

TO LEARN – TO SERVE – TO ADVANCE

AIR CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA

Issue 35 – SPRING 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hoping this edition find everyone well and enjoying the longer days. From the increased chatter of the birds, spring is just around the corner!

We are hearing across the country that the cadet numbers are up. This is great news.

Our development of the new Strategic Plan is well underway with the Strategic Plan Committee and thanks to Dee, Dennis and Kevin. A working session was held with the National Executive Committee, and other members will continue to be engaged as the plan progresses. At the AGM in Halifax with the membership, there will be several

workshops to further detail and refine the plan, with the aim to have the Strategic Plan ready for the SAM in the fall.

For the Harassment Awareness, the policy has been outlined and reviewed by the Board of Governors. The training package has been developed by the Ad Hoc Committee and is currently being translated. A pilot session will be held in April with a cross section of members from across the country, which will leave time for any further adjustments if required. Thank you to all the members who have been actively involved in the development of the Harassment Awareness training and for sharing your expertise in support of this important initiative. Looking forward to the rollout in 3Q 2023!

Tom Sands and the Communications Committee are continuing their work on the Air Cadet League of Canada Brand and Visual Identity Policy. The intent of the work is to move any aspects of branding and Identity, that are neither a policy nor a procedure, from the PPM to a Branding Standards Guideline. The work group has strong collaboration and participation from across all the P/TCs. The target for completion of the handbook is June 2023.

Meanwhile the ACL Staff is busy getting the final details and plans together for the 82nd Annual General Meeting to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. For those planning to attend, [please register by April 2, 2023.](#)

Also, please note the ACL National Office move from Lapierre to the “Hub” at the old Rideau High School on St Laurent Blvd in Ottawa will take place in late April. Pierre and the Staff will need a few days for the move, and to get set-up and organized in the new digs. So please be patient with the Staff, and if you are going to need something from the National Office, get the requests in early.

See you in Halifax!

Hille Viita CD, National President



Harassment Policy

The Air Cadet League of Canada (ACL) is committed to providing a work environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity. The ACL believes in the prevention of harassment in the workplace / volunteer environment and the promotion of a working environment in which all people respect one another and work together to achieve common goals. Harassment committed by or against an employee or volunteer is unacceptable conduct that will not be tolerated. The ACL will take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent and protect employees and volunteers from acts of harassment.

The National Board recently approved an Air Cadet League of Canada policy on harassment. For the purposes of this policy, harassment includes personal harassment, racial harassment, and sexual harassment.

Personal harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- **Verbal Harassment:** Vexatious or demeaning comments directed at an individual, or used in reference about an individual, which would reasonably undermine that member. It includes stereotypes, name-calling, insults, threats, slurs, crude, degrading, suggestive, or unwelcome remarks, offensive jokes, innuendoes, or profanities.
- **Physical Harassment:** Unwelcome physical behaviour including threatening or rude gestures, physical intimidation, coercion, or assault, insulting actions, or practical jokes that would reasonably result in embarrassment or humiliation.
- **Written/ Graphic Materials:** Graffiti, unwanted notes, letters and/or emails, displaying or distributing derogatory or offensive materials, pictures, jokes or cartoons that portray a person's personal or physical attributes in a negative or humiliating manner.
- **Avoidance or Exclusion:** Of any individual, or group of individuals, which could reasonably be interpreted as shunning or ostracism, because of that individual's beliefs, personal attributes, social condition, or any other reason.
- **Poisoned Environment.** A poisoned environment is characterized by a course of conduct, activity, or behaviour, not necessarily directed at anyone in particular, that creates a hostile or offensive environment.

Racial harassment can be verbal or physical. It is any unwelcome comment, action, or unfair treatment based on race, color, national/ethnic origin, aboriginal origin, language, cultural practice, etc.

Sexual harassment includes any unwelcome or sexually suggestive remarks, gestures, or requests for sexual favours.

