THE ARMY CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA (ON)



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# **SITREP**

December 2022

#### CELEBRATING THE FIRST ONTARIO'S CADETS WEEK



The 1st Annual "Ontario Cadets Week" on this 1st day of October, 2022. This event was organized and spearheaded by the Navy, Army Cadet and Air Cadet Leagues with the support of the Regional Cadet Support Unit (Central) and Cadets & Junior Canadian Rangers.

Proclaiming Ontario Cadets Week will honour the outstanding young Canadians whose unique personal and collective development through Cadet programs will help them be successful in Canadian society, as well as recognizing those who support the programs directly and indirectly. Cadet Corps and squadrons from across the province will be celebrating this event during the first week of October each year.

To celebrate this event, one hundred Ontario Sea, Army, Air and Navy League Cadets paraded at Queens Park today, led by a flag party and a Cadet band. Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell was the parade's Reviewing Officer, with a number of other dignitaries in attendance.

Presentations made on behalf of the Army Cadet League were as follows;

Mr. Toby Barrett, former Member of Provincial Parliament of Ontario for Haldimand-Norfolk was presented with a National President's Coin as well as the Ontario's President Coin Membership. Mr. Barrett introduced the private member's bill in the Ontario Legislature that was to become the Ontario Cadets' Week Act. Thank you for your support Mr. Barrett!

#### <u>CELEBRATING THE FIRST ONTARIO'S</u> <u>CADETS WEEK</u>

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, was presented with the Army Cadet League of Canada Volunteer Service Medal in recognition of her service as Patron of the Ontario Branch.

Candace Zinkweg was presented with the Ontario President's Coin for her hard work and dedication to ensure our reception was successful.

All invited guests and Cadets were provided with a Ontario Cadets Week 2022 lanyard as a keepsake.

Numerous local events involving all three leagues working together happened around Ontario throughout Ontario Cadets Week. Kindly provide the league office with any articles or photos from your local events.

Ontario Cadets Week will continue in future year, with the intention of moving locations each year and becoming a regional event. If interested in hosting in the future, please reach out to the league office.

Submitted by: Charlene Orrell, 1<sup>st</sup> VP



Rick Brown presented President's Coin to Toby Barrett, retired MPP



Lieutenant Governor of Ontario was presented with the Army Cadet League medal



President's coin presented to Candace Zinkweg by Charlene Orell and Bill Adcock

#### A Parade Fit for A Queen's.... Park

This training year began with a historic parade held at Toronto's Queen's Park on 1 Oct 22. Many Cadets from the Lorne Scots five Cadet Corps, proudly parading the Primrose Hackle and helped to create a truly memorable affair.

The parade consisted with all three elements represented on parade, showcasing the distinct elemental uniforms in front of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell.

The guests of honour in attendance for this parade were vast in number and sat front and centre to show their ongoing support for the Cadets and the Cadet program on whole. Alongside members of the Legion, League representatives, and others of Toronto's partners in Defence, was the Vice Chief of Defence Staff, LGen Frances Allen, and many members of our CJCR Formation Command Staff, including our Formation Commander of the Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers, BGen Speiser-Blanchet and Chief Petty Officer CPO1 Bliss.

The Cadets were inspected and addressed by many of the various dignitaries, marking the inaugural, "Cadet Week" and ensuring our Cadets across the province are showcased for the great work they do in our communities, from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of October, each and every year. For the Cadets, Officers and Organizers that took part in this historic parade the culmination of many meetings and planning culminated in many smiles and memories that made history. Many smiles could be seen after marching from the parade area, where Cadets were then dismissed and given some tasty snacks, while being thanked by all the volunteers and organizers alike for their participation.

Submitted by: Major D.J. Fimio, CD CO 2990 RCACC Milton

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Lieutenant Governor of Ontario reviewing the cadets on parade

#### **CADETS WEEK COIN PRESENTATION**



On Friday, November 11th, MPP Bobbi Ann Brady for Haldimand-Norfolk County was presented with the President's Coin for her work to ensure the private members bill received Royal Assent for the Cadets Week.

#### CADETS WEEK 2023 AND BEYOND

Ontario First Annual Cadets Week held October 1-7<sup>th</sup> was a success. But we need to build on this success and have Ontario Cadets Week continue each year. The concept will be that the main event will move from one city/town to another each and every year encompassing all of Ontario. Events will continue in the local communities each and every year.

