



## Public Service Announcement

### Major Military Exercise Coming to Mattawa & North Bay

April 24, 2024 – Ottawa, Ont. – National Defence / Canadian Armed Forces

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) will conduct an emergency response exercise with local government and partner agencies in the Mattawa and North Bay areas on the weekend of May 3-5, 2024.

Exercise TRILLIUM VENTURE is being held across Ontario. It's led by Joint Task Force Central (JTFC), headquartered in Toronto and includes members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) from the Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), and the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN).

CAF members and assets will respond to a simulated, major flooding emergency and prepare a unified response with local, regional, and other partners in the community.

Members of the public may see increased military vehicle, water, and air traffic with military vehicles operating on area roads.

No weapons or ammunition will be present during this exercise.

Approximately 200 soldiers from the Canadian Army's 33 Canadian Brigade Group (33 CBG) will form 33 Territorial Battalion Group (33 TBG), including soldiers from the local area and region deploying to the North Bay and Mattawa, Ontario areas in a realistic emergency response scenario. CAF assets from 22 Wing North Bay and the Naval Reserve will also participate in this joint exercise.

The exercise will also include the participation of Other Government Departments and First Responders including police and fire services, Emergency Management Ontario, local governments, and others.

The Mike Rodden Arena at 450 Hurdman St, Mattawa, Ontario will serve as a headquarters and house nearly 150 soldiers, while approximately 50 CAF members will operate from Canadian Forces Base North Bay and the Martin Leo Troy Armoury at 540 Chippewa St. West, North Bay will be utilized for the exercise. Increased military vehicle traffic between these locations on Ontario Highway 17 and surrounding roads can be expected, and the Mike Rodden Arena and parking lot will be inaccessible during the exercise as the location will serve as a base for military personnel, vehicles, and equipment.

The public and media are invited to attend a "Meet-a-Soldier" event with our partners based at the Museum at Explorer's Point Park, 285 First Street, Mattawa on May 4, 2024, from 1-4 p.m. Various military and other First Responders' vehicles and equipment will be on display, and personnel from the CAF and participating organizations will be available to speak with the



public. Recruiters will be on site to discuss the many employment opportunities available in the CAF, and to provide information on how to join part-time, or full-time.

This important training supports year-round preparations for emergencies in Canadian communities, including natural disasters like flooding and wildfires, as our members maintain readiness to deploy in response to Requests for Assistance and to serve alongside community members and other first responders.

All Canadian Army Reserve vehicle operators train regularly and maintain specialized qualifications and proficiency in safe and effective vehicle and equipment operations, and regularly test discipline, safety, and effectiveness while operating various vehicle platforms.

All measures are being taken to ensure minimum inconvenience in these areas during the exercise dates, and members of the public are asked to take extra caution when approaching military vehicles and are thanked in advance for their understanding and co-operation.

The CAF is extremely grateful to the Town of Mattawa, City of North Bay, the North Bay / Jack Garland Airport Authority, other local partners, and the citizens of these communities for their hospitality and patience while we conduct this important emergency response exercise.

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## Contacts

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