



Commander

Commandant

Canadian Forces Information Operations Group
Groupe des opérations d'information des Forces Canadiennes
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0K2

5000-1 (Comd)

5 November 2020

Present & Former Communicator Research Members,

As the Communicator Research (COMM RSCH) Occupational Authority, I have the distinct pleasure of announcing that the COMM RSCH occupation name has officially been changed to Signals Intelligence Specialist / Spécialistes en renseignement d'origine Electromagnétique, effective 1 October 2020, keeping our link to the occupation's original birthday (1 October 1966).

This endeavour was initiated back in November 2018 and after in-depth research, numerous discussions with various stakeholders, and surveys completed by members of the occupation, the Signals Intelligence Specialist name was selected to best reflect who you are and what you do. Note that the Military Occupational Structure Identification (MOSID) for the trade remains extant (MOSID: 00120). For clarity, the official abbreviated short form for the Occupation will be *SIGINT SPEC* / SPÉC ROÉ (in accordance with the enclosed life cycle management summary from Military Personnel Command).

Why change the name? A rebranding achieves three things. First, it increases recruiting potential of Canadians with the aptitudes and skillsets required to succeed in a highly technical domain. Second, it improves understanding of roles and responsibilities within the SIGINT community by aligning to common or very similar naming of trades amongst our closest Allies. Lastly, by adopting a name that is more reflective of the nature of our work, it is also expected to improve retention within our ranks.

I truly believe *Signals Intelligence Specialist* better reflects the true function of the Occupation, and is an improved descriptor of its roles and responsibilities. In a highly competitive environment, where we look to attract Canadians into the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), the new name better describes the nature of our work, and will draw higher recognition and meaning to those interested in this specific field of intelligence. Adopting the title of *Specialist* further encourages highly trained candidates to apply.

This name change does not detract from the successes and contributions that SIGINT practitioners have proudly produced as COMM RSCH. It only further underscores the importance of our occupation in providing direct support to CAF

1/2



operations and the Intelligence Enterprise, and the importance for us as a community to adapt and evolve to the present challenges of attraction and retention within the Trade. We should reflect fondly on our accomplishments as COMM RSCH, and provide unwavering support to the SIGINT SPEC of the present and future generations.

If anyone has any questions pertaining to the implementation of the new name, do not hesitate to reach out to me or the SIGINT SPEC Occupation Advisor, CWO Ives C. Bowman.

Yours in Signals Intelligence,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "S.M. Parsons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "P".

S.M. Parsons, CD
Colonel

Enclosure: 1