

THE PACIFIC EXPRESS



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COMMAND CONNECTION

- LCol Neville Head, A/CO RCSU(Pac)

As we move into the Fall season RCSU staff are working hard to adjust the way we support corps and squadrons in this new reality. Currently, we can allow up to 25% of the work force to be present at the office at any onetime. At RCSU (Pac) HQ in Victoria, that equates to just 15 staff on any given day. However, this is the maximum allowable quota, and not the target. The priority across the Formation is still to ensure the Cadet Program is not a vector for transmission of COVID-19; we still have most of our staff working from home, and expect to continue this for the duration of the pandemic, which we expect to last at least another 12-18 months. As corps and squadrons begin re-starting, they will be contacting their support staff primarily via email and cell, rather than office phones. However, our entire team remains committed to supporting corps and squadrons, our staff across the region, and the delivery of a safe, engaging program for youth. More information will be forthcoming at the CO's Conference in September.

A summary of highlights from Task Order 2 is below, and it's important that staff read and fully understand the orders. It's important to work with your Zone Training Officer and Area OIC to plan appropriately for the remainder of the year. I know that this has been a difficult transition, but I have been impressed by the continued efforts and successes throughout the region. For those of you that find the adaption to be a struggle, I encourage you to reach out to your network to find solutions, and remember that there are many resources to support you.

Communications and celebrations of achievements also remain an important aspect of morale in this situation, and I encourage all of you to use this newsletter as a way to remain connected and to celebrate together, while apart. Bravo-Zulu submissions can come from any staff member, and you can expect to see both welcomes and farewells here. Enjoy the end of your summer, and stay safe.

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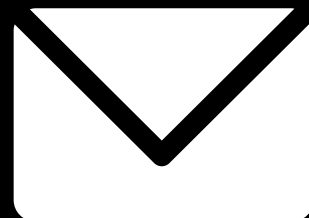
RESOURCES

ETHICS SURVEY:

The Annual Defence Ethics Survey is now open for all full-time staff in Pacific Region.

The survey will be open until 8 Sept and all staff are encouraged to provide a response. Please complete the survey at:

<https://interceptum.com/s/en/ethics2020>.



CADET PROGRAM UPDATE

Task Order 002 was issued on 19 Aug with the way forward for the CCO through the 2020-21 training year. It's important that all corps and squadron staff read the entire document to understand how we are adapting and prioritizing the program. It's also important to understand that this is the way forward for the entire training year, and that you should not expect the current limitations to be lifted before the end of the training year. Following the initial read, staff are encouraged to keep the Aide Memoir handy for quick reference, and to engage their Chain of Command early in the planning process. Additional tools for cadet attraction, engagement and virtual connection will be announced soon, and plans for CTC 2021 are expected in November. The safety and security of all who participate in our programs remain our top priority, and has been at the heart of every decision made. Steps to ensure that the proper precautions have been taken to ensure we do everything we can to protect our cadets and staff and prevent the Cadet Program from becoming a vector for the further transmission of COVID-19 are being put in place.

Some of the major highlights of Task Order 2 include:

1. Update – for in-person activities
 - No in-person training/events/activities are to commence prior to 1 Oct 20. Virtual engagement may commence on 1 Sep 20 while preparations for in-person gatherings are underway; and,
 - Facility and event checklists will need to be filled out by corps/squadrons COs for approval by the Chain of command prior to allowing limited in-person activities for parade nights and subsequent activities.
2. Planning
 - 1-30 Sep preparations may include staff meetings at the parade location (adults only) provided Public Health Measures (PHM) are adhered to.
3. Fundraising
 - No in-person fundraising activities involving cadets and adult staff are authorized until further notice.
4. When training resumes
 - Cadets and adult staff (CAF, CIs, and volunteers) must inform their chain of command if they have been tested for COVID-19 and also the results;
 - When the time comes for in person activities, non-medical masks (NMMs) will be provided by the CAF to all cadets and staff; however, in the interim, cadets and staff may use personally procured NMMs if they have them;
 - Wearing of non-medical masks during in-person activities will be dependent on the local situation (e.g., school board direction, Provincial / Municipal regulations), ensuring 2m physical distancing. Additional direction may following prior to 1 Oct 2020;
 - If COVID awareness training is required for all occupants to enter a facility (i.e. an armoury), cadets will individually complete our online COVID training course and advise their corps/sqn staff of completion, prior to entering the facility;
 - Previous direction regarding international cadet training/events remains extant. Given the state of COVID and global projections; No international cadet training/events will occur prior to 1 Sep 21, this includes all Exchanges (i.e. ISCA, IACE, Maple Leaf, etc.);
 - Inter-provincial/territorial travel is limited to program participants who reside within one hour of a provincial/territorial border and must cross it in order to attend regular parade nights or other approved day only training activities. There will be no commercial air travel, Ground transport must be arranged and carried out in a manner that ensures 2 metre distancing between passengers, with appropriate cleaning protocol. Self-travel for any cadet activities is limited to within 1 hour of the parade location in order to maximize parental drop off / pick up of their child; Exception to the 1 hour limitation will be approved by the RCSU CO; and,

