



For immediate release

The Air Cadet League of Canada Elects New National President

OTTAWA, ON (June 16, 2021) - The Air Cadet League of Canada (ACL) recently elected Ms. Hille Viita, CD, from Ottawa, ON, to the position of National President at their 80th Annual General Meeting held virtually on June 12th, 2021. Ms. Viita is the second woman to be elected as President.

Hille has a bachelor's degree in Commerce from McGill University and an MBA from Ottawa University. She is certified in TOGAF, ITIL and SAFe 5.0. She is a recipient of the Canadian Forces Decoration (1993), the ACL Volunteer Long Service Medal and the National ACL Certificate of Merit.

Ms. Viita enrolled as a cadet with 701 NDG Squadron in January 1977 and 2 years later became the Cadet Commander. She did her Flying Scholarship in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu in 1979. She joined the Cadet Instructor Cadre (CIC) in 1981 and has held various appointments, including Commanding Officer of 701 NDG and 872 Kanata Kiwanis Squadrons, and Administration and Training Officer at 166 Bulldog Squadron. She was employed at several cadet summer camps including the Gliding School in Chicoutimi and in 1995 as the International Air Cadet Exchange Escort Officer to the United Kingdom. After stepping down from the CIC in 1996, Hille returned to the movement and joined the ACL in 2001 as the Regional Coordinator of the Ottawa Valley, a position she held for nine years, representing the largest Quebec Ottawa Valley (QOV) region. Hille held the position of Vice President West with QOV which included the Montreal West Island and Ottawa Valley regions. She has been involved in the successful formation of two Squadrons in the Ottawa Valley: 5 Cyclone in Russell in 2005, and 75 Barrhaven in 2017. Hille also spearheaded preserving 832 Twillick Squadron when the Rockcliffe Base closed, and the squadron was rehomed to Rockland where it continues to thrive today. Hille has been a member of the ACL National Board of Governors since the fall of 2014. She was the National Chair of the International Air Cadet Exchange Committee and has also been a member of the ACL 75 Anniversary, Strategic Planning and Ad Hoc Committees.

“For me it is important for the ACL to have a strong team of dedicated volunteers and ardent supporters collaborating, that will not only support us at the various levels of the organization but will also bring forth the new ideas to sustain and grow the support the League can provide. Now more than ever, as we face transformational and challenging times ahead, having our ACL team with open and coordinated communications and plans, and focused execution will be key.” Hille Viita

In her professional life, Hille has been with IBM Canada for over 35 years, primarily in the roles of Business/Enterprise Architect, Consultant and Project Manager, with experience in large scale business transformation and IT initiatives, and Product Manager for Consumer/Retail and Banking products.

The ACL is a civilian non-profit community based and volunteer led organization which, in collaboration with the Canadian Armed Forces and our other partners, is dedicated to supporting the objectives of the Royal Canadian Air Cadet program, and to developing in youth the attributes of good citizenship and leadership; promoting physical fitness; and stimulating the interest of youth in the aviation and aerospace industry, including the Royal Canadian Air Force.

