

Gil Hardy launch a frigate

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raft of speeches, the ship will be blessed by a Roman Catholic priest and a Protestant padre.
The ship's company will then board her, junior ranks first, and the commanding officer will be piped aboard for the first time. The crew lines up from stem to stern

and gives three cheers for their newly commissioned ship.
Prudat has also dug up the history and battle honors for previous Canadian naval vessels that carried the same names. For instance, the first HMCS Halifax was a Flower-class corvette that escorted convoys on the North Atlantic run during the Second World War.
After the war, she served briefly as a cargo ship based in Nova

Scotia before being sold to Mexican interests in 1946.
The history, battle honors and vital statistics of each frigate, including the names of the first crew, will be contained in a commissioning pamphlet handed out at the ceremony.
SHIP'S BADGE
Another important naval tradition that Prudat researched is the ship's badge or crest, which reflects her individual identity.

The Halifax's crest is a kingfisher, from the city's flag, holding a trident.
Three of the new frigates lacked a proper badge because their predecessors did not have one. Those ships were launched during the Second World War when Canada's navy grew enormously. Vessels were being launched, and sometimes sunk, with such rapidity that there was no time for proper crests to be formally approved.

Ship commanders made up their own, usually caricatures painted on gun shields.
So, Maritime Command, through local naval reserve units, has created new crests for three frigates.
A fourth new crest is being created for the frigate to be called HMCS St. John's. There was no previous Canadian warship with that name because Newfoundland didn't join Confederation until 1949.

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