



News

Summer 2020

The events of 2020 certainly affected our planned summer activities and, while we were not able to open the CFS Alsask Radar site for as many weekends as we'd planned, we have still made progress in refurbishment of the site and were happy to welcome visitors during July and August with at least two additional tours planned for September and October long weekends.

We have also continued efforts to further secure the site and are planning displays and other upgrades to help tell the story of Canada's Cold War history.

Painting, window repairs, general site clean-up, removal of graffiti, and weather proofing the Dome are all examples of this summer's activities. As we look forward to next season we are planning for some new construction in the Dome to restore the office located on the first level and some continued re-construction on level two.

Planning and design is underway for displays of Civil Defence materials that will be installed within the first level of the Dome. These interactive displays will help tell the story of Civil Defence in Canada and will include information on the SAGE computer system and the Pinetree Radar Stations.

There are many opportunities for members to get involved in the activities of the museum. If you are interested in volunteering at the Alsask site or in other activities please send an e-mail to: info@civildefence.ca



Public tour underway at CFS Alsask site.

Do you have a story to tell? We are interested in capturing interviews with people who played a role in Canada's Cold War history. Did you work at one of the radar sites? Perhaps you played a role in teaching others about civil defence or you may have maintained some of the systems used to communicate with or warn the public about emergencies. Contact us and help us gather information on Canada's Civil Defence systems! You can reach us at info@civildefence.ca

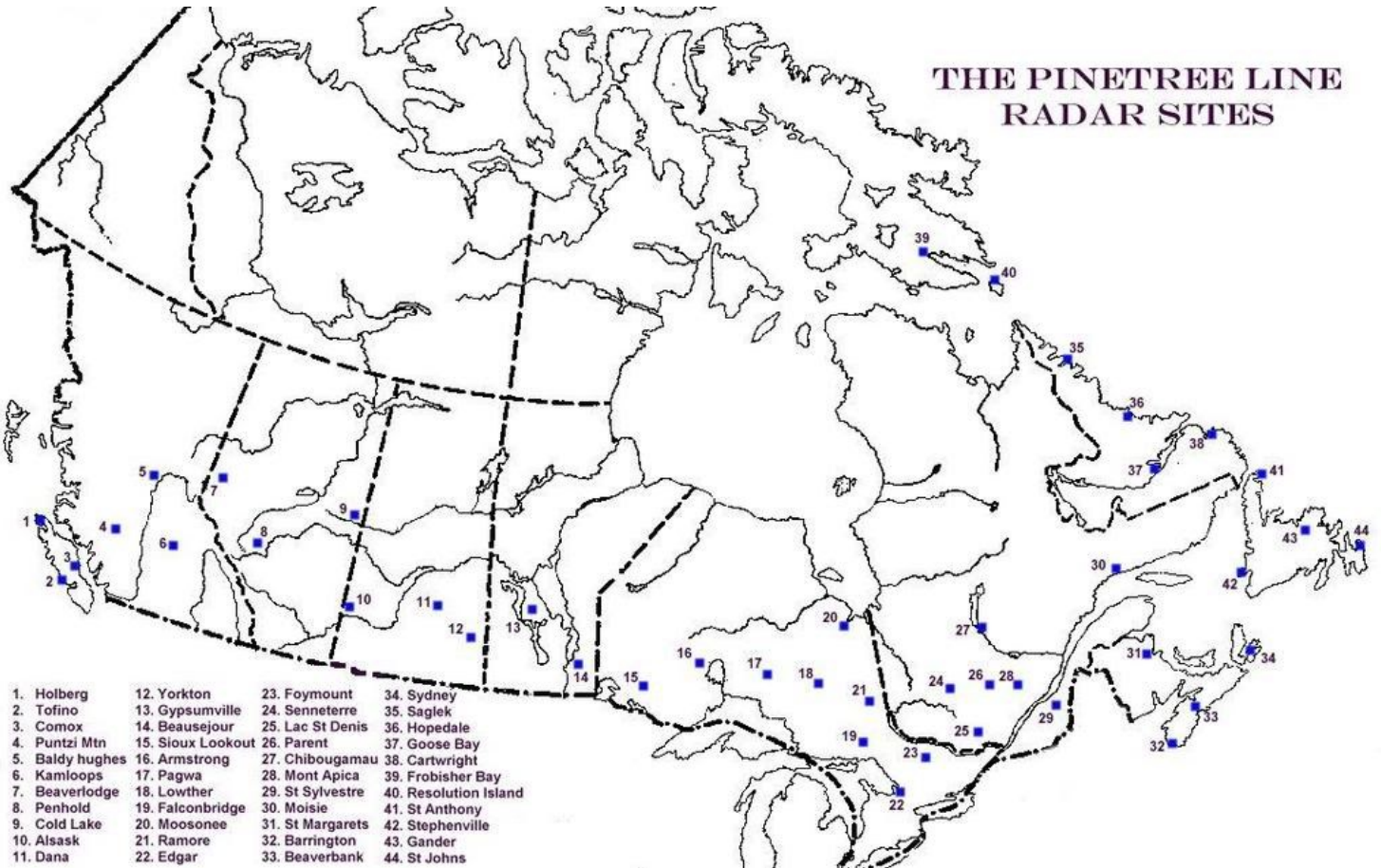
Got a suggestion for our newsletter name? We'd love to hear it. Send us an email with your suggestion at info@civildefence.ca and you could win a CCDMA prize package!



SAGE Computer Console.

The CFS Alsask site represents a network of over 40 similar stations that were part of the Pinetree Line—radar stations that monitored the northern skies for signs of enemy bombers during the height of the Cold War. The Pinetree sites were connected together initially using the SAGE computer system (Semi-Automated Ground Environment) a unique project that cost over \$500 million dollars at the time. This would be roughly equal to \$4.3 billion in today's dollars.

Most of these sites no longer exist but we are fortunate to be able to preserve this important piece of Cold War history. The Alsask site is open for tours at various times during the year. We also invite CCDMA members to participate in restoration of the site. If you would like more information on how you can help out please contact us online.



[Info]

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Canadian Civil Defence Museum and Archives Association. For more information and to keep up to date with our news visit us online at:

www.civildefencemuseum.ca

Online Event

Members can join us for our quarterly online events. Our next event will be held live on October 26th at 7PM eastern (5PM mountain) time.

Watch your email for information and an invitation to join in the discussion.

This session will include a virtual tour of the CFS Alsask site with Fred Armbruster!