Harassment Awareness training is under development and will be available this September in the form of a training video posted on the National website.



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The ACL is committed to providing a Harassment Policy and Program that:

- Provides and maintains an environment that is free from all types of harassment.
- Provides awareness that harassment is prohibited.
- Identifies the types of behaviour that may be considered as a violation of this Policy.
- Establishes a process for receiving complaints of harassment and provides mechanisms to deal with those complaints effectively.
- Provides an example of the steps that can be taken towards maintaining an environment where everyone treats each other with mutual respect.

Harassment Awareness training is under development and will be available this September in the form of a training video posted on the National website. This training will help ensure all understand what constitutes harassment and what to do if you feel you are being harassed.



SPEAK OUT!



**Harassment in the
workplace/volunteer
environment, in any form,
will not be tolerated.**



A PAST-PRESIDENT IS CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!

Ran Clerihue is one of the first to learn to fly as an air cadet. Join us to wish him the best birthday ever!

Ran Clerihue served as President of the League (1987–1988) and is the recipient of several honours including the Air Cadet League Medal of Honour, and Director of the year in 1988. He served on the provincial committees in Vancouver (BC) and Montreal (QC), and on the National Board, and continued to serve after his presidency on the Advisory Council for a number of years.

His association with the League (and 111 Pegasus Squadron) goes back to before the beginning of Air Cadets. Ran was the second son of son of Victor R. Clerihue who, along with A.W. “Nick” Carter and A. Duncan Bell-Irving, was a driving force behind the Air Cadet movement in British Columbia. In 1939 they formed the 1601 Air Force Cadet Wing in Vancouver and Ran learned to fly with the Air Cadets prior to enlisting in the RCAF in 1942.

His family and friends will be celebrating this significant life milestone across three days in the late spring (1-3 June 2023). Letters of congratulation can be forwarded to *Ms Barbara Clerihue, OMM, MA, MDS, Commander (RCN, Retd)*, at b_clerihue@shaw.ca





STRIKE UP THE BAND: A STORY OF MY MUSICAL JOURNEY

I can still remember my very first music group lesson on a keyboard when I was just a 3-year-old boy. Together with a few other children around my age, the teacher tried to teach us to play a simple tune. At first the sounds were just that, an incoherent string of notes with no melodic feel whatsoever. However, by the end of the hour-long lesson the room had reverberated with that all-too-familiar tune of “Hot Cross Buns.” Inside of me, I felt this feeling which a three-year-old me couldn’t have explained at the time, but that would be the beginning of a musical journey that continues even now. On that day, my parents had given me the greatest gift, the gift of music, and since then it has become a bigger part of my life than I would have ever imagined. The joy that music brings and the skills it gave me ultimately have shaped me into the person I am today.

My musical journey has been a long one in the making; I didn’t have my first private piano lesson until I was six years old. Before that, I was just having fun and experimenting with the keyboard with other children around my age. From the very beginning, I have been very fortunate to have amazing teachers that helped me along the way and nurtured my appreciation for music, and although it took me eight years to complete my RCM Level 10 piano exam, I have enjoyed every moment of it. Later, in grade seven, I would pick up the clarinet when I joined my school’s band. I was attracted to the clarinet for its silky-smooth and lyrical tone quality, as well as its wide range of emotions it could express, which wasn’t all too different from the piano. Through the instruction of my band teacher as well as clinicians, I came to respect the clarinet as much as I respected the piano, and my love for both instruments only grew stronger.



