



**SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:**

- Corps Activities
- Awards and Trophies
- Remembrance Day
- Donations
- Contact us!

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

Cadet Goes for Gold	2
A Great Loss for The League	3
Bravery at its Best	4
What are you Doing This Weekend?	5
2563 RCACC Petrolia	6
An Army Cadet's Reflection	9
Outward Bound — Wales	10
Airborne all the Way	11
Lord Strathcona Unit Efficiency Award	12
President's Award	13
Top Large/Small Cadet Corps Award	14
Maj. Gen. Howard Award	15
Christmas Greetings and Roll Call Prize!	16

## Then and Now



Captain Allan Cotel and recently aged out cadet Ryan Coldwell performing the reenactment of the 1920 "laying up" of the colours of the 161st Huron Battalion of the Royal Canadian Army at the Trivitt Memorial Church In Exeter on October 30th

**Submitted By:**  
**Ron Helm**  
**Liaison Officer, 2923**  
**RCACC Middlesex**  
**Huron**

Occasionally an opportunity presents itself for us to become actively involved in the celebration of an historic event.

Such an occasion presented itself to 2923 Middlesex Huron Cadet Corps in October this year. A cen-

taury ago during the dark days of World War I; in the spring of 1916, the 161<sup>st</sup> Huron Battalion of the Royal Canadian Army was mobilized. It trained in Huron County and then departed from the town of Goderich for trench warfare training in Camp Borden. The Battalion sailed for Europe on November 1<sup>st</sup> 1916. The Battalion was the pride of Huron County. The 28 officers and 728 NCO's and enlisted men fought in many battles, most notably the one at Vimy Ridge. Corporal Harry Minors of Clinton, was awarded the Victoria Cross.

To mark the centennial of the Corps mobilization a number of commemorative events were held throughout the county. A parade to mark the farewell march and departure of the troops was held in the town of Goderich, the county seat. The parade followed the same route the Battalion took to the Railway Station. Led by mass bands and the Colours and Banners of

the Royal Canadian Legion Branches from within Huron County. 2923 RCACC were lead participants in the parade along with the period uniformed members of historical interpreters of the Great War Society.

The final commemorative event was the rededication of the Battalion Colours at the Trivitt Memorial Church in Exeter. The church service followed exactly the same order of that used when the Colours were first laid up at the church in 1920. The protocol for presenting the Colours were followed precisely with the knocking on the church door using the sword of the Colour Party Commander. The Colour party was made up of members of the Great War Society impeccably dressed in WWI Battalion uniforms. Captain Allan Cotel the Commanding Officer of 2923 Cadet Corps and retired 2923 Cadet Ryan



551 veterans from Huron County lost their lives in WWI. 551 ceramic poppies were made by local artists and placed on display in front of the Goderich Cenotaph

Caldwell carried the Colours.

2923 Corps were both pleased and proud to have been invited to partake in the unique series of commemo-

rative events held to mark the centennial of the beginning and wind up activities of the 161<sup>st</sup> Huron Battalion.

*Photos courtesy of Bonnie Sitter, a local author and photographer in Middlesex Huron*

# Cadet Conway Goes for Gold

**Submitted By: Capt. T. R. (Ric) Harry  
Commanding Officer, 2966 RCACC Fort Erie**

Cadet Sgt Cameron Conway from 2966 RCACC 71 Battery in Fort Erie is working on the Duke of Edinburgh. Originally he heard about the Duke of Edinburgh process through the Canadian Cadet program. When he turned 14 years old, he started at the Bronze level which he quickly and easily completed. It was a lot of fun so he then moved onto the Silver award level and he completed that level as well.

He is now working towards completing the Duke of Edinburgh Gold level and reports this program is a lot of fun.

Conway's areas for the Duke of Edinburgh are in Fitness, Music and Volunteering; all activities he would do even if he wasn't engaged in the DoE.

His Volunteering has been with the Broken Spoke bicycle program in Port Colborne, where this organization supplies refurbished bicycles to Africa Cuba and Haiti. "It feels good to learn skills and do stuff that helps less fortunate people get things we take for granted." In addition to the typical citizenship and volunteering done with the Cadet Corps, Conway is also Volunteering with Northland Pointe long term care home in Port Colborne. "It's nice to give back in some way to the elderly that did so much for us." He also rows, boxes and participates in organized sports. "I like to participate in all kinds of sports and develop mental and physical skills, so I will stay fit." Additionally, he takes music lessons, "I enjoy learning about music and how to play instruments and although it is a lot of work, it is fun at the same time."

