



ARMY CADET  
LEAGUE OF CANADA  
ONTARIO



June 2023



# SITREP



## *WELCOME TO THE UPDATED SITREP*



### *Introducing New Executive Director Paul Preikschas*

Paul Michael Preikschas has been a CIC officer for over 30 years, he began his military career as a Civilian Instructor with 183 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron in 1991 and was commissioned in 1993.

In 1994, he transferred to his first army cadet unit 1943 Norwell Army Cadet Corps located in Palmerston, Ontario. That same year Capt Preikschas was chosen to run a pilot for the first "Garrison Exercise" involving multiple army cadet units in a joint training exercise. The pilot was successful, and the concept was used to create the standard for joint exercises in use across the Central Ontario Area.

During his time in the CIC Paul Preikschas held all unit positions including Commanding Officer (multiple units), Deputy Commanding Officer, Adjutant, Administration Officer, Training Officer, and Quartermaster.

Being a proud member of the Cadet Instructor Cadre, in the fall of 2008, Maj Preikschas embarked on a special project for the 100th anniversary of the Cadet Instructor Cadre. He was instrumental in getting the Ministry of Transportation to approve the CIC crest (Cap Badge) to be placed on selected Ontario Licence plates.

In addition to his regular duties Paul Preikschas has held the position of Zone 13 Marksmanship Coordinator, qualified as an Air Rifle Maintainer for Central Region and an Area Elemental Advisor. Paul successfully completed the Senior Officer Training Course held in Ottawa in May 2017,

With over 25 year in private education, Paul has advanced to the position of Dean of Computer Studies, Director of IT, to Dean of New Skills College of Health, Business and Technology which is part of the Bond Education Group, providing educational services around the globe. In addition to heading the College Paul also is the Senior Policy Advisor for the Bond Education Group & Senior Lecturer at Bond Centre for Leadership and Development Management.

**In his personal time, Paul spends time with his family, especially his 2-year-old grandson. Paul is married to Geraldine and lives in the Lisgar area of Mississauga.**

#### ***HONOURS and AWARDS***

- Appointed a Commissioned Officer by HM Queen Elizabeth II (31 July 1993)
- Awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration (September 2005)
- The Commander Land Force Central Area Commendation (17<sup>th</sup> of May 2010)
- Awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (June 2012)
- Timothy Street Medal of Honour (January 2015)
- Cadet Instructor Cadre - Lifetime Achievement Award – 2015
- Awarded the first clasp for his CD for an additional 10 years of service (November 2015)



June 2023

April 14-16, 2023

## ***The Way Ahead*** ***AGM 2023***

The Army Cadet League of Ontario's Annual General Meeting and Training Seminar was held at the Sheraton, Richmond Hill April 14 to 16, 2023 after being in a Covid lockdown the past 3 years and it was a huge success.



The morning half and afternoon, 4 workshops were in session with 6 excellent facilitators. Harry McCabe, MMM, CD, Past President, and Gillian Federico League Zone Officer, presented a workshop on “How to be an Effective League Liaison Officer”.

Charlene Orrell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President discussed “Support Committee-Basics and Updates”.

LCol S. O’Leary CO of RCSU Central and CWO Marc Paquette, CD, Central Region RSM, gave a fireside chat on “RCSU Central Rescope”.

Paul Preikschas, CD, Executive Director, spoke about “Everything you didn’t want to know about the Finances”.

Awards were presented to Audrey Poon for “League Member of the Year”. Corps 105 Streetsville received the awards for “Top Large Support Committee” and Corps 1129 Haliburton received the award for “Top Small Support Committee”.

Saturday evening all League members enjoyed Marian MacDonald’s retirement dinner, followed by lovely speeches with tears and laughter dedicated to Marian. Marian retired from the League after 24 years of service.

The night concluded with an after party in the Hospitality Suite.

[Click for More Photos](#)



## ***Presentations to Mark Miller & Terry Ryan***



On December 22, 2022, at the Annual Christmas Dinner of RCACC 62 RHLI, our Liaison Officer, Mr. Terry Ryan CD, was recognized by the Army Cadet League of Canada (Ontario) for his exceptional Volunteer service in support of the Corps and the Parents Council being presented by Capt. (ret'd) Richard Moll

On December 22, 2022, Mr. Mark Miller, was recognized by the Army Cadet League of Canada (Ontario) for 25 years of volunteer service as a CI with RCCAC 2379 Lorne Scots Cadet Corps and RCCAC 62 RHLI Cadet Corps presented by Support Committee Chair, Nicola Carter and Mr. Terry Ryan CD.





## *Quinn Award*



Lance presents the Quinn Award to CWO (ret'd) Elyce Bowman in person.

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## *Stepping Off Again: 2784 GGFG Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps Rebuilding from COVID C/MWO William Cooper*

If 2021 was a year of recovery from COVID-19, 2022 and 2023 have proven to be a period of rebuilding. While many challenges and skill deficits from virtual learning remain, for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, the Cadet Program has begun to return to some semblance of normalcy.

