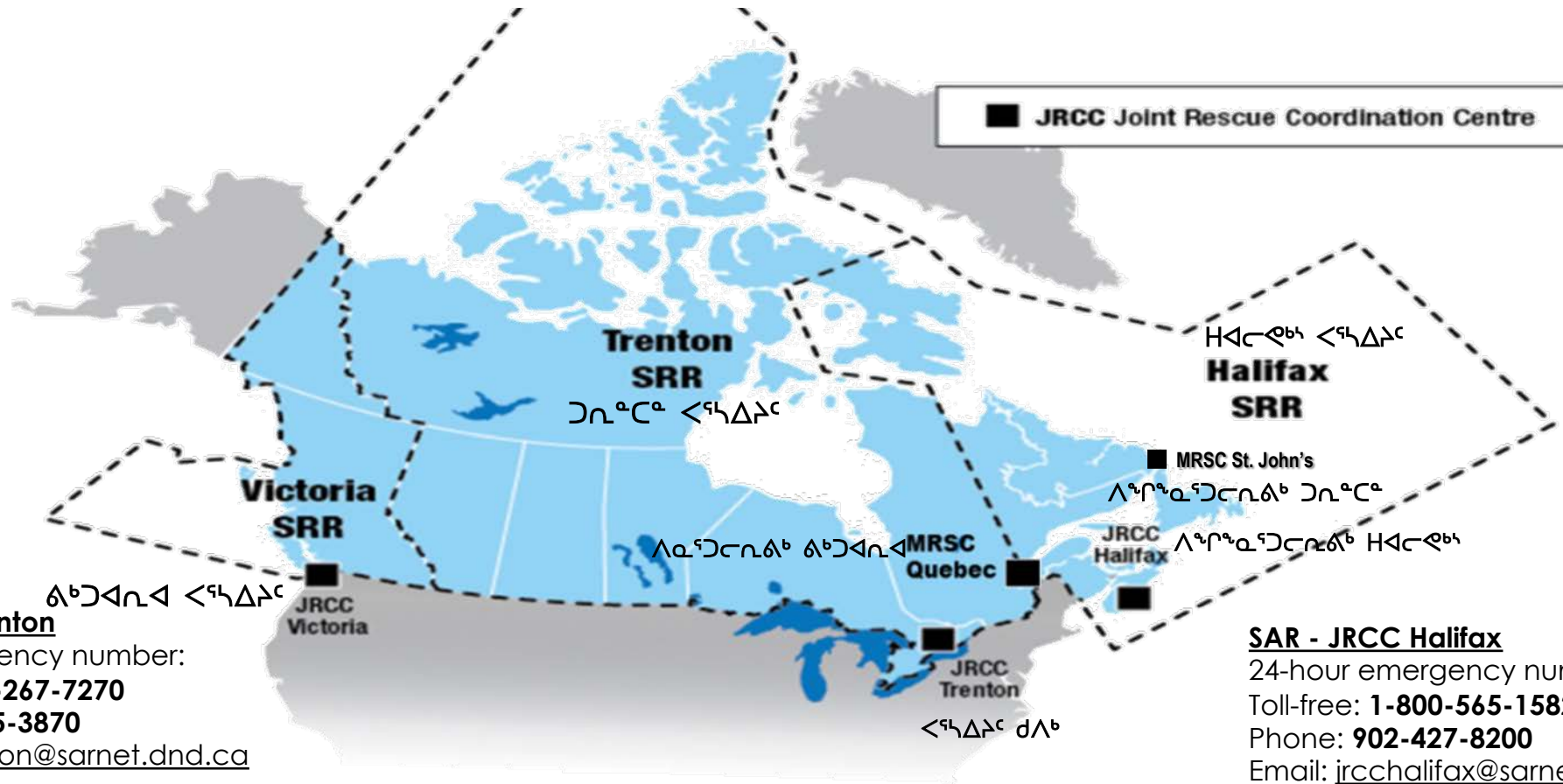


Vessels of Opportunity

- Any other vessel, not mentioned previously, close enough to assist vessel in distress (fishing or hunting boats, sealift, tankers, cruise ships, etc.)
- Under Canadian & International Law, every vessel at sea is required to assist in distress situation



Who to Call in a Maritime Emergency?



SAR - JRCC Trenton

24-hour emergency number:
 Toll-free: **1-800-267-7270**
 Phone: **613-965-3870**
 Email: jrcctrenton@sarnet.dnd.ca

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SAR - JRCC Halifax

24-hour emergency number:
 Toll-free: **1-800-565-1582**
 Phone: **902-427-8200**
 Email: jrcchalifax@sarnet.dnd.ca

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Questions?



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