The Duke of Edinburgh gives him fun tasks and measurable goals to achieve that fits in perfectly with the activities of the Cadet program and day to day life. Conway wonders why every Cadet doesn't sign up for the program considering so many youth are busy doing a lot of the things he does or similar activities that would go towards the DoE.

Conway is a goal oriented 15 year old who wants to accomplish many things in his youth and the DoE is the perfect process that helps set those goals, measures and recognizes his commitment to achieving a fulfilling youth. These will be great experiences for him to share during his interviews at RMC in a couple of years.



*"Conway is a goal oriented 15 year old who wants to accomplish many things in his youth and the Duke of Edinburg is the perfect process that helps set those goals, measures and recognizes his commitment to achieving a fulfilling youth."*

## A Great Loss for The League



**Major Terence John Whitty, CD, KCStG**  
05 July 1944 – 25 June 2016

The Army Cadet League (ON) remembers Terence (Terry) Whitty who passed away earlier this year after a brief battle with cancer. He was the former National Executive Director of The Army Cadet League of Canada for the last 15 years.

Terry's career was spent in the restaurant industry in Montréal and Ottawa where he established, owned and operated several franchise and independent restaurants. He began his military career at a very young age and he spent many years serving in the Canadian Grenadier Guards, where his heart remained. In 1966 Terry transferred to the Cadet Services of Canada (now known as the CIC), and thus began his long association with Cadets.

He was highly devoted to the Army Cadet Program with and believed in its work with the youth across Canada. He had an amazing sense of humour and was a recipient of the Canadian Forces Decoration, the Chief of the Defence Staff Citation and of the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation for his work in support of Veterans.

He is survived by his loving partner Sandra (Clark), her two children Stephanie and Victoria, his children Shannon (Don Leverette) and Llyam, his grandchildren Gabrielle and Tegan, as well as many family and friends who mournfully misses him; including here at The League (ON).

## You Never Know who you will Meet Tagging

**Written by: Capt. Gordon Andress**  
**Commanding Officer, 88 RCACC Cobourg**

On October 15th, #88 Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, RCACC of Cobourg was doing their fall tagging exercise. One of our tagging locations was at the Port Hope, ON ROUTE, off the eastbound lanes of Hwy 401. C/MWO Hamlin and C/MWO Prentice were quite surprised by the appearance of Mr. Rick Mercer, the host of "The Mercer Report" television show. He was very happy to talk with these young men and agreed to have his picture taken with them. Hamlin and Prentice were very excited to meet Mr. Mercer. It made the whole day for them. You never know who you will meet tagging!



**Photo Left to Right: C/MWO Hamlin,  
Rick Mercer and C/MWO Prentice**

# Bravery at its Best

Submitted by: Rachel Dewar  
Support Committee Chair, 204 RCACC North Bay



Sergeants Ashton Follett, William Norman-Turgeon and Bailey Lessard of the 204 RCACC North Bay who helped save a fellow cadet after he was stung by a bee during an orienteering competition in Sudbury on Sept. 17th

Three of our brave cadets helped save a fellow cadet's life while attending the orienteering competition this September.

Our corps is so proud of these young men and the selflessness they have shown. The following article is from our local paper *The North Bay Nugget* describes this day the best. I hope you enjoy the article:

*They heard the three sharp whistles and ran as fast as they could through the bush.*

*Sergeants William Norman-Turgeon, Ashton Follett and Bailey Lessard of the 204 North Bay Algonquin Royal Canadian Army Cadet Core recognized the distress call.*

*But they had no idea what they were running toward.*

*The trio were competing in orienteering at the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area in Sudbury Sept. 17 when the sharp sound echoed through the bush.*

*"We just looked at each other and knew what we had to do," Norman-Turgeon recalls.*

*"Our training instantly kicked in."*

*They discovered a fellow cadet lying on the ground.*

*"He was laying on the ground and had his EpiPen stuck in his leg," Norman-Turgeon says.*

*"He told us his name and that he was having an allergic reaction to a sting. We knew right there that he wasn't going to walk out of the bush. We had to carry him."*

*The nearest access road was about 2.5 kilometres.*

*Follett and Lessard grabbed one-another's wrists and used their arms to make a seat for the injured cadet, who is six-foot-three and weighs about 200 pounds.*

