

# NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, November 7, 2018



### IN ATTENDANCE

President	Merv Ozirny
Treasurer	Ernie Weisner
Vice President	Hille Viita
Vice President	Tom Taborowski
Past President	Don Berrill

Secretary/ED                      Pierre Forgues

### ABSENT

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President                      Jim Hunter

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The President and the Immediate Past President are scheduled to meet with the Comd CJCR Sp GP on 29 Nov 18. This special meeting of the NEC was called to discuss the issues that will be discussed at this meeting with the Comd:

- User Fees
- IACE
- National Selections

The DND views and concerns with regards to the above issues, at least as expressed at the staff level and as understood by the ED, are summarized at Annex A.

## 2. USER FEES

Pierre outlined his understanding of the Comd's concerns with regards to the user fees. He indicated that the primary concern is that user fees can result in parents being turned away. Don outlined the ACL view on the issue and the processes that are in place to ensure hardship cases are addressed.

Key elements of ACL position:

- Fund generation is required by the ACL to fund its responsibilities
- User fees are an essential component of fund generation and has been in place for years
- There is ACL policy in place to ensure hardship cases are addressed
- Dependency on DND funding is already too high. Increase of DND funding is not considered a desirable option
- Level of fees required is under review by the ACL and by the League Costing WG. There

are promising fund generation initiatives that could mitigate the need for fees. National fees are currently \$13/year/cadet with any increase on hold

### **3. IACE**

Merv opened the discussion by asking whether IACE was funded separately by TB. Hille underscored the fact that the ACL is the named partner in IACE. Pierre indicated that he does not see DND as challenging its supporting role in the arrangement. The concerns expressed are about managing the risk and accountability that are being borne by DND and the Comd.

Pierre outlined the two primary concerns as he understands them:

- Whether or not DND should fund a cultural exchange
- Whether cadets should be allowed to visit countries without a Canadian escort

Key elements of ACL position:

- The IACE cultural exchange directly supports the objectives of the air cadet program
- ACL will support DND effort to document an approval process
- ACL and DND work together to determine escort arrangements. DND makes the final decision about escort duties for overseas
- DND staff has never approached the ACL about having escorts for every country visited
- Host families for international cadets are selected by the ACL. Families are screened (according to league screening process) and briefed by the host PC. ACL will prepare a process map and submit to DND.
- Travel insurance for cadets is provided by DND/Blue Cross.

### **4. NATIONAL SELECTIONS**

Pierre relayed that the Comd has said he supports the current selection process for GPS and PPS but is not convinced that it is required for other national courses or for IACE.

Key elements of ACL position:

- The interview process serves a useful purpose
- ACL was not aware of difficulties associated with the League not living up to its responsibilities in the selection process

*Secretarial Note: A Briefing Note was presented to the DComd on 12 Nov 18 that outlines the ACL view on national selections.*

### **5. CONCLUSIONS**

None. For information only.

## **ANNEX A – DND VIEWS ON KEY ISSUES**

### **1. User Fees**

- DND policy is that the cadet program is free. The Comd supports that policy
- The Comd is concerned that disadvantaged parents are in fact discouraged from applying or are turned away. There has been actual cases of this reported up the chain of late.
- The ACL expectation is that the League Costing WG will provide facts that show the need for league funding beyond the DND grant. This funding is required to pay for expenses arising from league responsibilities and to pay for optional activities. The WG is also looking at current and potential sources of revenue. The ACL view is that the analysis will show that user fees are in fact necessary.
- The league supports the principle that all can join regardless of financial circumstances and whether parents can pay fees

### **2. IACE**

- There is concern that IACE is not a training program. It is a cultural exchange. Should DND be paying for this type of activity?
- The IACE is a civilian program, but DND must authorize and fund the activity.
- Specific questions about various aspects of the program:
  - > What is the process that determines which country will be visited? Where is this documented?
  - > Why are Canadian escorts not included for all countries?
  - > What is the process for selecting and managing host families? Where is it documented?
  - > Who ensures cadet have adequate travel insurance?
  - > Who would pay for parent travel if they need to be reunited with seriously injured cadet?

### **3. National Selections**

- The Comd supports the current ACL selections process for GPS and PPS. For all the others, including IACE, he needs to be convinced.
- The primary concern is that in many provinces, the ACL volunteers are not stepping up to the plate to execute the selections process leaving DND personnel alone to execute the ACL process
- The requirement for the ACL process for courses other than GPS and PPS is questioned, especially since the army and navy are not involved at all in the selections for their courses.
- The League view is that the ACL selections process is essential for advanced courses and for IACE.