We are looking for local Corps with the participation of the other elements (Air, Sea and Navy) that would like to host the 2023 and beyond events. We would like to focus on the different regions of Ontario and have the day event fit what is important to the Corps.

Kindly provide your interest on or before January 15, 2023 as a decision will be made by the end of January as to the locations for the next 3- 5 years if possible.

You will not be alone, the Ontario Cadets Week Committee will be available to assist, but these events will be locally planned. Let's come up with some great ideas.

Submitted by Charlene Orrell, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Bill Adcock, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

#### Kenora Youth, Emerging from the Pandemic, Stronger than Ever





The youth of Kenora, who are members of the 645 Kenora Lions Air Cadets and the 774 Kenora-Kinsman Army Cadets have been training, mostly, virtually, for the last two years. Finally, in March of 2022, they were able to return to in-person training and truly get back to all of the fun and excitement.

Their online training set the basis for their practical training, and skills, development, that they engaged in. From leadership, to public speaking, to survival skills, to navigation skills, to marksmanship skills, to self-discipline, to developing a stronger sense of self and confidence, these cadets have been working hard to become the best versions of themselves possible.

The Kenora Army and Air Cadets participate in community service activities, which are great for getting those hours in high school; attend competitions with other Cadets from across northern Ontario; and, participate in an all-inclusive training program that is completely free. They make the conscious decision to commit one night a week, about one weekend a month, and other special events, to build themselves, and their community.

Written by: Captain Sasha A. Sadrudin, Training Officer, 774 RCACC

#### **Professional Development**

October 28-30<sup>th</sup>, the Ontario Branch of the Army Cadet League of Canada engaged in some Board professional and strategic development with a goal to better support it's members and volunteers, and the Army Cadets.

This was the opportunity for Board Members, with their spouses, to reconnect and engage as a team to provide the best support possible to our members.

Having completed our first ever professional development weekend the board has realized the great benefits and plan to continue this event on a regular basis.



#### **2403 CORNWALL RECOGNITIONS**







#### <u>Anthony Fourkiotis wins</u> Orienteering!

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Congratulations to Anthony Fourkiotis today for earning 1st place in his age group at Orienteering! Great work, well deserved!

Capt. M. Lalonde presents WO Kishor Gowreyganth with a certificate for his years in Cadets as he ages out, and a SD&G Highlanders ball cap as he now becomes part of the SD&G Highlanders Reserve unit. 2403 wishes you the best in your future path with the Highlanders. Well done!

A special Kudos to MWO Hodgson for taking the initiative to start coordination with the fire department after discovering a forest fire starting near one of the control flags. Thank you to Melissa McBain and our Highlander supporters Justin Poitras and Tatyana McBain for managing the risk until the fire department arrived. Great teamwork, luckily we were in the area!



We would like to thank Natalie Jalbert for her 5 years of service to the 2403 Army Support Committee. Mrs. Jalbert served the last 3 years as Chair of the Committee with the help of only one other person. Before that she served as a Secretary for 2 years. Mrs. Jalbert was a kind, helpful and caring member of the 2403 cadet Corps. She will be deeply missed and we will always remember how much effort and drive she put in to keep the Support Committee running.

Written by: Amanda Desrosiers Chair of 2403 Support Committee

#### TECUMSEH CADETS BACK IN TRAINING

The 2715 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps has hit the ground running after almost 3 years of virtual training. Since returning to in-person training on 7 Sept, 2022, the unit has conducted two overnight weekend exercises, conducted fundraising Tag days, Poppy sales in support of our Legion 594 and a Tri-service Remembrance Day Parade at Royal Canadian Legion Branch #594 on 5 Nov, 22.

The first overnight FTX (Field Training Exercise) was held at Cedarwin Scout Camp, 23-25 Sept, 22. This exercise allowed Cadets to practice their fieldcraft, canoeing, archery and orienteering skills. This joint exercise with 1086, 2828 and 2918 RCACC units provided a great training experience for all Cadets.

The 2715 Support Committee did a great job organizing the first fundraising event of 2022. Cadets, parents and staff were very successful in raising much needed funds for training after being unable to fundraise during Covid-19.

A second overnight training activity was conducted at KSSA (Kingsville Shooting Sports Association) from 22–23 Oct, 22. This multi-unit activity was a Survival Weekend and focussed on knots and lashings, improvised shelter building, survival skills and marksmanship. Cadets slept overnight in their shelters that they constructed. There were many new Cadets in attendance which was a great introduction to the Army Cadet program.

