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CONTRACT AWARDED FOR THE HELIPORT CONVERSION PROJECT IN 12 WING SHEARWATER

Written by Department of National Defence | Wednesday, 30 May 2007 08:48 | font size | Print | Email

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SHEARWATER, NS - The Department of National Defence awarded a \$13.6 million contract to Brycon Construction Ltd of Dartmouth, NS, on May 14, 2007, for the Heliport Conversion Project at 12 Wing Shearwater.

The Heliport Conversion Project will upgrade the landing area, taxiway, approach lighting and training areas at 12 Wing to support safe CH-124 Sea King operations and future CH-148 Cyclones. This project, recently announced along with the construction of three in-service support facilities, is part of a program of infrastructure improvements to support maritime helicopter operations into the future.

"This investment, which is part of the \$170 million in infrastructure upgrades announced last week, clearly demonstrates the commitment of this government to the Canadian Forces and 12 Wing Shearwater," said the Minister of Defence, Gordon O'Connor, "The heliport conversion is long overdue, and will support maritime helicopter operations into the future."

"The conversion of the heliport at 12 Wing Shearwater will ensure safe Sea King and Cyclone operations," said the Chief of the Defence Staff, General Rick Hillier, "Shearwater has played a vital role in CF operations for decades, and the completion of the heliport conversion will enable 12 Wing to do its job and fully support our maritime helicopter fleet on the east coast."

The Heliport Conversion Project will see improvements to electrical systems, approach lighting and the construction of training areas. An existing runway and two taxiways will be reconstructed and resurfaced to provide a new landing area and taxiways. In addition, navigational aids, site fencing and access roads will be relocated or modified to ensure security and flight safety measures are satisfied.

12 Wing Shearwater is currently home to the CH-124 Sea Kings, and will become the home of the new CH-148 Cyclone helicopters on the east coast, scheduled for delivery beginning in January 2009.

The Department of National Defence and Defence Construction Canada developed an open, fair and transparent competitive process in order to initiate the contract for the heliport conversion.

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