

# SARSCENE - Autumn 1998



## TABLE OF CONTENTS (abridged)

### LETTERS

[Letter to the Editor](#)

[Fond Farewells from SARSCENE's Editor](#)

### SARSCENE '98

[SARSCENE '98 Workshop Overview](#)

[SARSCENE Games '98](#)

[SARSCENE '98 Presentations](#)

[SARSCENE '98 Trade Show Exhibitor Listing](#)

### TRAINING

[Arctic SAREX Puts MAJAJD Kits to the Test](#)

### AWARDS

[442 Squadron Wins Prestigious Mynarski Trophy](#)

[Star of Courage](#)

[Safety Award](#)

[Award of Excellence](#)

[Film Award](#)

[Harry Strong Recognized for Outstanding Service to Maritime SAR](#)

[SAR](#)

[Certificates of Achievement 1998](#)

### RESCUE

[Teen Survives Ordeal in the Bush](#)

### UPDATES

[CASARA Board of Directors Hold Meeting at SARSCENE '98](#)

[SARVAC Update](#)

---

## Letter to the Editor

Dear SARSCENE:

I live in an isolated community of 230 people on the northern Labrador shore. We have recently started a search and rescue team. Because of our isolation, we find it impossible to raise funds to purchase equipment or uniforms for our team.

I am writing in hopes that other teams will consider donating used equipment or uniforms to help our team become more effective. Currently, we have one quick meeting before going on a search and cannot contact each other until we return to the community. Simple two-way radios would make our searches much more effective.

If any SARSCENE readers could help us to strengthen our team, we would greatly appreciate hearing from them.

*Harold Goudie  
Postville Ground Search and Rescue  
P.O. Box 27, Postville, Labrador AOP 1N0*

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## Fond Farewells from SARSCENE's Editor

Life is full of changes and surprises. This is certainly true at this point in my life. Another successful SARSCENE Workshop has ended and it will be my last. As of November 1998, I will be leaving the National Search and Rescue Secretariat to begin a new job.

Almost nine years ago, I started working at the Secretariat. In March, 1991, the first issue of SARSCENE magazine was launched and I embarked on a journey of exploration with the SAR community in Canada.

I have watched the SARSCENE workshops grow from the first in 1992 to the 1998 Workshop which had a record 639 participants. We have worked together to create a series of national Directories for Search and Rescue in Canada.

I am very proud to have worked with the federal and provincial SAR providers and am honoured to have met the hundreds of SAR volunteers who give their time so generously to help others.

Your generosity and devotion are the inspiration to make each workshop better and to strive to improve the magazine and use it to highlight your accomplishments.

I wish all of you health, happiness and continued success in all that you do. Thank-you for sharing your world with me.

*Carol O'Rourke-Elliott*

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## SARSCENE '98 Workshop Overview

SARSCENE '98, Working Together to Bring Them Home, was held 23 to 27 September in Banff, Alberta. Combining presentations, outdoor demonstrations and social events, the workshop was a great success. A record 639 participants from across North America and Europe enjoyed the opportunity to share their ideas and enthusiasm with members of volunteer, provincial and federal SAR agencies.

SAR Alberta welcomed the SAR community by providing dedicated planning, volunteers and resources for the workshop.

The SARSCENE workshops have become the setting for the annual meetings of many SAR agencies, with pre-conference meetings for the Civil Air Search and Rescue Association, the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada, the federal SAR Prevention Working Group, the National Association for Search and Rescue Board of Directors, the William G. Syrotuck Symposium and WISARAC. Parks Canada's rescue specialists also met during the workshop.

As usual, this year's workshop had many exciting activities and a few special celebrations. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police celebrated its 125th anniversary and the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrated its 20th anniversary. The Opening Ceremonies, which featured a Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Colour Guard, were followed by a presentation of the SMARTRISK Foundation's HEROES program. Hosted

by Parks Canada, and the Banff Centre's Eric Harvie Theatre, the program was presented to 795 local school children in the afternoon. Workshop participants praised the program with comments such as, "This is a very important program. I think every student in Canada should be required to see it."

Popular workshop sessions included "Fatigue and its effects on the Rescuer" by Robert Koester, "The Warburton Search" by Cst Everett Densmore and a range of topics from SAR in the Scottish off-shore oil industry to canine search and rescue. Special workshops were offered on the New SAR Initiatives Fund, search management, and GPS and mapping.

