

Summer Newsletter



SUMMER 2026



Leading Forward: A Message from the New President

As I step into the role of President of the Air Cadet League of Canada (ACL), I do so with a deep sense of pride, responsibility, and optimism for what lies ahead.

For generations, the League has played a vital role in shaping the lives of young Canadians. While the cadet program is often recognized for its uniforms, parades, and flying opportunities, its true impact runs much deeper. It is about confidence built through challenge, leadership forged through experience, and a sense of belonging that stays with cadets long after they leave the program.

What makes this possible is not just the program itself—but the people behind it.

Across the country, thousands of volunteers give their time, energy, and expertise to ensure cadets have every opportunity to succeed. Sponsors and community partners step forward with unwavering support. Together, they form the foundation of an organization that continues to change lives, often quietly and without recognition. As President, one of my foremost priorities is to ensure that this dedication is not only acknowledged but actively supported and strengthened.

Our role as a League is both unique and essential. We are not simply an administrative body—we are enablers of opportunity.

We advocate, we connect, we sustain. We ensure that squadrons have what they need to operate and that cadets, regardless of their background, have access to the full experience the program offers.

Accessibility will remain a central focus. Every young person who wants to be part of this program should have that chance. This means continuing to reduce barriers, strengthening community outreach, and ensuring our support systems are equitable and responsive.

At the same time, we must be forward-looking.

The environment in which we operate is evolving—how youth engage, how communities function, and how organizations sustain themselves. To remain strong and relevant, the League must continue to adapt. This includes embracing innovation, modernizing how we communicate and operate, and building strategic partnerships that extend our reach and impact.

Equally important is how we work together.

Open communication, transparency in decision-making, and a shared commitment to our mission will be key to our success moving forward. My leadership will be grounded in collaboration, because the best outcomes are always achieved when we work together with clarity and purpose.

To the cadets: you are, and always will be, at the centre of everything we do. You represent not only the future of this program, but the future of this country. Your ambition, resilience, and leadership inspire us every day, and it is our responsibility to ensure you are given every opportunity to reach your full potential.

The legacy of the Air Cadet League of Canada is strong—but it is not static. It is something we build on, together, with intention and care.

I am honoured to serve in this role, and I look forward to working alongside our dedicated volunteers, and partners, as we continue to grow, adapt, and make a lasting difference.

Together, we will ensure that the Air Cadet experience remains one of the most impactful youth opportunities in Canada—for today, and for generations to come.

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TO LEARN - TO SERVE - TO ADVANCE

Your New Board of Governors At Your Service!



Each year, we have some Governors leaving, while new ones are appointed. This year is no exception. The National Governor retiring this year is Mr. Vern Toews. We thank him for his service.

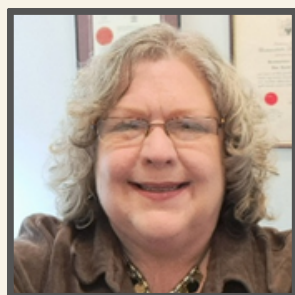
This year we have two new members joining the Board of Governors: Lisa Goulden and Jeff Grevstad CD.

Here is the list of the Board of Governors for 2026-2027

President: Jacquie Pepper Journal CD
First Vice-President: Sue Madden, CPA, CGA
Vice-President: Thomas Sand CD
Vice-President: Angèle Mullins
Vice President: Dee Davis
Marc Lacroix Immediate Past President
Arlo Speer
Jeff Gravstad CD
John Nolan CD
Kevin Robinson
Lisa Goulden
Lokesh Purbia
Michele Claveau
Patrick Stoddart
Terri Hinton
William Cahill



Newly Elected Governors



Lisa Goulden



Jeff Grevstad CD

MOU Between the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and the Cadet Leagues



The MOU is the culmination of a collaborative working group with leadership of the Cadet and Junior Canadian Rangers Group (CJCR), and The Navy League of Canada, The Air Cadet League of Canada and The Army Cadet League of Canada. It represents the latest evolution in the relationship between the CAF and the Cadet Leagues.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a non-binding document that establishes the collaborative relationship between the Cadet Leagues and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) by providing high-level guidance on the participants, their shared objectives, and the cooperative framework that supports the Canadian Cadet Program. It is not intended to define detailed roles and responsibilities, as these continue to be governed through existing policies, procedures, and operating agreements, such as the glider contract. Instead, the MOU serves as the strategic framework that guides and strengthens our unique partnership.

The document has been posted on the National website [Governance](#) page. This MOU supersedes the previous one and comes into effect immediately.



