



Effective Speaking, National Air Cadet League of Canada Instructional Memo 2021-2022

On March 15, 2020, the Air Cadet Program was ordered to cease operations for the safety of cadets, officers and volunteers as the COVID-19 pandemic swept the world. Since that time, squadrons have had to operate in virtual mode. The National Effective Speaking Team met to prepare for a virtual public speaking competition. Last year the provincial teams set up face-to-face competitions, hybrid mode and finally full virtual mode.

This year, what's going on?

The National Team has ruled that provinces and territories may choose their mode of public speaking competition: face-to-face, hybrid, or full virtual. Provinces, territories and the national team must comply with provincial health standards and also with the rules issued by our partner, the Canadian Armed Forces.

The National Effective Speaking Team has also ruled that all provincial effective speaking competitions **must be completed by April 30, 2022.**

When will the National Effective Speaking Competition take place?

The National Effective Speaking Competition will be held in virtual mode **on Saturday, June 4, 2022 starting at noon Eastern Time** to allow all cadets to get the required amount of sleep prior to the event. The recommendation is also based on the health status of the various provinces and territories and the Canadian Armed Forces regulations for cadet training and education. Both the CAF and the Air Cadet League are concerned with the health of cadets. There is also another aspect: the money involved.

We want to give all cadets an equal opportunity, no matter where they come from.

In the following lines, you will find the Effective Speaking themes for 2022 that were chosen by the new National Effective Speaking Team.

1- How can the Air Cadet experience be made more engaging in the post Covid world?

2- Because we are seeing a heightened interest and travel into space, what do you see as the future of space travel?

3- Should every student be required to learn at least one additional language?

4- Should classes about mental health and wellness be added to school curriculum?

5- What is the biggest current threat to the environment and how would you suggest we remedy it?

6- Is effective speaking still relevant today in a society where social networks dictate the pace of information?

7- Why is it important for youth to be engaged & involved in Truth & Reconciliation?

8- What is the impact of social medias on youth?

9- What are the biggest challenges facing youth today?

10- Cadet Choice: must fit into one of these categories: Cadet Life; Science and Technology; Aviation; Canadian History or Citizenship

A sub-committee of the National Effective Speaking Committee is currently working on the guidelines and logistics of hosting the competition virtually. The significant value of the live presentation is undisputed but given the current environment in which we find ourselves, the alternative would again be to cancel the competition. Last year's event was a success, and we are confident that it will be just as successful this year.

André Mauger,
Effective Speaking National Committee Chair