The trade show was a success again this year, with over 40 exhibitors showcasing a wide range of technology and products for the SAR community. Many of the exhibitors donated prizes to the Silent Auction, organized by Foothills Search and Rescue. The auction was very successful, raising over \$2500 for SAR teams in Alberta.

The SARSCENE Games were held for a second year, with the Marathon Fire Department earning first place. The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) came in second followed by Foothills Search and Rescue. Six teams demonstrated great skill on the challenging course and tackled rugged terrain in a very close competition.

The highlight for many participants was the Awards Banquet. The 1998 Outstanding Search and Rescue Achievement Award was presented to Harry Strong, of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary for his outstanding leadership and commitment to helping others by the Hon. David Anderson, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. Certificates of Achievement were presented to 12 deserving recipients from across Canada.

Workshop participants also enjoyed Technical Rescue Day, held off-site at Wasootch Slabs and Barrier Lake and organized by George Field and the Kananaskis Country staff. The outdoor event featured high angle rope rescue, with demonstrations by Parks Canada rescue specialists, and a special presentation by the International Association SAR of China.

Organizing an event like SARSCENE is a huge undertaking. Special thanks are extended to the Alberta Organizing Committee, Parks Canada, Kananaskis Country, RCMP, the Banff Centre, the Canadian Coast Guard and the Town of Banff who all made SARSCENE '98 a success.

SARSCENE '99 will take place 13-17 October at the Delta Hotel in St. John's Newfoundland and planning is well under way. We're sure everyone will have another great workshop and will also enjoy visiting Newfoundland as it celebrates 50 years as a Canadian province. Watch future issues of SARSCENE for details on themes, updates and planning.

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## **SARSCENE Games '98**

The second annual SARSCENE Games were held 23 September 1998 in Banff, Alberta.

Six teams, representing volunteers, police and international SAR personnel participated on a tough course, situated on Tunnel Mountain. Local media enjoyed the opportunity to see what is involved in ground search and rescue.

The winning team was the Marathon (Ontario) Volunteer Fire Department, with second place honours going to the Ontario Provincial Police Emergency Response Team. Foothills Search and Rescue placed third.

Early in the morning, the teams were briefed on the exercise and given the information to lead them to the course. Teams participated in various events such as:

- search planning
- search for physical evidence
- navigation and distance exercise

- first response medical
- extrication of the victim from a "tunnel."

A Canadian Forces Support Team from Garrison, Edmonton, provided communications and personnel for the day, and numerous SAR Alberta volunteers made it possible for smooth progress through the course. Special thanks to everyone who helped make the games a success.

The SARSCENE Games were established in 1997 to showcase the many important skills of SAR workers and motivate teams to higher standards through competition and visibility. The 1999 Games will be held on 13 October in St. John's, Newfoundland.

*For more information about the SARSCENE Games please contact:*

*John Chaffey, Chief Non-Federal SAR Programs*

*National Search and Rescue Secretariat*

*Tel: (613) 996-3727*

*Fax: (613) 996-3746*

*E-mail: [jchaffey@nss.gc.ca](mailto:jchaffey@nss.gc.ca)*

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## **Arctic SAREX Puts MAJAID Kits to the Test**

The Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) signal comes in: a twin-engine commuter aircraft has crashed somewhere near an arctic settlement. The ELT location and some details are secured. There are 50 passengers to rescue, and weather conditions are poor.

This scenario was given to the Canadian, U.S. and Russian para rescue teams participating in the sixth annual Arctic SAR Exercise (SAREX) in Trenton, Ontario, in October 1998. The orange glow of magnesium flares lit up the wreckage. Several large pieces of the aircraft and various victims suffering from a range of injuries were strewn about the field.

Just after sunrise, the first C-130 Hercules aircraft circled the area, carrying SAR Techs from 424 Squadron, and personnel from the Alaska Air National Guard and the Russian military. Once on the ground, the team moved quickly to assess injuries and prioritize treatment. To help the SAR Techs and the victims, Major Air Disaster (MAJAID) kits were used.

Developed by the Department of National Defence, MAJAID kits provide enough equipment to treat and sustain up to 80 people for 72 hours after a major air disaster. The kits, which are dropped by Hercules aircraft near a crash site, contain such things as Argo all-terrain vehicles with trailers for transporting equipment and people, three types of fuel, generators, toboggans, tents, rations, casualty bags, heaters, environmental clothing and blankets. SAR Techs carry medical equipment with them. Each kit weighs approximately 11 000 lbs (4990 kgs) and SAR gear can support another 140 victims if conditions are not too severe.