*They kept checking on the cadet, who was slipping in and out of consciousness, as they walked across uneven terrain.*

*To make matters worse, the cadet showed signs of laboured breathing.*

*"I remember telling him to keep breathing in and out, and constantly reassuring him that he was going to be OK," Lessard says.*

*"It was scary to see how many cadets passed by us. There must have been between 10 to 15."*

*After carrying the cadet for more than a kilometre, Norman-Turgeon took over.*

*"I knew we had to get him out quickly so I just threw him over my shoulder and carried him," he explains.*

*"I just kept focusing on the route to get out and didn't think about how difficult the task was."*

*They made it to an access road where a jeep was waiting to bring the cadet to hospital. Capt. Aline Groulx-Grant said it's not often you hear about the good things teens do.*

*But this group gave up a race they had practised for to help someone in distress.*

*"They came to this event wanting to win, but other things proved to be more important."*

*The three cadets were informed the cadet they helped was treated at hospital and released."*

*Original article is written by Jennifer Hamilton-McCharles  
Courtesy of the North Bay Nugget*

## In Appreciation

Written by: Lt. Ashley Austin  
Commanding Officer, 329 RCACC Tottenham

I have been a part of the cadet program since 1997 and have been a part of several units in multiple provinces as a: cadet, CI and CIC Officer. One thing all of these units have had in common, is a support committee; but the support committee we currently have at 329 CFHSTC RCACC in Tottenham ON is one of the best I have ever worked with. This group of dedicated parents and volunteers organize and host fundraisers, run our cadet canteen, host dinners and banquets and organize an exciting year end trip to reward our cadets each year. They are always willing to lend a hand and have worked hard to build a strong support system for our cadets. I would love to recognize two of our members specifically, who have gone above and beyond and have stayed as members of our committee even though neither has a cadet parading with the unit any longer. Our chair, John Compton and our treasurer, Ally Stumpo have put in many hours to ensure our cadets have everything they need. We have a strong relationship and we the staff of 329 RCACC are thankful to have such a great group working to help fund the activities we try to put on for our unit. Sadly, I am writing this because these two wonderful individuals are passing the torch on to newer members of our support committee when they hold elections in the coming weeks. With their guidance and mentorship, our new executive members will do a fantastic job, but John and Ally will be missed by all of the cadets and staff. Thank you for everything you have done for our cadets over the many years you have been working behind the scenes, we appreciate everything you have done!



Photo Left to Right: John Compton (outgoing Chair), Trish Chaisson (Vice chair), Ken Shambrook (new Chair) and Ally Stumpo (outgoing Treasurer)

## What are you Doing this Weekend?

Submitted by: Donna Whiteman  
Support Committee Chair, 1626 RCACC Grimsby



1626 West Niagara Army Cadets participated in Exercise Muddy Boots, fall FTX on November 19 and 20 at Ball's Falls Conservation Area. Twenty Cadets and seven Staff attended the exercise including 6 brand new recruits who had their very first Army Cadet FTX experience. The focus of Exercise Muddy Boots was Survival Training Cadets learned to make improvised shelters, fishing lines and lures and were VERY impressed with Captain Petrini's catch of the day which may or may not have been "caught" at Sobey's. Cadets learned to gut and cook fish over an open fire and enjoyed poached fish (a nice change from MRE's) Cadets also took part in a variety of night navigation exercises using hand signals and a variety of communication techniques. According to 1626 RCACC CO Capt Petrini, the exercise was a success and Cadets learned valuable skills that can be applied in both Cadets and civilian life. What are YOU doing this weekend?