At the end of the previous training year, the Cadet Corps was privileged to assist with the Regiment's Freedom of the City parade, with Cadets being lucky enough to meet many notable members of the regimental family. Only a week later, we were honored to have the LCol Vince Quesnel, as the Reviewing Officer for our 56th Annual Ceremonial Review (ACR), demonstrating the close link between the Regiment and the affiliated Cadet Corps.

In the current training year, GGFG Cadets have been able to participate in a number of events and functions, including the Presentation of the First Poppy Ceremony at Rideau Hall, where three of our senior Cadets were able to meet Her Excellency The Governor General. The National Remembrance Day Parade, this time returned to full strength, where Cadets from 2784 filled several senior parade positions as well as the provincial and territorial flag party.

This year also sees the reintroduction of many Corps activities and traditions including the return of our annual holiday mess dinner, as well as the formation of the first unit band since before the beginning of the pandemic.

As the Cadet Corps prepares for our 2023 ACR, we remain profoundly appreciative of the invaluable support that the Regiment continues to provide through the amazing work of our NCM volunteers and Liaison Officer, Lt Saba.

Up the Guards!



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## 2817 RCACC



**Left, Incoming Cadet RSM Sides, Captain Broughton the Commanding Officer, on the right  
Outgoing Cadet RSM Bedford-McPhail.**

During this Cadet year, the 2817 RCACC Corps has grown from 34 to more than 50 Cadets with much dedication from the officers and volunteers in Lindsay. Some of the activities the Cadets have participated this year so far have been fall tagging, Remembrance Day, field training exercises fall, winter, preparing for the spring one and marksmanship competition. We are continuously offering training in band, marksmanship, and drill to offer more activities and opportunities to learn for the Cadets.

This year we have seen 2 of the high-ranking cadets age out when they turned 19.

First is RSM Sides who joined the Corps when he was 12 and just recently aged out. He was able to climb through the ranks and became Regimental Sargent Major (RSM). He was highly active in the program with regular training nights as well as the events in the community. He was a significant role model for the cadets and will be missed.

Second is Bedford-McPhail who, as well as Sides, joined when she was 12 and aged out at the beginning of this year, January. She was able to obtain Chief Warrant Officer (CWO), and RSM at the same time. She too was highly active in the Corps and received her NSE level 3, mock tower wings, as well as her boat license. She was selected for and graduated "Storm the Giant" regional expedition and completed correspondent courses. She was an excellent role model for the cadets and has recently returned to the Corps as a Civilian Instructor (CI).

Without our high-ranking cadets, some of the events and activities could not take place. RSM Sides and RSM Bedford-McPhail are prime examples of leadership and commitment in youth, and we could not have been prouder of their accomplishments.



**Rick receiving the League Member of the Year from National President Cathy Bach**

**From left to right Senator Bernadette Clement, Charlene Orrell - 1st VP Ontario, Rick Brown - Ontario President , Cathy Bach - National President and Bill Adcock - 2nd VP Ontario**



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## *Gerard Buckley Cadet Fund (GBCF)*

Gerard Buckley and The Army Cadet League of Canada was pleased to announce Corps 492 Lorne Scots Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps and Corps 2754 Service Toronto Battalion received the Buckley Grant of \$3000.00.

Applications must be submitted no later than January 15th annually to  
The Army Cadet League of Canada.

Once again congratulations to both Corps on receiving the grant.

[Buckley Grant Application](#)

***2310 RCACC***

***75th Anniversary Certificate***





Lance Knox had the pleasure of presenting the league certificate acknowledging the Corps' 75th anniversary.

## *Memorial*

In Loving Memory



*Norman David Peter Duffy*

Always Loved, never forgotten, forever missed



*William Hyslop*

Always remembered never forgotten

In Loving Memory of William Hyslop. Bill was a strong believer in youth and was an

Norman David Peter Duffy a respected member of The Army Cadet League of Ontario since 2001, passed away suddenly on January 23, 2023.

During his adult life he was very involved with volunteer work for the community. From fighting fires, mentoring Army Cadets, and other community work. Norm can be described as tireless, vigorous, and energetic from those lives that he had touched with his labour and his kind words. He frequently pointed out that his time volunteering taught him the value of discipline, teamwork, and investing in a cause larger than himself.

He will be truly missed by all who knew him.

active leader with Army Cadets for many years.

Bill was very dedicated to the Army Cadet program and gave up a lot of his time volunteering at the Corps. Bill believed that young people today deserve every support that the adult community can give in order that they, in their turn can become contributing members of our society.

Bill's long and dedicated involvement and his unselfish support of the Army Cadets will long be remembered by all of us who were fortunate to come in contact with him.



June 2023



Photo Caption: MCpl. Frank Xu, a native of China, has discovered many benefits in the cadet program. Photo by OCdt. J.T. Lewis

## *RCAC Helps in Preparing for Life*

When you meet MCpl. Frank Xu, the first thing you notice is that he is always smiling and secondly you notice that he is very friendly and outgoing, always willing to help people out.