"The kits have enough supplies to sustain victims and rescuers for three to four days in an isolated environment," said MWO (ret'd) Mike Johnston, now a reservist. "The contents of the kit are constantly evolving, so training exercises like this one allow us to see what works and what needs to be improved."

Within an hour, teams from Russia and the United States parachuted in, simulating the events of a real rescue. Tents were erected and teams established a triage unit. As victims were treated, SAR personnel were evaluated for their medical skills. Injuries ranged from severe burns and broken bones to amputated limbs.

The injured were then transported to the Forward Operating Base (FOB) at the Mountainview Cadet Camp where Canadian Forces medical personnel treated them, using all the same steps and equipment normally used.

Arctic SAREX exercises permit Canadian, Russian and American para rescue teams to share their skills and learn from each other. MGen

Alexander Puzanov finds the exercises very useful for his personnel. "While each nation has a different approach, we share one important goal," said Puzanov. "Arctic SAREX eliminates methods which could hinder rescue efforts and comes up with a unified approach. MGen Puzanov brought a 19-member delegation to Arctic SAREX, including seven para rescue personnel and a military physician. At Arctic SAREX '94, the Russian delegation displayed its unique, inflatable, air-droppable hospital. "The hospital can be inflated and ready for use within two hours of being deployed. It gives us a sterile, warm environment to treat victims," said Puzanov. "It is also used to assess the health of cosmonauts returning to the earth." Maj Mike Haller of the Alaska Air National Guard is an enthusiastic supporter of the Arctic SAREX exercises. "In Alaska, we work closely with Canadian and Russian personnel for rescues above the 58th parallel," he said. "These types of exercises allow us to share different ideas, tactics and equipment." Hosting Arctic SAREX is quite an undertaking. LCol Charlie Cue, of 1 Canadian Air Division Headquarters in Winnipeg, Manitoba, was the organizer of this successful event, responsible for a unimagined number of details and logistics. 424 Squadron constructed the huge airliner replica and volunteer "victims" from 8 Wing Trenton endured an uncomfortable morning lying on cold, damp earth.

The simulated multi-national operations at Arctic SAREX are not unrealistic as the three participating nations share Arctic territory challenging even the best-trained and best-equipped response teams. Arctic SAREX was developed to promote international co-operation and save lives in the polar region.

*Jennifer Reaney, NSS*

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## **442 Squadron Wins Prestigious Mynarski Trophy**

For excellence in the field of aviation search and rescue, a crew from 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron in Comox, British Columbia, was recently awarded the prestigious Mynarski Trophy by the Air Force Association of Canada.

On 17 March 1997, the 41-foot (20-metre) fishing vessel, Cape Fairweather was caught in bad weather with neither radio antennas nor outriggers for assistance. A de Havilland Buffalo aircraft from 442 Squadron flew to the scene, but confirmed that the vessel's captain thought the pumps could keep up with the incoming water and did not want the crew evacuated.

Three hours later, conditions worsened. The vessel's pumps were failing and couldn't cope with the 30- to 40-foot (9- to 12-metre) waves. To add to the danger, the ship's cargo, some 20 000 pounds of fish, shifted and caused the vessel to list dangerously. The crew would have to abandon ship.

A Labrador helicopter was dispatched from Comox and flew 109 nautical miles over water through turbulence, low clouds and heavy rains. In the mere 45 minutes it took to reach the vessel, the Cape Fairweather's deck was already partially submerged.

Only a small area on the bow remained for a hoisting site. The Labrador's team leader guided the cable from the pitching deck as the SAR Tech was lowered down again and again to pluck each crewman from the bow of the ill-fated ship. Because the helicopter couldn't hover directly over the site, the pilot and flight engineer had to time each hoist sequence between the huge waves.

Several times the SAR Tech was left dangling above the raging waves awaiting a safe hoist. The helicopter's pilot had to contend with the ship's mast which threatened to strike the helicopter or propel the SAR Tech into the wires and rigging over the tiny hoist area. The hoisting operation was made even more dangerous as the pilot and flight engineer had to manoeuvre the SAR Tech and evacuees among the obstacles on the listing vessel.

All four crew members were successfully evacuated without injury to themselves or their rescuers and transported to shore in good condition. The crew from 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron were aircraft commander Capt Martin Combe, first officer Lt (USCG) Sean Mahoney, flight engineer MCpl Tom Molloy, team leader Sgt Tony Isaacs and team member MCpl Mark Charron.

