



Information for Parents of New Cadets

Welcome to 2812 Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Royal Canadian Army Cadets!

Cadets can offer your son or daughter many unique opportunities. The skills, knowledge, and confidence that they develop can last a lifetime.

2812 RCAC corps meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:00. All cadets must attend the Tuesday evening Weekly Parades. Cadets meet at Mountainview Montessori School, 15225 98th Avenue in Surrey. Cadets should arrive at 6:15. The phone number for cadets is 788 837 8793.

During the Tuesday evening sessions, cadets will be involved in a variety of activities such as drill, first aid, orienteering, camp craft, leadership, public speaking, sports, etc. Skills learned will enable cadets to progress through the Star levels. Information on the Star levels can be found on the Cadet website: <http://www.cadets.ca>. As the cadets progress, they have the opportunity to become eligible for promotions and summer camp training.

Cadets can also participate in Band, Marksmanship, and other specialty teams. Participation in these additional activities is optional. These teams will meet on Wednesday or Thursday evenings.

The Parent Committee runs a canteen, which is open on Tuesday nights during the Cadets' training break. Snacks, refreshments, and some supplies needed for uniform maintenance, (i.e. shoe polish) are available for purchase at minimal prices. The proceeds go back to the program to benefit your Cadets. Also available for purchase are T-shirts, hoodies, and other apparel with our 2812 insignia. Parents are welcome to come and have a look.

Schedules for the year can be found in the "New Recruit Handbook/Information Manual" which is made available to all cadets. Schedules will also be available on the 2812 website which is <http://groups.msn.com/2812parents>. The manual will be online in early September.

Our Corps has 3 groups that are responsible for its success:

a) The Officers- responsible for all of the administration of the corps and delivery of the cadet training. These individuals are all members of the Canadian Armed Forces. The CFA provides their salary and training.

b) The Parent Sponsoring Committee in partnership with the Officers and the Army Cadet League are responsible for the fundraising required to run the Corps. Funds are needed to rent facilities, purchase equipment and parts of the uniform that are not covered by the Department of National Defense. Funds are also need to support extra activities such as travel to competitions or to enhance funded portions of the army cadet program.

c) The Cadets- senior cadets, guided by the corps officers help in program delivery as instructors and act as mentors for the younger cadets. Cadets receive instruction in Leadership and Instructional techniques so that as they progress to a Senior Cadet level they too will be ready to become leaders.

Parent Involvement- Welcome to the Parent Sponsoring Committee! All parents of cadets can become members of the sponsoring committee. Your cadet will benefit greatly from your support and involvement. There are a variety of activities that parents can participate in. Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month and your attendance is requested. This is a great way to keep informed about upcoming events. In addition, at the end of each Tuesday night weekly parade, parents are strongly encouraged to come into the gym to listen to the announcements from the Officers, Parent Committee, and Senior Cadets. This will ensure that you are up to date and in the “loop” about cadet events. There is always a pot of coffee on, so please come and see how you can help.

Dress- Cadets will be issued and are responsible for a standard dress uniform. Until the uniforms arrive, cadets should wear white shirts, dark pants, and dark shoes. The “New Recruit Handbook/Information Manual” schedule also indicates what type of dress the cadets should wear to each Tuesday Parade.

Being a cadet corps affiliated with a highland unit, our Sr. Cadets and pipe band are outfitted with appropriate clothing and equipment. This equipment is owned and maintained by the Sponsor Committee and loaned to Sr. Cadets for them to wear at appropriate occasions throughout the year. Some Sr. cadets choose to purchase personal items of highland equipment but this is optional and not a requirement of the cadet corps. Band instruments are provided to cadets but if they choose to pursue advanced training they are encouraged to purchase their own instruments with help from the sponsors. Details of these arrangements can be discussed on an individual basis with the band officer and the sponsor committee.

Cadets will be participating in a variety of outdoor activities including field training exercises (FTX) where they will put to use skills learned in evening classes in a practical setting. Suitable civilian attire or army surplus clothing can be worn during these events. Army surplus clothing is purchased at the cadet’s expense, as this is not provided from any funding through the cadet program.

2812 Corps Activities

FTX (Field Training Exercises)- These are optional events held on the weekends. Cadets have the opportunity to put into practice some of the skills they have been learning.

FTXs are held several times throughout the year. The dates are listed in the “New Recruit Handbook/Information Manual”.

TAG Days- All cadets are expected to participate in TAG days. Cadets sign up for short shifts and dressed in uniform, with donation can in hand, they accept donations from the public. TAG events are held at various location, usually outside of major stores. Volunteer parents supervise cadets.

Scottish Exchange- every 2 years a group of our Cadets has the opportunity to visit Scotland on an exchange. This year we will be hosting a group of 15 Cadets and 5 Officers from Scotland. Come and see just how you can be a part of this great experience.

Veteran’s Concert- our largest fundraiser held at the Bell Centre for Performing Arts the afternoon of Saturday Nov 3rd. Cadets will be asked to be responsible to sell a minimum of 5 tickets.

Poppy Drive- Canadian Legions have been and continue to be very supportive of the cadet movement; we have our Cadets available for poppy sales at designated venues usually the weekend prior to Remembrance Day.

Remembrance Day Parade- This is always a moving event and parade.

Ortona Dinner- This special dinner is held each December to commemorate the Battle of Ortona in Italy. In 1943 Canadian soldiers, the Seaforth Highlanders fusiliers were served Christmas dinner before returning to battle. At our 2812 dinner, the parents do the cooking and the Officers serve the Cadets. It’s a memorable event and parents are needed to help out with the cooking, etc.

Candle Light Vigil- In May, the Army, Navy and Air Cadets come together to clean the graves of the Veterans at Victory Memorial Gardens. The lighting of candles on each of the Veterans’ graves and a parade follow.

Tri-Service Ball- an annual event which is held exclusively for cadets, and is run by the Chiefs & PO's Mess Committee of #47 RCSCC Captain Vancouver. This event is open to all air, sea, and army cadets. The Dress Code is formal and tickets must be purchased prior to attending. The website is: www.tri-serviceball.com.

ACR- Annual Cadets Review- This is the year-end parade where all cadets have a chance to march in a final parade and show their best to parents, family, and friends. Don’t miss it! The ACR marks the end of the regular training for 2812. However some cadets may choose to participate in summer training.

Summer Training- Cadets can apply to take additional training at a variety of sites across Canada. Camps range from 2-6 weeks in length. The Officers take applications for camps in the spring. Cadets receive a training bonus of \$60.00 per week during these activities and all aspects of the program are free of charge. Information about the camps

can be found on the Cadet website: <http://www.cadets.ca>. As well, the Army Cadet League maintains a fantastic collection of camp pictures in its “Army History” section. Go to www.armycadetleague.bc.ca, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “army history”. There you will find a list of camps each with its own photo archive.

As the year progresses, and other events come up, we will endeavor to keep parents well informed, by way of handouts and e-mail. However the best way to keep informed is to become involved. **See you at cadets!**

Useful Abbreviations

FTX- Field Training Exercise

Glen- short for “Glengarry”; the hat worn by cadets who have completed their green star on promotion to private.

OPI- Officer of Primary Importance- the officer who is responsible for an activity or exercise

CO- commanding officer

NCO- non-commissioned officer

CI- civilian instructor

CHAPS- Cadet Harassment and Abuse Prevention Program

CF- Canadian Forces

Coy- company

HQ- head quarters

IMP- Individual Meal Pack