Brigadier-General Dominique Brais (CJCR Gr), and the three Leagues' President: Jennifer Bennett (Navy League), Jacquie Pepper Journal (ACL) and Cathy Bach (ACLC)

Awards, Recognitions & Special Guests



President Mrs. Jacquie Pepper-Journal awarding Mr. Don Berrill CD. the Medal of Honour



Mr. Jan Reidulff presenting the Director of the Year Certificate to Mr. Arlo Speer



Retiring Governor, Mr. Vern Toews, receiving a plaque from President Mrs. Jacquie Pepper-Journal

Awards, Recognitions & Special Guests



Mr. Jan Reidulff presenting a
Volunteer Silver Bar to Mrs. Terri
Hinton



Mr. John Nolan CD receiving a
Volunteer Silver Bar, presented by
Mr. Jan Reidulff



Mrs. Sue Madden receiving a
Volunteer Silver Bar, presented by
Mr. Jan Reidulff



Mr. James Simiana CD receiving a
Certificate of Merit from Mr. Jan
Reidulff

Awards, Recognitions & Special Guests



Major General Regena Aye (Civil Air Patrol) and President Mrs. Jacquie Pepper-Journal



LCol David Wright, CD (DCS Ops CJCR Gr) is presented with a Certificate from Mrs. Colleen McCourt, President of ACL Ontario Committee



Thank You to our Special Guests!

Terrence Colfer & Spouse (John Patrick Colfer Family Foundation)

Mr. Merv Ozirny & Spouse (Honourary Solicitor)

Maj Gen Regena Aye (Civil Air Patrol)

LGen (Ret.) André Deschamps (RCAF Association)

Mr. Jean-Samuel Plante (CAE)

Mr. Benoit Lecours & Spouse (Air Canada)

F/O Lee J. Keller, CD (ALPA)

Mrs. Gennifer Stainforth & Spouse (Lockheed Martin Canada)

Mr. Michael Anglin, CD (President's Guest)

Mr. Ernie Muzylowsky, CD (President's Guest)

LCol David Wright, CD (CJCR)

2026 National Effective Speaking Competition



On June 19, 2026, eleven outstanding cadets from across Canada gathered in Ottawa, ready to showcase their public speaking skills. The judges and evaluators were prepared, the Cadet Master of Ceremonies was in place, photographers and volunteers from QOVPC were ready, and anticipation filled the room as the 2026 National Air Cadet League Effective Speaking Competition officially began.

What followed was an inspiring event that highlighted the exceptional talent, confidence, and leadership of eleven remarkable young Canadians. Each cadet delivered a presentation that informed, inspired, and left a lasting impression on everyone in attendance. Every speech reflected countless hours of preparation, dedication, and determination, proving that every detail can make a difference.

The competition featured representatives from all ten provinces and Northwest Territories, bringing together the very best Air Cadet speakers from across the country. Reaching the national stage was no small accomplishment. Each competitor had successfully advanced through multiple levels of competition; first at their local squadron, then at the Regional or Wing level, and finally at the Provincial or Territorial competition to earn the opportunity to compete at the national level.



2026 ES Competition Top Three Winners



Nathaniel Brennan Lee, 632 Phoenix RCACS
Master of Ceremonies



Provincial and Territorial Committee Chairs and all 11 participants

2026 National Effective Speaking Competition Winners



We want to offer our sincerest congratulations to all the cadets, but also highlight the winners:

- Gold Medal – WO2 Sarah Bucevski, 709 Vimont-Auteuil RCACS (Quebec & Ottawa Valley)
- Silver Medal – F/Cpl Lincoln Bell, 527 Simonds RCACS (New Brunswick)
- Bronze Medal – WO1 Cameron Carnegie, 868 Fort McMurray RCACS (Alberta)



From left to right: Mr. Pascal Salhuana (Air Canada),
First Place Winner WO2 Sarah Bucevski (709 Vimont-Auteuil Squadron),
and Mr. Benoit Lecours (Air Canada)



Mrs. Jacquie Pepper-Journal, president of the ACL,
F/Cpl Lincoln Bell from 527 Simonds, second place,
and Mr. Vern Toews, president of the national effective
speaking committee



Third place WO1 Cameron Carnegie, 868
Fort McMurray RCACS with his parents and
Mr. Peter Davis, Alberta ACL President
Committee Chair

2026 National Effective Speaking Competition Participants



2026 Participants from East to West:

Newfoundland & Labrador

FCpl Lily Heffern - 125 Silver Wings

Nova Scotia

Sgt Dev Gupta - 615 Bluenose

Prince Edward Island

FSgt Kloe Hogan - 60 Confederation

New Brunswick

FCpl Lincoln Bell - 527 Simonds

Quebec & Ottawa Valley

WO2 Sarah Bucevschi - 709 Vimont-Auteuil

Ontario

Sgt Vani Salh - 132 Spitfire

Manitoba

WO2 Kristine Yu - 191 West Winnipeg Rotary

Saskatchewan

Sgt Hudson Dubois - 702 Lynx

Alberta

WO1 Cameron Carnegie - 868 Fort
McMurray

British Columbia

FSgt Chetan Aarush Lingamchetti - 746
Lightning Hawk

Northwest Territories

Cpl Isaac Odundo - 825 Yellowknife Elks

“

If your goals don't scare you, they're not big enough. At first when I decided to try effective speaking, I made a goal to make it to provincials as no one from my squadron has gone in years. Later, while talking with others, they said I should shoot for nationals. The thought of that terrified me. While I was at the competition the environment put me at ease. The support that was shown from the other competitors was unlike anything I have ever experienced in my six years in the program. I will definitely be sharing my experience with others as I go to Vernon CTC this summer.