The Mynarski Trophy, the highest award for excellence in field and air search and rescue, is awarded annually to the most deserving federal, provincial or civilian organization, crew or individual in recognition of a significant contribution to aviation search and rescue in Canada.

For more information about the Mynarski Trophy or the Air Force Association of Canada visit the Web Site at: [www.airforce.ca](http://www.airforce.ca)

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

### **Star of Courage**

On 13 November 1996, Search and Rescue Technicians Sgt Kevin Elliott and MCpl Darcy St-Laurent of 413 Squadron in Greenwood, Nova Scotia, parachuted in hazardous conditions to rescue four survivors whose helicopter had crashed in the Torngat Mountains of northern Labrador. For this, they were awarded the Star of Courage by Governor General Roméo LeBlanc.

### **Safety Award**

The Canadian Association of Broadcasters awarded the television series Out of Bounds a CanPro award in the Sports and Outdoor category at its 1998 convention in Calgary, Alberta. The series features information on how to enjoy the Canadian outdoors in a safe manner and will run for a third time on the Women's Television Network and as Parks Canada public service announcements on television stations all across Canada. The series was produced by Royal York Communications with support from the National Search and Rescue Secretariat, the Canadian Coast Guard, the Office of Boating Safety and numerous other sponsors.

### **Award of Excellence**

The Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame has awarded the 1998 Belt of Orion Award of Excellence to Canadian Forces Search and Rescue personnel, past and present, in commemoration of their 50 years of dedicated service to Canada. The Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame elevates, protects and preserves the names and deeds (for the enlightenment of Canadians present and future) of those persons, both alive and dead, whose contributions to Canadian aviation or acts of supreme gallantry in aerial combat while a member of Canada's armed forces, have benefitted the nation.

### **Film Award**

Beating the Odds a film created by the Canadian Avalanche Association was recently named Best Instructional and Technique film at the 1997 International Ski and Snowboard Film Festival in Crested Butte, Colorado.

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

### **Harry Strong Recognized for Outstanding Service to Maritime SAR**

Each year, the National Search and Rescue Secretariat presents the Outstanding Search and Rescue Achievement Award to the individual or group who has made the most significant contribution to search and rescue efforts in Canada.

On 25 September 1998, the participants of SARSCENE '98 gathered to honour the winner of the 1998 Outstanding SAR Achievement Award. The Honourable David Anderson, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, presented the award to Harry Strong, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA). Harry's commitment and dedication has permitted the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary to prosper into a lifesaving organization of which all Canadians can be proud. Harry has earned an unparalleled reputation throughout the search and rescue community as a person whose primary concern is the well being of his fellow mariners, said Anderson.

As CEO of the CCGA, Mr. Strong has been instrumental in developing the auxiliary into one of the most capable and cost-effective lifesaving organizations in Canada. A CCGA volunteer since 1979, Mr. Strong has dedicated countless hours and immeasurable energy to improving the CCGA and acting as its spokesperson in national and international arenas.

In 1990, Mr. Strong received the prestigious Canadian Coast Guard Commissioner's Commendation for his commitment and professionalism dedicated to the development and formation of the CCGA. He continues to volunteer countless hours to the CCGA and to his community of Old Perlican, Newfoundland.

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## **Certificates of Achievement 1998**

### *British Columbia SAR Advisory Committee*

The Committee has been instrumental in advancing search and rescue policy and providing advice on operations. In recent years, the committee developed a SAR Strategic Plan, which suggested changes now being implemented by British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program (P.E.P). The committee also created a Trip Plan which has been distributed throughout British Columbia and was named in provincial hunting and fishing regulations. The Trip Plan has been used by other provinces and may be used nationally pending a funding decision. Members of the committee are Dave Brewer, Linda Hillard, Scott Larsen, Ian Cunnings, Geoff Vick, Pete Wise, Marty Hellewell, Gord Meakin, Colleen Jones, Jon Heshka, Don Bindon, Geoff Amy, Linda West.

### *Lance Cooper, Alpine Helicopters*

As chief pilot for Alpine Helicopters, Mr. Cooper provides rescue services to the south central Rocky Mountains. For 15 years, Mr. Cooper has operated the busiest mountain rescue base in the country. Over thousands of flying hours, he has performed numerous dangerous rescues in all sorts of conditions and is respected as one of the best and most experienced mountain rescue pilots in Canada.