A native of China, Xu joined 2968 RCACC upon becoming a student at Robert Land Academy. He is currently a Gold Star Cadet.

When he arrived in Canada, he had very limited skills in speaking English which led to him being a little withdrawn from others around him. But, through the Cadet program he has transformed himself and is a Cadet who many can look to as a role model.

"The program has helped me a lot to improve my English," Xu said.

"I am always a very happy person, so I always like talking to people," he said. "In my first year, 2020, I spoke zero English."

He noted that interacting with the students involved in the Cadet program has led to an overall improvement in his conversational skills.

"It has helped me so much to make my English better," he said.

China does not offer a program like Cadets for their youth. He noted several things that he feels is giving him an advantage over some of his friends back home.

“One thing that is very important is leadership, that’s a very big point,” he said.

He discussed how necessary good leadership skills are to succeed in post-secondary education and when you get to the business world.

“It’s necessary to have good leadership skills when you get to university and when you go to work for a company,” he said. “People are always looking for someone who can lead well.”

He also likes the outdoor training and notes its benefits.

“I’ve learned how to protect myself in the wilderness,” he said. “Ultimately it teaches you how to take care of yourself.”

He noted a couple of other benefits from the program.

“The Cadet program also teaches you discipline,” he said. “And how to form relationships with other people.”

“This helps a lot in your life,” he said.

One of the things he appreciates about the Cadet program is how it helps to develop community mindedness.

“Community service, helping people is something I really like,” he said. “In China that is one big point that is very different.”

“In China we do all day study, sit in a desk, do a test or some paperwork,” he said. “In the Cadet program in Canada we have more opportunity to get outside and gain more community experience.”

In the past, Xu has been part of the Poppy Campaign, raising funds to help veterans in need.

He feels that the Cadet program has helped him a lot with skills that he will need in life.

“In China there is no program that teaches you how to take care of yourself,” he said. “But, in the RCAC program they have given me so much help to know how to take care of myself.”

Story by OCdt. J.T. Lewis, 2968 RCACC

## *2990 RCACC*



Images 1 & 2: Corps attends Brock Youth University High Ropes in March



Change of Command between Major D.J. Fimio, CD to  
Capt Satish Tarachandra, CD on 4 May 2023



Our Marksmanship Team competed against the Halton Regional Police Tactical Rescue Unit at the Halton HQ





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*1st Northern Ireland Battalion Army Cadet Force Cadets, Sergeant James Hughes (left) and Probationary Instructor Ellie May Wilson (right), display plaques received on March 8, 2023 from HCol Kevin McCormick, Honorary Colonel of the Irish Regiment of Canada and Project Founder of the UK-Canada Military History initiative. | Photo Credit: Rachael Galloway*



### *2912 Sudbury Irish RCACC*

Honorary Colonel Kevin McCormick of the Irish Regiment of Canada, who also serves as President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University, in Greater Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, visited the United Kingdom in March making presentations of significance to individuals and groups with respect to his own personal projects and initiatives which actively promote British history, including British military history. HCol McCormick undertakes initiatives such as these on his own time and at his own expense, leveraging opportunities afforded through these activities in order to fulfill his mission to raise awareness of the honoured role of the Sovereign – His Majesty King Charles III – along with the Royal family, in Canada’s history and especially the role the Monarch holds within the Canadian Armed Forces.

On March 8, 2023 HCol McCormick was welcomed by the 1st Northern Ireland Battalion Army Cadet Force. While in Northern Ireland inspecting the cadets HCol McCormick presented 150 awards, including more than 100 Platinum Jubilee Awards, as well as special Coronation Award upon two cadets: Probationary Instructor Ellie May Wilson and Sergeant James Hughes. He also presented several Distinguished Fellowships and Awards of Excellence to individuals and groups who have made significant contributions towards the promotion and preservation of British culture and history, as well as towards the development of innovative relationships between Canada and Britain in various areas including the military, industry and youth development.



*HCol Kevin McCormick speaks with Cadet Corporal Jorja Grimison, 1st*



*Dr. Kevin McCormick – Project Founder and Honoary Colonel Irish Regiment of Canada (3rd from left) Neil Salisbury -*

Northern Ireland Battalion ACF,  
Ballymena Detachment, while  
inspecting the cadets on March 8, 2023  
| Photo Credit: Rachael Galloway

Deputy Lord Lieutenant for County  
Antrim (centre) Chief Executive Mike  
Murdoch (far left) and Deputy Chief  
Brian Sykes (far right) - Reserve Forces  
and Cadets Association for Northern  
Ireland Sgt. James Hughes (2nd from  
left), P.I. Ellie May Wilson (3rd from  
right) and Colonel Adrian Donaldson  
MBE, Commandant (2nd from right) –  
1st Northern Ireland Battalion Army  
Cadet Force



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