I first joined the band of 781 “Calgary” RCACS in my second year of cadets. From the moment I joined, I was immediately welcomed into the family which I would call my cadet home. The guidance of our band officer and drum major shaped us into a top-notch band, and through our shared passion for music, the bond between members only became stronger. Although my stay with the 718 band family would only be a year, the friendships I have made and the skills I learned there would stay with me. The following year, I transferred to 918 “Griffon” RCACS and once again I found myself in the band, and over the next year I found myself using my newfound skills to play my part in making a difference in the band and passing on my knowledge, as the band NCO2IC. Halfway through that year, as the COVID-19 pandemic hit the band particularly hard, I was appointed the drum major, and even through those tough times, our band family held together strong, and by performing and recording our pieces virtually we were able to establish some sort of resemblance to what was normal just a couple months ago. As restrictions were lifted, we were able to finally return to in-person practices, and the hard work and resilience we showed during the pandemic paid off, as we hit the ground running in the weeks leading up to the squadron’s ACR, and were successful in pulling off a performance, in addition to playing our repertoire. Although it wasn’t quite the ending of my tenure as drum major as I had hoped for, as the pandemic disrupted many of the plans we originally had in place for the year, I could not have been more proud and happy for what we as a band had accomplished even in the face of adversity. We showed that even in the toughest of times, we could come together to achieve something truly magical.



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The skills I have acquired during my time with the band, as well as being a musician in general, have benefited me both inside and outside of the cadet program. As one who was, and still is, a big theory nerd, being a part of the 918 band was the catalyst that sparked me to begin experimenting with composing, with a piece that I composed being played during the march past at our last ACR. Since then, I have written a couple more compositions and arrangements for both my school and cadet bands, and composing continues to be one of my favorite activities. Composing helped me to gain a better understanding and a deeper appreciation for what the various instruments contribute to the dynamics of the band. Additionally, through music I have learned valuable skills such as self-



discipline, perseverance, accountability, and teamwork. As band members, putting in the practice hours in order to improve one's playing can really make the difference between a mediocre performance or a great one. But no matter what, it is up to each band member to pull their weight and work together in order to make that happen. It is not only up to one individual, but rather it is a collective responsibility to strive towards that end goal. And through my time as a drum major, being able to lead and mentor cadets towards achieving that goal helped me refine skills which have proved useful to my development as a leader. I was also able to refine my instructional techniques and build on important skills such as communication, confidence and delegation. Although I currently serve as my squadron's deputy parade commander, those skills have applied just as much in my current position as it had when I was in band. In a way, the lessons I learned in band are just as applicable outside of it and continue to mold me into who I am to this day. Being a musician has truly great benefits, and I hope that others will enjoy and get as much out of band as I did.

My parents gave me the great gift of music because they understood its power. At that time, I didn't know what it would bring and taught me. But now I realize that the true gift of music is its innate ability to better express oneself. Music possesses an incredible capability in the sense that it expresses oneself and one's emotions that cannot be described by words alone. When thinking about music as a form of self-expression, one example comes to mind. There is one alleged meeting between the famous composers Franz Joseph Haydn and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1790, when the two had met before Haydn was to go to London. Mozart at one point said to the aging Haydn: "Papa! You have had no training for the great world, and you speak too few languages," to which Haydn responded, "Oh, my language is understood all over the world!" I believe this quote by Haydn sums up my love for music, in that music is a universal language, understood by all, and by playing music, I am communicating my voice all around. This, I believe, is the true gift of music, the gift of expression, and it is my aim to continue to embrace this gift and pass it on to the next generation of musicians, so that they too may experience the wonders and joys of music. Although I have moved on as a member of the squadron's band, the memories I made with my fellow band cadets, and the lessons I learned will continue to stay with me. I plan on pursuing a career in the aviation industry, but there is no doubt that music will continue to play a big part in my life. So for now, wherever life takes me, I will continue to play on, just as I have since my first music lesson.

WO2 Julian Tan, 918 Griffon RCACS



ABOUT THE EFFECTIVE SPEAKING COMPETITION



Again in 2023, the National Effective Speaking will be held virtually. The local, regional and provincial competitions can be held in person if the Health Restrictions permit and meet CAF requirements. The National ES Committee will hold different training sessions to make sure that all national participants will feel comfortable with the virtual platform.