# 2563 1st Hussars Royal Canadian Army Cadets Petrolia

Submitted by: Ron Prior  
Support Committee Chair, 2563 RCACC Petrolia

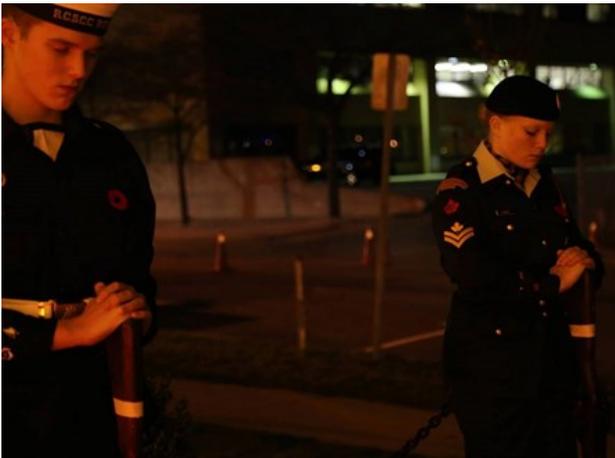


The 2563 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars Petrolia Cadets had a very busy period starting the end of October, when they attended with the 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars Regiment and Royal Canadian Regiment at Veteran's Park, in Sarnia, Ontario on October 31, 2016 for the dedication of the LAV III Afghanistan Monument. Our Cadets under the direction of their Commanding Officer Captain Russell and Lt. Kerry Horan participated with cadets



from the HMCS Repulse Sea Cadets and 44(Sarnia) Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets,

The dedication was also attended by the 31 Canadian Brigade Group Commander and his staff and the Commanding Officer of the Royal Highland Fusiliers, Colonel Mark Poland, whose brother Cpl. Brent Poland was killed in action in Afghanistan and whose Memory was honoured with a plaque, with Private William Jonathan James Cushley, killed in action. Seven Memorial Cross Families, including Don and Patricia Poland and Errol and Elaine Cushley attended the ceremony.



Over the Remembrance Day period, 2563 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars Petrolia Cadets attended as Honour Guards in Forest, Watford, Oil Springs, Brigden, First Nation's, Lakeview Cemetery in Sarnia and Two separate Services in Petrolia. Add in The Candle Light Vigil in Sarnia, and various school services.

On November 4 and November 16<sup>th</sup> they attended as the Colour Party for two Sarnia Sting Veteran's Hockey events.

All the Cadets and parents who were chauffer's for these events did an awesome job.





# We Welcome Your Help...



In order to continue; as well as improve our support of the Army Cadet program and activities, the Ontario Branch of the Army Cadet League needs your help! If you are able to help us monetarily, please make a Donation to the Army Cadet League of Ontario. All donations of \$10.00 or more will receive a charitable tax receipt for income tax purposes.



**Please make your cheques payable to:**  
Army Cadet League of Canada (Ontario)

**Cheques can be mailed to:**  
Army Cadet League of Canada (Ontario)  
Attn: Clover Pereira  
1200 Markham Road,  
Suite 527  
Toronto, ON M1H 3C3

# We would like to hear from you...

If you would like to see your story in our next newsletter,

***Do not hesitate!***

Please submit your articles and photos to:

[acladmin@bellnet.ca](mailto:acladmin@bellnet.ca)

Be sure to mention "Newsletter" in the subject line




Stay informed!  
Please visit our website at:  
[www.armycadetleague.on.ca](http://www.armycadetleague.on.ca)



# APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



## Mark Your Calendar

April 28<sup>th</sup> to April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - The Army Cadet League (ON) Annual General Meeting and Training Seminar to be held at the Delta Toronto East in Toronto, ON.

*We would love to see a representative from each and every Corps!*

***Don't be shy!***

Join us on our League's biggest event of the year!

***Commanding Officers are also welcome to attend!***



# An Army Cadet's Reflection in Honour Of Remembrance Day

Written by: Michelle Charest  
Public Relations Officer, 2642 RCACC Petawawa

Cadet MCpl Kendra Ainsworth is one of several Army Cadets from 2642 3RCR Army Cadet Corps; who had the opportunity to serve Veterans supper during the Veterans' Dinner at the Petawawa Legion on Wednesday, November 8th.

When asked to briefly describe the Veterans' Dinner and its importance, MCpl Ainsworth thoughtfully reflected on what the dinner meant to her in honour of Remembrance Day. This is what she wrote:

When I think of Remembrance Day, I think of people's bravery, courage and honour; and remembering the men and women who gave up their lives to protect us. As we served the Veterans at the dinner, it made us think about all that these brave people have been through. It made us think of how thankful we are for what we have and sometimes we take for granted.

I asked some of the Cadets what they thought when they thought of the words, Remembrance Day. A couple of them said the exact same two words, but those words meant a lot to us. Those two words were sacrifice and bravery. I asked them what the word sacrifice meant to them. They said sacrifice means a loss or something you give up for the sake of a better cause. But when I asked them what bravery meant to them, they thought for a second and then pointed to the people they were serving and said the people right here. Now my question for you is what do you think of when you think of Remembrance Day?