The Cadets from 2715 RCACC were at the Devonshire Mall on Friday Oct, 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday Oct 29<sup>th</sup> to pin Poppies in support of the Poppy Campaign. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 594 was grateful for the support from the Cadets and are very pleased and proud to support 2715 RCACC since 1974.

2715 RCACC was very honoured to host a Tri-service Cadet Remembrance parade to honour Canada's veterans. Capt John Demitroff (DCO 2715 RCACC), co-ordinated with 364 Squadron and 48 Agamemnon Sea Staff and Cadets to plan a parade to Heavenly Rest Cemetery for a wreath-laying and silent march through the graves of fallen comrades, while the bands played music. Afterwards, all Cadets participated in the Branch 594 Legion Ceremony, in which numerous dignitaries, legion members, family and friends came together to remember and honour all those who served and paid the ultimate sacrifice.

2715 RCACC would like to thank our generous sponsor, Branch #594 for their continued support.

Currently, all Cadet units are actively recruiting to increase numbers that fell drastically during Covid-19. If you know any youth interested, that are between the ages of 12-18 years of age, please check out our newly redesigned website <u>www.2715rcacc.com</u>. The Cadet program is completely free, and the leadership training and camaraderie are priceless.

Cadet CWO Olivia O'Connor RSM #2715 Tecumseh, Ontario



#### **2799 AURORA CADETS**

The 2799 Queens York Rangers Army Cadet Corps has had a lively and absolutely

amazing year of training so far. With much more to come, everything we have done in the past couple of months has allowed our Cadets to develop and become the leaders of tomorrow. Whether it be volunteering, giving back to the community, participating in different summer training exercises or showing an admirable amount of dedication and discipline to better themselves in any way that they can, our Cadets have done and continue to do so much for themselves and the Cadet program in general. We participated in a couple of really special ceremonies in the past couple of months.



Cadets at the Drumhead Service

On September 18th, 2022, our Cadets attended a Drumhead service at the Aurora Cemetery to honour our warriors. They recognized and paid tribute to the fallen warriors who battled, were hurt, and died for our nation. Maj. Copeland, our Commanding Officer, escorted the Cadets around the graveyard in the rain. Family



Cadets at the Memorial Ceremony

relatives of the dead had come to pay their respects, as had other notable visitors such as Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas, Michael Parsa, and others. Our Corps did an excellent job, and we appreciate everyone of the Cadets that came out and contributed.

On Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, our Cadets attended a memorial ceremony for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who died on September 8th, 2022. This event was conducted in the Aurora War Memorial Peace Park, and several of our Cadets attended to represent the rangers and pay their respects to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

During the service, they joined the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion Branch 385 on the colour guard. Our Cadets helped with the service as well as doing the rangers proud. This lovely service was held to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen's death and to recall her life and the influence she had on the nation. It was important for our Cadets to show up for the community and for the loss of such a significant figure in our world.

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On Remembrance Day, we commemorate the bravery and sacrifice of those who served their country, as well as our responsibility to work for the peace they fought for. Individual acts of heroism occur often during times of conflict, but only a few are ever recorded and get official recognition. Remembrance Day is a very important and significant event for our Corps, which is why we do everything we can to support those who have fought for our country.

On November 5th, 2022, a group of our Cadets went to the Aurora cenotaph and took turns from 6PM to 11PM in a candle-lit vigil to remember our fallen heroes. A handful of our Cadets also assisted at a Poppy dinner held at the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion Branch 385 with the 140 Aurora Squadron RCAC to support the legion and assist with their Remembrance Day observances.



Cadets at the Cenotaph

On the morning of November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, all of our Cadets marched along Young Street to the Aurora Cenotaph and paid their respects. It was a magnificent event, full of speakers and veterans laying down wreaths to memorialise those we had lost in the previous year as well as the sacrifices they had made for our nation. It was inspiring to see our Cadets' dedication and fortitude as they paid their respects to those who came before them.

Submitted by: WO Moshiri



**Cadets on Parade** 

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#### BORDEN ARMY CADET CORPS RE-BADGES TO CANADIAN FORCES LOGISTICS BADGE

Cadets from the 2408 Canadian Forces Logistic Training Centre – Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps were proud to receive a new cap badge from Lieutenant-Colonel Shawn COURTY, Commandant of the Canadian Forces Logistics Training Centre (CFLTC) at CFB Borden.