Dates of Provincial / Territorial ES Competitions

PROVINCE / TERRITORIES	DATES
NL	APRIL 15
NS	APRIL 22
PEI	APRIL 15
NB	APRIL 15
QOV	APRIL 22
ON	April 15, 2023.
MB	APRIL 23
SK	APRIL 22
AB	APRIL 29
BC	APRIL 22
PAN TERRITORIAL	JANUARY 31

The National Effective Speaking Competition will start at 1100 ET on June 3rd, 2023. More details will be provided on how to attend the virtual competition to listen/watch amazing cadets' performances. All participants must demonstrate their public speaking skills via a prepared and an impromptu speech.

You are bilingual and interested to be one of National Effective Speaking Competition's judges? Send an email to jwoodford@aircadetleague.com.

Contact your Provincial Committee to find out how you can attend their Effective Speaking Competition to support the participants.

André Mauger
National Effective Speaking Committee Chair



Air Cadet League of Canada Tartan's items



As a proud and distinctive organization, it is reasonable and appropriate that the Air Cadet League of Canada (ACL) should have a tartan. Last year, we had presented to you. An initial order was placed thru GK Textiles to have the tartan woven and articles of clothing produced for sale to ACL members. The items are available for purchase online at the ACL Kit Shop (denisinguette.com) and include a bow tie, a men's tie and a ladies' neckband, a scarf (shown here), and a cummerbund. Many people have purchased items and proudly wear them. In our second order, we have order men's tie size tall. We hope to receive them prior our AGM in June.

We will also have some fabric to sale for those who want to create their own pieces of clothes. Fabric will be sold by meter and the cost is to be determined. Here is an example of what you can do:





RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS WELL DESERVED!



Last January, Mr. Chuck Nicolle, Vice-Chair of the ACL of Canada New-Brunswick Committee has presented a **President's Citation Award** to Lcol Robert (Bob) Mackay for his outstanding service to the League. January 20, 2023, Robert Mackay took over the NBPC's Executive Director's role from Mr. Paul Dowling. Thank you, Paul, for all your years of service in this role.

Congratulations goes to Capt Scott Richards (53 CE Monty Summerside Sqn), Capt Marc Doucette (641 West Prince Sqn), WO2 Daisy Kinch (641 West prince Sqn). They were all presented the **Queens Platinum Jubilee Medal** Tuesday, 14 March 2023 by the Honourable Antoinette Perry Lieutenant Governor of PEI.

Proud of our Air Cadets receiving these medals, on behalf of the ACL of PEI Provincial Committee, I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to each of you, your dedication and perseverance within the organization.

Kendra Mellish, CD
PEI Provincial Chair





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*From left to right: WO2 (Ret) Lavya Vaishno, Mr. Reginald Medina, CD – 132 SSC Chair
Capt Kathryn Yap CD -J3 Zone Training Officer (Borden-Southwest) and Capt Gavin Yee, 132 CO*

Sgt Olivier Laflamme, 776 Squadron is awarded one of the 2022 DODO Bird Club PTAA Awards



WO1 Ryan Stevens (106 Windsor Squadron) receives two awards: one of the DODO Bird Club PTAA 2022 Awards and the Air Cadet Military Band 2022 Award. The awards were presented to him by Mr. Bruce Morse, Regional Director of the Southwest Nova Scotia Region.





Cadets & Volunteers pictures from the Biathlon in Brookvale, PEI

A few pictures of Air Cadets and volunteers. CI Shannon Richards and 53 Sqn Cadets. Former cadet WO Matt MacNeill placed 15th nationally during competitions. His younger brother carried the gold medals February 25. He has also participated all week in ceremonies.

The organizers were very impressed with our cadets. 60, 53 and 327 Sqn participated.