## Volunteer Service Medal Recipients

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Robert Gill, National Executive Director, presented the Army Cadet League of Canada Volunteer Service Medal to two long time volunteers at 2870 Royal Canadian Dragoons RCACC.

Mr. Scott Cardinal joined the Support Committee as a parent just over 5 years ago. While his two children have since left the cadet program, Mr. Cardinal saw the value in the program and continued to volunteer.

Comrade Ron Henderson has been involved with 2870 for as long as anyone could remember. On top of his assistance as a Green Star Instructor, Comrade Henderson also serves as the Legion's Branch President (2870's Sponsor) and Cadet-Legion Liaison.

There are over 1500 Army Cadet League of Canada volunteers in Ontario providing both direct and indirect support to the local program.



Photo 1: Robert Gill (Right) presents Volunteer Service Award to Ron Henderson (Left); Photo 2: Robert Gill (Right) presents Volunteer Service Award to Scott Cardinal (Left)

# Outward Bound — Wales

Written by: LCol (Ret'd) Morris Brause  
Liaison Officer, 2715 RCACC Windsor

MWO Bill Borshuk was ecstatic when he found out last April that he had been chosen as one of the Army Cadets in Ontario to go on the Outward Bound trip to Wales during the summer of 2016. A dedicated cadet with over five years of experience, he had many camps under his belt and wanted to experience this overseas trip. Below is his own recounting of some of the highlights of that trip.

“The army cadet exchanges programs are pretty unique experiences. I wanted to attempt to get on one before looking at becoming an instructor at an Army Cadet Camp during the summer. I applied and was accepted. I want to talk about some of the highlighted experiences that I enjoyed this last summer.

To start with, we got to visit France and Belgium and toured various WW1 sites. We visited battle field sites and graveyards and learned about these historical battles where brave Canadians fought and died for our freedom. We even get to dress as an Australian Soldier and do a role play running across "no man's land".

“My favourite experience was the combat simulation in a small enclosed village in the UK. In this simulation you face a live enemy in 4-man teams trying to complete objectives and reporting your findings at the end. Albeit that we as Canadian Army Cadets do not actually exercise in war type scenarios, our British Cadet comrades get to do this. We also got to experience fighting in close quarters by conducting the room breach training course. In this particular event, you practice breaching into small rooms and hallways in 4 man teams firing blank rounds at enemy targets while avoiding civilian targets. Our team got the nickname "Storm Troopers" for accidentally shooting all the civilians targets in our first run through”. Another unique experience for British cadets is the 24 hour exercises. These are 24 hour field training events in which we practice ambushing a live enemy and sleeping in bashers. One of the greatest moments of the summer was waking up to see the sun shining at the foot of my basher entrance with my rifle to my side and getting out to practice for a brand new day of training.”



“If you like tourism, there is a week in the exchange course known as "Culture Week" in which you do the majority of your touring. You get the chance to visit Stonehenge in the UK, as well as various museums including the Imperial War Museum; a trip I will never forget. There are many surprises that await exchange cadets.”

“Over the course of the summer, you've got a great opportunity to trade any extra Canadian Cadet items you have in exchange for British cadet items. The British cadets are very welcoming. They're very interested in hearing about where we come from and are always looking to trade. Many of us returned home with duffle bags

packed with all kinds of British camo uniforms and ceremonial headdress and belts. Some of which were given to us courtesy of the British cadets. We visited many British cadet camps over the summer. At some camps, we decided to have all the members of our exchange sign a Canadian flag to be displayed at the camps for all future cadets to come!”

When interviewing MWO Borshuk, he was just beaming. He thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and felt that it rounded out his cadet career. He is now looking for an opportunity to teach. Upon his return last summer, he was informed that in October 2016, he would be taking over as the RSM for 2715 RCACC. He is an exemplary cadet, physically fit, dynamic and very professional. He is an exceptional instructor and always wants to see his cadets achieve success.



# Airborne all the Way

Written by: CWO Justin Cupryniak  
Cadet RSM, 2715 RCACC Windsor

One of my greatest achievements was taking part in the basic parachutist course this past summer. I've always wanted my "wings" since joining cadets and seeing my past RSM and DSM achieving this really pushed me to get my wings even more.