### *Colonel Rick Hardy, Department of National Defence*

As chairman of the Canadian Forces SAR 50th Anniversary Committee, Col Hardy's persistence led to recognition of the achievements of SAR personnel past and present. Col Hardy also worked tirelessly to ensure that current CF SAR personnel would have new SAR Helicopters to utilize the most up-to-date equipment and technology in performance of their duties.

### *Iqaluit Civil Air Search and Rescue Association, Iqaluit*

In August 1998, after detecting an emergency locator transmitter signal, Rescue Co-ordination Centre Halifax, tasked the Iqaluit CASARA team to locate the source. Quickly assembling aircraft and spotters, the team located a hiker running from polar bears. After plunging into icy waters, the hiker was rescued by the crew who improvised a rescue line. Team members are Cam McGregor, Jerry Eetuk, Pat Nagel and Ross Mrazek. The Borek Airlines Twin Otter was flown by pilots Matt Gacek and Chris Campen.

### *Staff Sergeant Jack Kruger, Royal Canadian Mounted Police*

Instrumental in developing search and rescue in the Northwest Territories, S/Sgt Kruger spearheaded the efforts to acquire a rigid hull inflatable marine rescue vessel via the New SAR Initiatives Fund. S/Sgt Kruger was given responsibility for all RCMP SAR services in the Western Arctic and developed a ground and marine SAR training program for RCMP members stationed there. S/Sgt Kruger's efforts have resulted in more effective inter-agency co-operation and efficient response systems throughout the Arctic.

### *Jerry Mulder, Civil Air Rescue Emergency Service (CARES) / Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (CASARA)*

A dedicated volunteer and talented pilot, Mr. Mulder, working with his crew, was instrumental in the rescue of five victims of a plane crash in the Rocky Mountains during the winter of 1995. His efforts assisted the Rescue Co-ordination Centre in dispatching a SAR crew to the scene in the early hours of the morning. Currently Mr. Mulder is the provincial director of both CARES and CASARA in Alberta, responsible for procuring and

distributing millions of dollars of equipment. He volunteers his own aircraft and dedicates thousands of hours of his time to ensure that CASARA's high standards are maintained by its members.

*Raoul Proteau, Sauvetage et recherche aériens du Québec (SERABEC)*

As director of SERABEC/CASARA in Quebec for over 15 years, Mr. Proteau has been a strong recruiter of new members and has worked diligently to complete a Memorandum of Agreement with the provincial government for the provision of air support during emergencies. Mr. Proteau's dedication and professionalism have assured complete SAR coverage across the province of Quebec.

*Gary Sidock, Canadian Coast Guard*

As Director of Search and Rescue for the Canadian Coast Guard, Mr. Sidock has enthusiastically promoted the importance of a strong SAR component within the CCG. Mr. Sidock has also promoted the Canadian SAR system internationally in Asia, Europe, the Caribbean and other areas to encourage a standardized and effective global SAR system.

*Kirstie Simpson, Whitehorse and District Search and Rescue*

A certified dog handler, Ms. Simpson has created a civilian dog program in Yukon by organizing and co-ordinating an international SAR dog clinic at Whitehorse, and spending countless volunteer hours improving her own skills and passing on her learning to others. Ms. Simpson is also President of Whitehorse and District Search and Rescue and has been involved in multiple searches.

*Richard Smith, Rocky Mountain House Volunteer Search and Rescue Society*

Dedicated to the training and development of individuals and groups across Alberta and in other provinces, Mr. Smith has devoted years of volunteer work to search and rescue. In the role of Search Manager, Field Searcher or trainer, Mr. Smith has always encouraged teamwork and supports every volunteer in their endeavors.

*Dan Vedova, Pacific Rim National Park*

In more than 20 years of service to Parks Canada, Mr. Vedova has greatly contributed to the advancement of SAR prevention, risk management and response both regionally and nationally. Mr. Vedova has worked to perform and co-ordinate hundreds of land and marine searches at Pacific Rim National Park, including a successful multi-agency search for a young man lost for three days in the dense west coast forests.

*Pete Wise, Vernon Land Search and Rescue*

A dedicated volunteer for almost 30 years, Mr. Wise is an active instructor and member of Vernon Land Search and Rescue. Mr. Wise received the Governor General's Life Saving Award and was also named SAR Volunteer of the Year by the Attorney-General of British Columbia. Besides operations and training, Mr. Wise dedicates hundreds of hours to fund raising and recruiting for the group.