”

WO1 Cameron Carnegie, SCWO,
868 RCACS

2026 National Effective Speaking Competition Acknowledgements



We thank our donors for their contributions to this event!

John Patrick Colfer Family Foundation



LCol David Wright, CJCR Gr

Official Carrier:



AIR CANADA

We want to say a special thanks to all those who volunteered in this year's competition, and our donors for their contributions to this event.

It was our pleasure to work with them!



From left to right: Mr. Pascal Salhuane (Air Canada), Ms. Sélena Sévigny (Lockheed Martin Canada), Mrs. Jacquie Pepper-Journal (ACL President), Mr. Jean-Samuel Plante (CAE), and LCol David Wright (CJCR Gr)

Effective Speaking Committee
Email us at speaking@aircadetleague.com

2026 Scholarship Recipients



This year we have received 280 scholarship applications and today we acknowledge 50 exceptional Air Cadets with a total value of \$114,000 in post-secondary scholarships, through the generosity of our donors.

2026 Tri-Element National Scholarship for Cadet Leadership in Music Recipient is WO2 Emily Lor, 918 Griffon Squadron, AB



2026 Royal Canadian Legion Air Cadet of the Year is WO1 Bryce Wallach, 249 Beauséjour Squadron, MB

Thank you to our donors for their support to the Air Cadet Program!

Post-Secondary Scholarship Recipients



Scholarship	Rank	First name	Last name	P/TC	SQN	Value
Anthony A. Martin Memorial	WO2	Dominic	Corbett	AB	604	\$1,000
Advisory Council	WO2	Evan	Dennis	SK	107	\$1,000
Dr William Weston	WO2	William	Desrosiers	QOV	811	\$1,000
Tri-Element National	WO2	Emily	Lor	AB	918	\$1,000
Advisory Council	WO2	Jeeya	Patel	ON	296	\$1,000
Air Cadet League of Canada	WO1	Gwenne Donaline	Taylor	ON	585	\$1,000
RCL Cadet of the Year	WO1	Bryce	Wallach	MB	249	\$1,000
Thomas Colfer	F/Sgt	Katherine	Allen	ON	812	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	WO2	Clare	Balkissoon	QOV	742	\$2,000
KC Lett	WO2	Liam Paul	Bent	NS	18	\$2,000
KC Lett	F/Sgt	Léandro	Camargo-Camiré	QOV	827	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	F/Sgt	Evelyn	Dam	BC	59	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	WO1	Brooke	Dickie	NS	545	\$2,000
KC Lett	WO2	Khan	Doho	BC	808	\$2,000
KC Lett	WO1	Tristan Louis Joseph	Gingras	QOV	211	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	WO2	Kushagra	Lall	BC	111	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	F/Sgt	Chetan Aarush	Lingamchetti	BC	746	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	F/Sgt	Jadon	Mathew Martin	NB	101	\$2,000
KC Lett	WO2	Maya Hala	Zahabi	QOV	100	\$2,000
Thomas Colfer	WO2	Ethan	Zhu	QOV	1	\$2,000
Birchall	WO1	Olamipo David	Abioye	AB	287	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Mary-Kathryn	Anderson	ON	3	\$2,500
Birchall	WO1	Himani	Bhatt	MB	199	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Eiman	Chaudhry	AB	504	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO1	Thomas Hedley	Clenche	NL	567	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Noah	Elle	AB	504	\$2,500