Fitness and push-ups emphasized

I trained very hard over the course of a year. Improving on my mile run time, push-ups, sit-ups, and chin-ups. It was challenging at first, but once I was into the routine, it clicked and I was making great progress. Once I found out I made it into the pre-para stage I was beyond excited. The pre-para portion of the course was very difficult and challenging but I was ready and was succeeding. I never pushed myself that hard before but in the end it was all worth it. I always thought in my head "how bad do I want it" every time I felt like quitting or questioning why I was doing this to myself. Once all the

pain went away I knew it was a good tenure and my last day at pre-para the OC announced the cadets who made it into the course and when I saw my name, I was speechless.

The para course was just as hard as the pre-para portion of the course and I knew what to expect and was ready. Like always I pushed myself to where I couldn't push myself anymore. It hurt, but I always remembered how bad I wanted to succeed?

One of the hardest parts of the course was trying not to over stress the basic commands. If you made a mistake or did not follow the proper command you would be put into push up position and have to pump out 25 and then 5th point of flight procedure. It sucked but I toughened up and stuck to it so did my peers and we all helped each other out and was a team effort.



Doing the Airborne drills in the swings

Throughout the 4 weeks the last week was "J" stage which was the most exciting part of the course because this is where we are suited up for our jumps. I was very nervous at first but once I was in the air and on stand by my adrenaline took over! The back of the plane opened up and it was just like the movies, the beautiful scenery, sunny and warm with winds 7; perfect jumping weather. As soon as the light went green and the jump master gave the word of command "GO!" I went and the feeling of the chute opening up was the best feeling ever. Once I followed my procedures, I was in the air for about 35 seconds and it was amazing being able to float on the air and watching the ground coming closer. My first landing was smooth and could not have been any better. I had a right front roll, which I executed with great success. I laid on the DZ looking at the sky for a second in a bit of a stun. I looked at my equipment and checked myself over and once I came to realize, I made my first jump and landed safely I thanked God and was so grateful. I then continued out with the rest of my procedures before running off the DZ.

*Continued on pg. 12*



**Jump Tower exit drills**

After that my next 4 jumps were awesome and I felt no fear at all. My night jump was the scariest because it was complete darkness and I braced myself for the ground. In what seemed like a split second, the ground appeared out of nowhere and I hit the ground hard. It hurt a little bit, but I brushed it off; feeling exhilarated in having successfully completed my night jump.

The grad parade was very emotional as all 50 of us had completed the course and did an excellent job. I was proud of myself and my peers. Then going home wearing my airborne clothing and wings on my uniform felt great knowing all that hard work I did paid off. I love it when I have younger cadets ask about my wings and knowing they look up to me. What an unbelievable experience. Airborne!

***CWO Justin Cupryniak, 2715 RCACC (E&K Scot. CWO Cupryniak has entered his sixth year as a cadet. He has been the Cadet RSM for two years. He has just entered College and is studying Police Foundations to become a Police Officer. He still works with 2715 RCACC as a member of our training team.***

***The League would like to recognize and congratulate the top winners of the Lord Strathcona Unit efficiency award within each Detachment area:***

**COA**

Top Large Corps - 2799 RCACC Aurora

Top Small Corps - 1909 RCACC Collingwood

**NOA**

Top Large Corps - 2912 RCACC Sudbury

Top Small Corps - 2915 RCACC Capreol

**WOA**

Top Large Corps - 2659 RCACC Brantford

Top Small Corps - 2967 RCACC Brussels

**EOA**

Top Large Corps - 2332 RCACC Ottawa

Top Small Corps - 100 RCACC Brighton

***Top Marksmanship Corps:***

**COA** — 2799 RCACC Aurora

**EOA** — 2587 RCACC Kingston

**NOA** — 1884 RCACC Timmins

**WOA** — 11 RCACC Strathroy



## Congratulations to...

### **CWO Jonathan Gagnon, President's Award recipient**

CWO Gagnon enrolled in Cadets in September of 2010. His reason: training, sports activities and adventure. From what I gathered, he was more of the shy type who – although he joined into any & all activities at the Corps – was the one who observed a lot.

His ideal was to learn from the best, provide the best in everything he did and make sure that those around him also learnt. Throughout his Cadet career, he showed self-discipline and more importantly, the will to help others become the best they could be at whatever task given.

His one true calling though was a tough one: he wanted to go on the CF Basic Parachutist course. In his preparation to first be qualified, he got himself in shape! Sit-ups, running, push-ups...anytime he would use to get himself in the best shape possible.

