



# Welcome to the Squadron



Welcome to Cadets! We hope you will enjoy your time here and will be with us for many years. At first you may feel a bit lost in this very large group, but if you get involved you will soon feel that you belong. Extra activities are a great way to meet your fellow cadets and to get more involved. You will see a description of our regular extra activities on page 2. We also will have other activities such as sports teams, first aid team and other more short-term events such as the various activities such as volleyball and kinball which make up the Excalibur competition between area cadet corps and squadrons. Come and try some--we are always happy to see new cadets join these groups.

*You are a part of the team!*

Your level is level 1, and everyone in that level is new to cadets, just like you. Level 1 is a big group, so it is divided into two smaller groups. You and your fellow level 1s will be together for 5 or more years as you advance through the cadet programme. The person who is sitting next to you in class may be your best friend when you are in level 5! When you are on parade, your group is known as a flight. All the cadets in your level are also in your flight, but so are other cadets from levels 4 and up. Flights get together sometimes on weekends to work on uniforms, drill, and special projects which will count towards Top Flight every month. The Top Flight gets to carry the special white flag on parade, and may get certain privileges.

*Need help? Confused? Want advice?*

Senior Cadets are always here to help you. Your Flight Commander is a good person to go to with questions about the squadron. Your level instructors all have their own specialties for which they have received training in the summer, and are very knowledgeable. If you have any concerns or problems, your level officer is always willing to help. The first few months here can be a bit confusing and overwhelming. Returning cadets know how our squadron runs, where to go to sign up for parades and outings, who the officers and seniors are, what to expect when they go on Bush Weekend...ask your fellow flight members if you are

not sure about something. We all want you to feel like you belong here in Phoenix Squadron.

*What does everything cost?*

You will not have to pay for any cadet training activities or trips, but some things we do are not funded by the DND. For those we need to fundraise. It is very important that all of our cadets to participate in fundraising activities such as Tag Days.

*Summer Training*

Cadets and parents often want to know about summer camps. Camps are, for many cadets, the best part of cadets. For the level 1 cadets, there is one camp which you can apply for: General Training Course. This is a two week course held in Bagotville, Quebec. If you keep up your attendance and uniform, and participate in class you have a good chance to be selected for this camp in your first year. After first year there are many camp choices: Musician, Survival, Leadership, Aviation, Aerospace, Sports and Fitness, and many more. There is more competition for these camps. After level 2 you will probably go to a three week camp, and after level 3 you can attend 6 week camps. Those over 16 years old can compete for Flying Scholarships and learn to fly glider (16+) or power aircraft (17+). You might even want to apply for the International Exchange and travel to another country. Senior cadets (16+) have an opportunity get jobs as staff cadets. Cadet camps are free, and transportation is provided. Cadets also receive a training bonus of \$60 a week. Staff cadets are paid a salary according to their position.

I hope you enjoy your time here at 632! Don't hesitate to ask questions, get involved.

**NULLI SECUNDUS!**

*(That is our squadron motto, and it means  
SECOND TO NONE!)*

# Extra Activities

*Why not come out and try some?*

competitions, and in 2010 we even sent one cadet to the Nationals!

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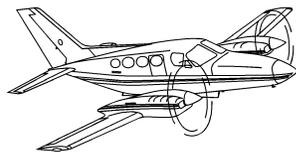
**Band:** We have two bands-- Brass and Reed, and Pipes and Drums. The B&R band won 1st place at the Provincial band competition in 2010. The P&D band got 2nd place at the Eastern Region Music Festival in 2011. The Band plays at CO's Parades and at Annual Inspection, they compete at the Eastern Region Cadet Music Festival for a chance to go to the Provincial competition. They also play for events such as Remembrance Day, the Parade of Lights, and other events. If you play an instrument, come on out! If you want to learn, we don't offer instruction on all instruments but we can teach bagpipes and drums. Come and see what we do at one of our practices!



Come out and learn how to shoot the air rifle with accuracy at **Marksmanship!** You might even get selected for the marksmanship team, which competes against other cadet teams. Last year our team did well in regional



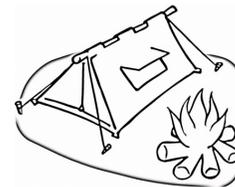
When drill is done well, it is very impressive to watch, and can be lots of fun. **Improvisational Drill Team** is a great place for new cadets to improve their drill and at the end of the year you can amaze your parents when you perform your drill routine at Annual Inspection! Who knows--if you work hard enough you might even make the **Strathcona Drill Team** which competes at the regional competitions for a chance to go to the Provincials. Our drill team has placed 1st in Provincials many times in the past!



Flying is what makes Air Cadets unique. If you want to fly, come to **Flying Scholarship** Friday evenings. This is the ground school which prepares you to try for Flying Scholarships to learn to fly a glider or a powered aircraft at summer training centres.



