

HAMILTON THE SPECTATOR

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Amateur radio connects ship with world

Friends of HMCS Haida restore ship's naval call sign

FALLON HEWITT
REPORTER

From a small radio room in the bowels of the HMCS Haida, visitors can now connect with the world.

The link was made possible by a new amateur radio station on board the decommissioned warship, set up by the Friends of HMCS Haida with the help of Parks Canada.

The organization officially went live with the station — which is nestled inside Radio Room Two on the lower deck — on Saturday, said Friends member Richard Bialachowski.

And now, for the first time since the 1960s, the Haida is back on the airwaves with her original naval amateur radio call sign, "VEONV."

"We're pretty happy," said Bialachowski. "It gives Haida back something that it had in the '50s and '60s."

But getting there wasn't easy, Bialachowski explained during a visit to the ship by The Spectator. As he stood inside the radio room, dots and dashes of Morse code could be heard coming in from another



Chris Cuthbert, left, and Richard Bialachowski, members of Friends of HMCS Haida, in Radio Room Two inside the famous ship.

Aberdeen balancing roadway study with rush-hour traffic

City test-driving road safety measures and collecting feedback from residents

ANDREW BAULCOMB
REPORTER

It's no secret that rush-hour traffic has been a source of consternation on Aberdeen Avenue — especially as the city test-drives a number of temporary measures on the busy road.

In recent weeks, residents and commuters have shared reports online of long, frustrating waits to traverse the roadway that shuttles two-way traffic between the bottom of the Queen Street hill and Highway 403.

For Stephen Pitkin, measures intended to calm traffic may be working a little too well. He lives in Kirkendall, and recently posted a video online of a long row of cars creeping

along Glenfern Avenue, which runs parallel to Aberdeen to the south.

"Yes, it's very calm," Pitkin told The Spectator, speaking about the impact of recent changes in the area. "It's, in fact, so calm that it's aggravating."

Now, Ward 1 Coun. Maureen Wilson is recommending the city consider removing the temporary design measures added as part of a study focused on safety and accessibility.

Although things have mostly gone as expected during the experiment, Wilson said the timing of work on Aberdeen is "unfortunate," given the simultaneous construction happening elsewhere in Ward 1, including work along parallel Main

SEE DELAYS, A2

Apartment 'you would want forever': CMHA Hamilton takes aim at homelessness

Former medical building on Main East 'shockingly perfect' for residential conversion, architect says

TEVIAH MORO
REPORTER

A 1960s-era medical building on Main Street East in Hamilton's central lower city is soon to become 15 apartments for people living with mental-health challenges who have struggled with housing.

The local branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) expects the conversion project near Sherman Avenue to wrap up this fall, with the hope that tenants can move in by December.

The goal is that the one-bedroom units with access to support staff at 700 Main St. E. will allow tenants to stabilize, build community connections and lead healthy, independent lives.



The local chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association is building 15 supportive housing apartments at 700 Main St. E.

"People can have complex health issues on the street, but once they're housed, those issues can turn around very quickly," Sue Phipps, CEO of Hamilton CMHA, told The Spectator.

The 15 future residents, who have yet to be determined, will build on

SEE HOUSING, A2

TEVIAH MORO/
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Tiger-Cats must fix their rushing attack to run with the big dogs in the CFLA14

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