Everything that could bring him closer to his goal was part of the goal. From being on the Fitness & Sports Instructor course in the summer of 2013 to the Expedition Centre Training for Gold Stars in October of that same year. In 2015, his application was forwarded to Trenton for the Pre-Para Course and although he was unfortunately not selected that year, (he was on the supplementary list), this proved to only be a side-step to get him to his goal. To continue & make sure that he was in the best physical shape possible, he successfully applied to be part of the Northern Extreme Regional Expedition in February of 2016 where he showed staff & other members that winning as a team was the best feeling in the world!

Which brings us back to the summer of 2016. This time around, his application to Para was received and from the conversations I had with staff, CWO Gagnon proved to be one of the best candidates they had received.

In September of 2016, an application was forwarded and CWO Gagnon was selected to receive the President's Award which is the award for the Most Outstanding Army Cadet in Ontario!

In November of 2016, CWO Gagnon decided to join the Army. Although leaving the Corps proved to be an emotional one for many, it was also a time for everyone to let him know that his friendship to the staff and his mentorship to cadets would be sorely missed.

I'm very proud to have had the opportunity to see this young man grow into an outstanding person who, now that he has joined the Army, can see endless possibilities in his life due to, (in no small part), of his involvement with the Cadet Movement.

Bravo Zulu CWO Gagnon!

Capt Marc Bedard CD  
Commanding Officer  
2951 RCAC Leitrim



Photo Left to Right: Councillor Darouze - a long time supporter of 2951 Leitrim - CWO Gagnon & Capt Bedard, CO of 2951 Leitrim, after the presentation of the Presidents Award to CWO Gagnon by (not pictured) Mr. Dan Mathews, Army League President

## Top Large Cadet Corps—2799 RCACC Aurora



Photo Left to Right: MWO Paige Erdenberger (RQ), MWO Aidan Ewart (TSM), Dan Matthews (President ACL(ON)), CWO David Salinas (RSM), LCol. (Retd) Len Whines (Rep ACL(ON)), MWO Daniel Bernardi (DSM), MWO Alex McLaren (SSM)

Submitted by: Lori Hoyes

Unit Public Affairs Representative, 2799 RCACC Aurora

Congratulations to 2799 RCACC Aurora on being the Top Large Cadet Corps in Ontario. The Queen's York Rangers 2799 Army Cadet Corps was proud to be presented the Colonel John H.C. Clarry Trophy on November 4th by League President, Dan Matthews.

"Winning the Clarry Trophy for being the Top Large Army Cadet Corps in all of Ontario for the 3rd time in 4 years is an amazing achievement and the recognition is much deserved for all the hard work and dedication of the cadets, staff and Support Committee! But it would not be possible without the incredible support from our sponsors, community leaders, all levels of government and the parents. Thank you everyone!" says Commanding Officer Captain Phil Lusk.

## Top Small Cadet Corps— 2915 RCACC Capreol

CAPREOL, ON – Staff and cadets of 2915 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Irish Regiment of Canada had their hard work and dedication recognised with two prestigious awards this past month. The cadets were honoured with the *Northern Ontario Area Lord Strathcona Unit Efficiency Award* and the *Top Small Cadet Corps for Ontario Award* in recognition of their standings in the previous training year.

Representing the Army Cadet League was Lieutenant Colonel Dan Matthews, CD (retired), Captain Norm Duffy, CD (retired), and the new league representative Lynn Ross. In addition to receiving individual medallions, the corps was awarded a stipend of \$500 to be spent on the cadets.



Captain Brisson, CD, Commanding Officer, was quick to applaud the cadets and proudly boasted about their achievements while also encouraging them to improve upon last year's performances. When asked what, he believed, contributed to the success of this small-town corps Captain Brisson credited, "the dedication of the cadets, their seniors, civilian instructors, and officers that work hard every day. Additionally, the strong support of the unit's support committee, the Royal Canadian Legion, and the Army Cadet League of Canada help make us the corps that we are." As a reward for their hard work, Captain Brisson and his staff treated the cadets to a dinner and movie night on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November.



Captain Norm Duffy, CD (retired) presents medals to members of 2915

Article and photo of medal presentation courtesy of Lt(N) Neil Stephen

## Major Gen. Howard Award



The Army Cadet League of Canada Ontario Branch is pleased to announce that Cadet WO Markus Valtonen from the 2912 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps in Sudbury is the winner of the prestigious Major General W.A. Howard award for the cadet corps' 2016 training year.