Scholarship	Rank	First name	Last name	P/TC	SQN	Value
KC Lett	WO1	James Patrick	Fowler	AB	755	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Nicolas	Gagarin	MB	176	\$2,500
Alex Venables	WO2	Declan	Gao	ON	883	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Gabriel	Grande	ON	283	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO1	Léandre	Guité	QOV	827	\$2,500
Birchall	WO1	Nadar	Gujral	ON	27	\$2,500
KC Lett	WO1	Isabella	Huang	BC	637	\$2,500
Dale	WO2	Isabella	Illescas	ON	102	\$2,500
CAE	WO1	Valerie	Ip	ON	8	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO1	Saanvi Reddy	Katireddy	BC	848	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO1	Thomas	Kim	BC	111	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	F/Sgt	Kamea	Lafontaine	AB	952	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Melvin	Li	BC	655	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Amine	Mameri	QOV	709	\$2,500
RCAFA	WO2	Parker	Mullins	BC	243	\$2,500
CAE	WO1	Munjial	Patel	ON	700	\$2,500
KC Lett	WO1	Ibrahim	Shad	ON	340	\$2,500
KC Lett	WO2	Tanishka	Sharma	ON	856	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Dmitry	Telyatnikov	MB	199	\$2,500
Dale	WO2	Vihaan Sahai	Varshney	ON	166	\$2,500
Birchall	WO1	Victoria Wing Tung	Yue	ON	876	\$2,500
Lockheed Martin	WO2	Angela	Zhang	BC	759	\$2,500
RCAFA	F/Sgt	Ioannis (John)	Zografos	MB	170	\$2,500
KC Lett	WO1	Emy	Zou	QOV	784	\$2,500
Legion National Foundation	WO1	Sarah	Diamond	NL	774	\$3,000
Young Citizens Foundation	WO1	Vittoria	Buenvenida	BC	767	\$5,000



In Memoriam



It is with deep sadness that we share of the sudden passing of Fred Hopkinson (21 June 1939 to 6 May 2026), devoted more than seven decades to the Air Cadet movement in Canada. Joining Air Cadets in 1952 in Hamilton at 62 Squadron followed by time as a Civilian Instructor, then as a commissioned officer; finally serving as Commanding Officer of 735 Squadron Ancaster-Dundas from 1971 to 1978.

He served as the Chair of the Ontario Provincial Committee from 1986-1988 and was National President of the Air Cadet League of Canada from 1996 to 1997.

Known for his passion for youth development and effective speaking, Fred's legacy continues through the Fred Hopkinson Invitational Debate Competition and the many cadets and volunteers he inspired throughout his lifetime.

In 2018, Fred was presented with the Provincial Distinguished Service Medal for his 60 years of service

Past President Celebrates 103 Years!

National Past-President Randolph Clerihue, celebrated his 103 year on June 1st.

William Randolph Clerihue served with distinction during World War Two, and subsequently in Corporate Business circles.

He served as the National President of the Air Cadet League of Canada from 1987 to 1988.

He was presented with a Medal of Honour in 1996.



Gift Subscription Offer for RCAF Air Cadets



Did you know that every Royal Canadian Air Cadet is eligible for a free gift membership with the Canadian Aviation Historical Society (CAHS)?

As a member, you'll receive a complimentary subscription to the CAHS Journal throughout your time in the Air Cadet Program. It's the Society's way of recognizing your interest in Canada's aviation history and your role in preserving our aviation heritage.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to learn more about Canada's rich aviation past!

Interested in subscribing? Visit:
<https://www.cahs.com/membership.html>



Explore the Air Cadet League of Canada Kit Shop



Looking for a way to show your Cadet spirit or find meaningful items connected to the program? **The Air Cadet League of Canada Kit Shop** offers a carefully selected range of products designed for cadets, supporters, and alumni.

From **pins and medals** to **commemorative items, ties, and apparel**, each piece reflects the pride and tradition of the Air Cadet program. Our collection may be modest, but every item is chosen with care to represent the values, history, and achievements of our community.

Why Shop With Us?

- **Unique & Official** – Every item in the Kit Shop is designed specifically for the Air Cadet League of Canada.
- **Great for Gifts & Recognition** – Perfect for ceremonies, squadron awards, or personal keepsakes.*NEW* **The “Morning at Mountain View” Franklin Print is now offered in presentation format.**

Featured Items: Limited Time Savings!

- For the next few months, enjoy special reduced rates on our current featured items:
 - **Participation Ribbons**
 - Air Cadet League of Canada **Passport Wallets** (Very few left in stock!)
- These savings are only available for a limited time, so don't miss out!
- Interested? Email Krystel at kitshop@aircadetleague.com

Take a Look Today!

Visit the Kit Shop online at aircadetleague.com/shop and explore what's available.

Squadron Anniversaries

1 May to 31 July

Happy anniversary to the following squadrons as they celebrate these incredible milestones!

25 years

999 Loyalist

65 years

713 Thunderbolt

50 years

844 Norseman

845 Avro Arrow

70 years

622 Frontenac

624 Tisdale

55 years

803 North Shore Sabre

804 Lions d'Alma

75 years

533 St. Albert

60 years

763 Bouctouche

764 Happy Valley, Goose Bay

80 years

395 Edmonton



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 Harold Fowler
 Harry Zemonski
 Chris Ecklund
 Ken Lett

Bomber Harris
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 Jackman Foundation
 B.C. Ex Air Force
 RCAF 426 Squadron Association
 Dr. William Weston Scholarships
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Thanks to our
sponsors and
partners!



Merci à nos
commanditaires
et partenaires !