**Biathlon** is a fun way for you to get outside in the winter! Biathlon combines shooting and skiing (and when there is no snow, we still train, but with running instead of skiing). You don't need to know how to ski, and all equipment is provided. If you get selected for the team, you can compete at regional, provincial or even national levels.



You might think being out in the bush is for Army Cadets, but when your plane crashes, you need to know how to survive in the bush. **Field Ops** gets together and learns how to make fires, build shelters, find food, and much more!

You can also improve your public speaking skills in **Effective Speaking**, and maybe get selected to compete in this national competition.

We also have several **committees** you could join, such as the Social, Sports, and Newsletter committees as well as the Audio-visual team.

There is something for everyone! Don't be shy!

## Who's Who at the Squadron?

There are three types of people at 632: cadets, civilians, and officers.

Cadets advance in rank as they complete training and based on merit. They may also be given positions such as Flight Commander, Instructor, Squadron Commander and so on. The highest ranking cadet in the squadron is the Squadron Commander, or "Chief".

Officers are members of the Canadian Forces who supervise, administer and teach cadets. They are members of the Cadet Instructors Cadre. Their work at the squadron is, like other reservists, part-time, and they all have other full-time jobs during the day, or are full-time students. Sometimes we have regular force officers, or full-time members of the Forces, who volunteer with the squadron. We also sometimes have some primary reservists who belong to another reserve unit but volunteer at the squadron. The highest ranking staff officer at the squadron is the Commanding Officer.

Civilians work with cadets as Civilian Instructors or as volunteers on the sponsoring committee. Civilian Instructors sometimes hold the same positions as CIC officers, but are not members of the Canadian Forces. The sponsoring committee is made up of civilian volunteers who organize fundraising, manage funds for activities not financed by the Forces, promote cadets in the community, and ensure we have adequate accommodations to carry out our activities and training.

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Our Commanding Officer is Major Jonathan McAuley  
 The Deputy Commanding officer is Captain Scott Southern  
 Our Squadron Commander is WO1 Alicia Krolak

## An Air Cadet Glossary

**Flight:** a small group of cadets

**Squadron:** a larger group made up of two or more flights

**CO:** The Commanding Officer

**CO's parade:** formal parade held about once a month where promotions and awards are given out.

**Annual:** The Annual Ceremonial Review. Very formal end-of-year parade with annual awards, special guests, a guest reviewing officer, displays and performances.

**Admin:** The administration office, just off the parade square.

**Supply:** Where we keep all our uniforms and gear.

**Mess Dinner:** a formal, but fun, military dinner

**LAC:** Leading Air Cadet. A rank obtained after 6 months service. Signified by a single propeller.

**Bush Weekend or FTX (Field Training Exercise):** a training weekend where we spend time in the great outdoors working on skills such as survival, teamwork, and leadership. We usually have two a year, one in the Fall or Winter, and one in the Spring. Bush weekend is part of our mandatory training (but is also fun!)

**When will I get my uniform?**

When you join, we measure you for your uniform. Sometimes we have your size already, and you will get some uniform parts right away, other times we need to place an order. Usually orders come in within 3 weeks, but sometimes there are delays. Until then you should wear your own civilian dress shirt, pants and shoes (preferably black pants, shoes and socks, white shirt).

**What is my rank, and how do I get promoted?**

At the moment you join, you become a *Cadet*. After five months of service, you are promoted to *Leading Air Cadet*. At the end of the training year, if you have completed level 1 training, you are eligible for promotion to *Corporal*. After level 2 and with 6 months as a Corporal, you can be promoted to *Flight Corporal*, and after level 3 and 6 months as a Flight Corporal, you can become a *Sergeant*. Those who complete level 4 training, have 6 months as a Sergeant, and who achieved enhanced proficiency, especially in leadership and instructional abilities may be promoted to *Flight Sergeant*. FSgts with 6 months in rank with demonstrated leadership skills can be considered for promotion to *Warrant Officer 2nd Class (WO2)*, but must pass a review board and be selected. To become a WO1 follows the same process.

**Where do these badges go? How do I cut/put up my hair? Can I dye my hair blue?**

For answers to these questions, consult the dress instructions which can be found on the squadron website. There are answers to many other questions on the website too!

**Why are we fundraising? I thought the government paid for cadet training.**

The government does pay for all mandatory training, but we also do other things which are not covered by government or Air Cadet League funds. Insurance costs mean that our glider programme could not continue without fundraising. Many of the extra activities which we organize are paid for by the squadron, such as our mess dinner and museum trips.

**How do we know what is going on at the squadron?**

We use our *email lists* and the *website* to keep you up to date on activities and announcements. We will also have *announcements* which pertain to the parents presented at our final parade every Wednesday night from 8:45-9:15.

Website: [632aircadets.com](http://632aircadets.com)

Don't forget to check the website before coming to events, parades, training nights, and gliding—we will post last-minute cancellations or changes there.

**Any other questions you may have can be addressed to your Flight Sergeant, instructors, or your level officers.**