The re-badging formally allows Cadets to wear the badge of the Canadian Forces Logistics Branch. Previously Cadets wore the badge of the Royal Canadian Army Cadets. The re-badging also formally recognizes the CFLTC's support for the Cadet Program and its motto "ACER ACERPORI", which can be translated as "As the Maple, so the Sapling".

Lieutenant-Colonel COURTY, a member of the Air Cadets as a youth, told the Cadets during the ceremony "This badge is a symbol of the formal commitment to the development of you cadets as leaders in the community, and as a symbol that you are considered part of our Logistics extended family".

Major Darren HODSKINS, Commanding Officer of the 2408 CFLTC – RCACC Cadets, recognizes that wearing the cap badge of the Canadian Forces Logistics Branch is an honour for the cadets and "Reinforces the strong connection between the Cadet Program and Canadian Forces in developing youth leaders in the community and potential Force members".

The Cadets are looking forward to learning more about the importance of Logistics to support military endeavors and missions. Having the CFLTC be so engaged provides an amazing opportunity to the Cadets as well as members of the training centre to build relationships and leadership skills.

Written by: Civilian Instructor / instructeur civil Ian Michel 2408 CFLTC RCACC



#### MAJOR GENERAL HOWARD AWARD

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WO Brooklyn Higgins from 1944 Creemore Army Cadets received the Major General Howard Medal. This is a prestigious medal, which is given to the Top Cadet within Ontario who has scored the highest on the Gold Star Course. This medal recognizes WO Brooklyn Higgins hard work within the Cadet program. She continues to be committed to the Cadet Movement and to the Corps, while striving to improve in every aspect of herself.

WO Brooklyn Higgins is a remarkable Cadet who truly demonstrates the Cadet Movement. She also has received various awards such as Order of St. Georges medal this past summer from her OC while employed as Staff Cadet.

WO Higgins is self learning through High School. She is taking her courses through TVO ILC and must learn the curriculum on her own and submit assignments and write exams through the ILC to be graded by qualified teachers.

WO Higgins is a Cadet who strives to continuously improve herself and others both within the Corps and within the community. She displays her accomplishments proudly and always looks to further her skills and abilities. 1944 Creemore Army Cadets is proud of all WO Higgins has accomplished as well as what this remarkable Cadet will accomplish in the future.



#### COLONEL ROBERT DOUGLAS BUSARIES

Colonel Robert Douglas, past Commander of the Royal Regiment of Canada and former Governor of the Army Cadet League of Canada, donated funds to the Army Cadet League Foundation to be presented annually as bursaries to encourage a successful Army Cadet candidate in Ontario to continue his or her post-secondary education. Each bursary is for \$1000.

One bursary is to be presented to a deserving Army Cadet who qualifies on the Basic Parachutist Course held in Trenton and the second bursary is to be given to a top Army Cadet from the Expedition Leadership Course in Blackdown.

On Tuesday November 29, 2022 WO Gavin Powell, who was the top Army Cadet on the Expedition Leadership Course this past summer was presented the Colonel Robert Douglas Bursary by Captain Cameron Douglas, CSTJ, CD (ret'd), son of Robert Douglas. Captain Douglas talked about his Dad's dedication to the Cadet movement. Col. Robert Douglas passed away February 2021.

Submitted by: Craig Maidens, Support Committee Chair 2919 Barrie RCACC



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# 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

Be sure to mention "Newsletter" in the subject line

Stay informed! Please visit our website at: www.armycadetleague.on.ca

### AGM 2023











APRIL 2023

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

Click on links to book your accommodations at the: Sheraton or Best Western

Last Day to Book: Friday, March 20, 2023



April 14<sup>h</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023- The Army Cadet League (ON) Annual General Meeting and Training Seminar to be held at the SHERATON PARKWAY, RICHMOND HILL

\*\*Registration information to be sent out in January\*\*

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!



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## The Army Cadet League Of Canada (ON)

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A special Thank You to all League Volunteers and Members <mark>And</mark> Wishing You and Your Family A safe and Joyous Christmas

> Greetings of the Season & Best Wishes For 2023

<u>Roll Call Prize</u> This year's winner for the best newsletter is:

#2990 Army Cadet Corps—Milton \$500 cash prize!

#2799 Army Cadet Corps—Aurora \$100 cash prize!

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