- No overnight travel is authorized until further notice. This means, for example, day only field exercises and no recreational trips outside the 1-hour driving limitations.
 - We are planning for day camps during the spring break 2021 period across Canada. Looking at up to approximately 6,000 cadets getting the opportunity, with parents dropping off and picking up. We are exploring the use of local armouries, facilities with the focus being on safe, fun and exciting activities for the cadets.
5. Subsequent updates
- Subsequent direction will follow Not Before 1 Nov 20 in regards to CTCs for Summer 2021.
6. Update - Power Pilot Training Course (PPTC) and Glider Pilot Training Course (GPTC)
- The decision to conduct the PPTC and GPTC will be made by Comd Natl CJCR Sp Gp in the Nov/Dec 2020 timeframe;
 - Note: Force generation of glider instructors will need to be the first priority to ensure viability of the glider program in the future;
 - There is planned to be a selection process for both GPTC and PPTC this training year;
 - PPTC and GPTC could resume, conditions permitting, during summer 2021, but there are no guarantees that approval will be given to conduct these courses given COVID-19; and,
 - Additionally, cadet familiarization flying (power and glider), could also resume, conditions permitting, but no earlier than summer 2021.

CO'S MEETING

The registration deadline for the Fall CO's Meeting has passed, but registrations and workshop selections are still being accepted. This will be an important opportunity to get updates, and to learn best practices and new skills. Email WO Bingham at james.bingham@forces.gc.ca to register and select workshops.

JOIN CADETS

Have you checked out the new registration tool at Canada.ca/join-cadets? Have you received registrations? We want to know how this new tool is working for you! Send feedback to paccadets@gmail.com!

SWAG!

The Natl CJCR Sp Gp Kit Shop has launched at www.canex.ca and in stores where RCSUs are located. Be sure to check out all the products you can get with the Formation and RCSU crests; new products are being added regularly!



PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Our **Salute to Staff** feature is a huge hit! Thanks to Capt Melodie Fallah for this initiative - [check out our latest story](#) on Lt(N) Nathan Wong - TrgO of 47 RCSCC and Licensed Pharmacist!

Be sure to tell us if there's someone you think should be featured in this celebration of the diverse skill set in the CIC Branch.

Tribute Tuesday. As we move into the Fall training period, there are probably several cadets that performed well over the summer, worked hard to keep cadets connected at home, or just kept up a positive attitude. We want to hear about them for Tribute Tuesday, a recognition of all the types of leadership cadets display! Email a quick summary of your cadet to paccadets@gmail.com



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CADET HISTORY

Army cadets from **2483 RCACC** march down the street during the Victoria Day Parade in 1961, including flag bearer Ron Buckler, Right escort Gerry Pash and Left escort Brian Watt. Photo submitted by Judge (ret'd) Gerry Pash.



RESOURCES

Lastly, remember that your community is here for you. Reach out, check on your friends, and know you are not alone.

CFMAP - 1-800-268-7708

Family Info Line - 1-800-866-4546

Kids Help Phone - 1-866-668-6868

CAF Kids - text CAFKIDS to 686868