Kendra Mellish, CD
PEI Provincial Chair







SQUADRON ANNIVERSARIES

The following Squadrons have celebrated or will celebrate.
their anniversary between **January 1st and March 30st, 2023**

15 Years

552 Key City Cranbrook

20 Years

199 St. Vital
908 Rainy Lake

25 Years

721 Whitecourt

30 Years

92 St-Honoré
890 St-Georges-de-Beauce

40 Years

227 Raven
895 Fred Campbell VC

45 Years

857 Roncalli
859 Crownset

50 Years

826 Gryphon
827 Longueuil
828 Hurrican

60 Years

243 Ogopogo

70 Years

564 Blériot
566 Canora
567 Random
568 W.B. Needham

75 Years

396 City of Prince George
500 Outaouais

80 Years

250 Vimy
257 Parallel
259 Panther





UPCOMING EVENTS

May 27 @1100 EAT

Virtual Post-Secondary Scholarships Ceremony
Virtual Honours & Awards Ceremony

June 3 @1100 EAT

Virtual National Effective Speaking Competition

June 15-17

National AGM in HALIFAX, NS





PRESIDENTS CLUB



Producing young leaders and outstanding Canadian citizens from coast to coast to coast is no small challenge.

By becoming a member of the Presidents Club, you will be at the center of positive change – fostering the same leadership qualities that have always made the Air Cadet program great.

The **President's Club** is about building Legacies! **Legacies for our youth. Legacies for our movement. Legacies for leaders like you.**

Continue the strong tradition of giving back to our youth. Your commitment will be commemorated **in perpetuity** as a key contributor to our future success. Like those before us, we invite you to play a part in ensuring that our valuable, national youth

movement will succeed and prosper in the coming years.

It takes resources, vision, and leadership! For over 80 years, we have been fortunate to have pioneers and leaders who capture the vision and took on the challenge to build the Air Cadet program – **supporting more than 1 million youth who have participated in our program.**

The time is now to create new visions and to attract the leaders who will help build the program for the future.

The Presidents' Club has been established to help build and shape the future of the Air Cadet program and our League.

As leaders, we are focusing on new, national initiatives to support young people and our organization – from new training and employment streams, renewing and enhancing our fleet, expanding Cadet programs across the country, and working towards a new Centre of Excellence!

For further details and to discuss a Presidents Club membership package that is right for you, please contact our Presidents Club Coordinator, Krystel Blanchard at presidentsclub@aircadetleague.com

FRANKLIN PRINT



Take advantage of this **Limited-Edition, high-quality print** that has been signed and numbered by artist Barry Franklin, a skilled artist, and former Air Cadet.

‘Mountain View Morning’ portrays one of the most prestigious parts of the Air Cadet program as the youth of Canada pursue their glider wings!

Order your limited edition signed print today!

Visit: <https://aircadetleague.com/store/>

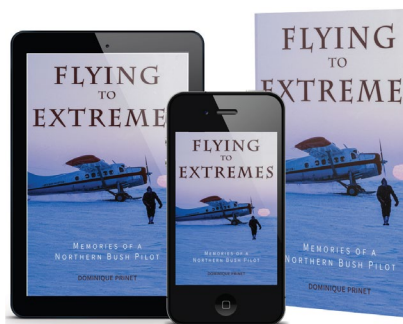
‘Mountain View Morning’. High quality print depicting our 233 Glider, paper size 24"x 33"



AIR CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA KIT SHOP

Les entreprises Denis Ringuettes are able to offer you items such as plaques, wine or beer glasses, a kitchen apron, a wooden cutting board, an insulated coffee mug, a gift set of steak knives, an umbrella, a key ring, a backpack, a briefcase. The possibilities are great and you can even personalize some items on request. We now even have our own tartan.

Here are some examples of what you can purchase.



- Available soon! Flying to Extremes by Dominique Prinnet
- \$29 including regular shipping & Taxes

Contact Mathieu by phone 819-568-6669 or by email mathieu@denisringuette.com to order your items. You can also visit denisringuette.com for **other available items**.