Major-General W. A. Howard, CMM, CM, CD, QC, Colonel Commandant Royal Canadian Army Cadets from 1974 to 1979, established an annual award for outstanding army cadets known as "The Major-General W. A. Howard Medal" as a legacy to promote training excellence by senior Army Cadets through a structured assessment of a cadet's overall performance. This award recognizes a cadet in each province and territory who have achieved the highest results in the 4th year Gold training level annually as they prepare to enter into the Year 5 "Master Cadet" level.

The Howard Award is a prestigious award presented to outstanding cadets such as WO Valtonen and the League is very proud to sponsor this award for such polished and keen young individuals who will go on to achieving greater things as they undertake their upcoming or current post-secondary education and future careers and other endeavours.

WO Valtonen put in a lot of hard work and dedication to get through to this level of performance and in obtaining the highest results for his 4<sup>th</sup> year Gold training level. He has been a member of the 2912 Army Cadet Corps in Sudbury since 2012 and since that time, he has demonstrated exceptional leadership abilities and dedication to his Cadet Corps. He was placed first on the orienteering team and was chosen to be the captain of the biathlon team as well as being awarded top drill team Commander at a competition locally and provincially. Last June, he was appointed Company Sergeant Major and is responsible for the drill, dress and deportment of 60 Cadets. He received the Strathcona Medal of Excellence as well as top Gold Star and best senior NCO below the rank of MWO. He is a member and fife instructor in the Cadet fife and drum band and a piper in the joint Cadet mass pipe and drum band. His dedication is evident to his community as he volunteers at numerous events such as the MCTV Lions Club Telethon and Christmas Toy Drive, Walk for Down Syndrome, Santa Claus Parade and Poppy Drives.

Dan Matthews, President of The Army Cadet League (ON) will be presenting this prestigious award to WO Markus Valtonen in Sudbury on December 17th.

## 68 RCACC St. Catharines

Submitted by Krista Torrville  
Support Committee, 68 RCACC St. Catharines

We are proud of 68 RCACC cadets who all did very well at camp this summer.

**At Blackdown the following cadets/staff were recognized:**

WO Franic – LCol Russell Trophy for Top overall cadet in an Instructor Course MCpl Pontello- Silver Medallion for Basic Military Band WO Deaves and Mcpl Gonta – members of the 100 man Guard at Blackdown Sunset Parade Also congratulations to Capt Glendenning on receiving his CD 12 year service medal.

Congratulations to the following cadets in receiving their 4 year service medals :

WO Brens, Wo Long, WO Reid, WO Al-Jumaily; and to CWO Smith on her 6 year service bar.





**The Army Cadet League Of Canada  
(ON)**

1200 Markham Road,  
Suite 527  
Toronto, ON  
M1H 3C3

Tel: 416-431-2792  
Toll: 1-800-561-4786  
Fax: 416-431-2022  
E-mail: [armyleag@bellnet.ca](mailto:armyleag@bellnet.ca)

ACER ACERIORI

*A special Thank You to all  
League Volunteers and Members*

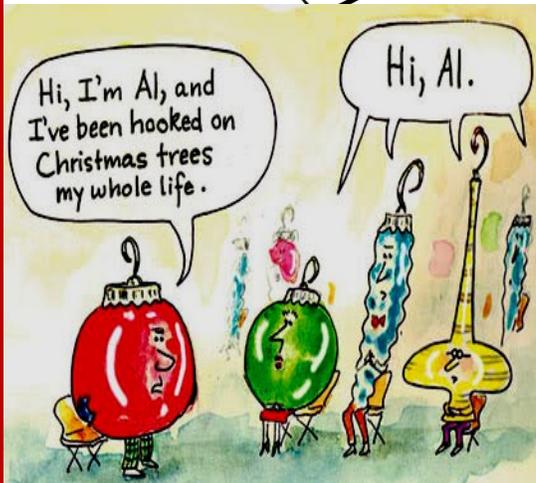
*And*

*Wishing You and Your Family  
A safe and Joyous Christmas*



*Greetings of the  
Season &  
Best Wishes For*

**\*\* 2017\*\***



*Roll Call Prize*

*This year's winner for the best newsletter is:*

*#2799 Army Cadet Corps—Aurora  
\$500 cash prize!*

*#676 Army Cadet Corps—Georgetown  
\$100 cash prize!*

*Send a copy of your Corps newsletter to the League;  
you may be our next winner!*