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## Teen Survives Ordeal in the Bush

Knowing what to do in an emergency helped give a missing person story a happy ending. In March 1998, Bobby Craig of Osgoode, Ontario, went for a walk in the woods with his golden retriever, Jake. An avid woodsman and hunter, Bobby was very familiar with the Marlborough Forest, southwest of Ottawa. However, the 1998 ice storm had downed so many trees that familiar trails were covered and Bobby became disoriented.

With daylight disappearing, Bobby took action. He built a signal fire and kept it burning. In a nearby clearing he wrote the word "Help" in branches in case planes came overhead. He then took shelter in a duck blind. "I knew someone would come and look for me," recalls Bobby. "So I got

shelter, and tried to keep as warm as possible. I knew I couldn't just keep walking." By drying wet clothes on the signal fire, Bobby prevented injuries. He then did the most important thing of all: he didn't panic.

Bobby may have been calm, but his network of family and friends were very worried. The search for Bobby began on Sunday, 8 March, when he didn't return home on time. His father Brian, found Bobby's vehicle parked on the road, but no sign of his son. Brian searched the surrounding area immediately, but encountered the same problem with trails obliterated by downed trees.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) entered the search later that evening, then began a careful grid search on Monday morning. Through cold temperatures and heavy rain, the team used 4X4s, all-terrain vehicles and volunteers from Gloucester Hydro, where Brian is employed, in the search. Bobby was finally found safe, after 22 hours in the bush, by the OPP Search Team. Both Bobby and Jake were flown by helicopter to the hospital and examined for any exposure-related illnesses.

Bobby is currently a grade 12 student who volunteers with the Osgoode Volunteer Fire Department and the Osgoode Volunteer Search and Rescue Team. He hopes to become a professional firefighter. Bobby is also the proud owner of a new GPS unit.

Jennifer Reaney, NSS, in interviews with Bobby Craig

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## **CASARA Board of Directors Holds Meeting at SARSCENE '98**

The Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (CASARA) held a directors meeting in Banff, Alberta during SARSCENE '98. Holding a meeting at that time gave the Board of Directors an opportunity to see SARSCENE at its best and to meet many SAR volunteers from across Canada.

This is the 12th year since CASARA was formed and it keeps on getting better. Some of the highlights of the meeting were:

- CASARA will have access to the new Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC) Computer Data system.
- CASARA will approach each of the provinces to convince them that CASARA should be covered by workers' compensation.
- CASARA is going to develop its own training package.
- Resolute Bay will join Iqaluit and Cambridge Bay as a CASARA resource North of 60 which will respond to Rescue Co-ordination Centre taskings.
- CASARA has received its Tundra heaters and Lap Desks. This was made possible through the New SAR Initiatives Fund of the National SAR Secretariat.
- CASARA will attend SARSCENE '99 in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Two CASARA executive members and a flight crew were honoured at a banquet during SARSCENE '98. Jerry Mulder, VP Plans/Equip from Alberta, Raoul Proteau, VP Admin/Fin from Quebec, and a flight crew from Iqaluit, Northwest Territories, received Certificates of Achievement.

*John Kelly, CASARA National Administrator  
Tel: (204) 833-2500 ext. 6634*

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

## **SARVAC Update**

The Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada (SARVAC) held an important meeting at SARSCENE '98 which included an election and

a strategic planning session to help provide direction for its future. A later issue of *SARSCENE* will feature a synopsis of the working document produced. SARVAC's directors and leaders are:

- Monica Ahlstrom (AB) President
- Allan Lang (ON) Past-President
- John Lavery (MB) 1st Vice-President
- Don Blakely (BC) 2nd Vice-President
- Bonnie Goebel (SK) Secretary
- Mike DesRoches (PEI) Treasurer
- Harry Blackmore Newfoundland Representative
- Charles Deveau Nova Scotia Representative
- Chris Steeves New Brunswick Representative
- Carol Namur Quebec Representative
- Sharon Porteous Ontario Representative
- Paul Olmstead Alberta Representative
- Wayne Merry Yukon Territory Representative
- Methusalah Kunuk Northwest Territories Representative

Watch future issues of *SARSCENE* for more updates and information or

contact: Monica Ahlstrom, Tel: (403) 729-3116, Fax: (403) 729-2880,

E-mail: [mavada@telusplanet.net](mailto:mavada@telusplanet.net)

[ [Top](#) | [SARSCENE Homepage](#) ]

---

[Return](#)