

# BC Army Cadet

Newsletter of the Army Cadet League of British Columbia  
 www.armycadetleague.bc.ca No 1 Vol 1 Fall 2007

## President's Message

Welcome to the first edition of "BC Army Cadet". Our Executive Committee decided to revive the newsletter at this time to communicate the splendid accomplishments of Army cadets and their sponsor committees throughout BC, to salute the hardworking volunteers and parents, to keep everyone up to date on League decisions and activity, and to highlight our ongoing fund raising initiatives. We may not address all of these in each edition but our primary goal is to stay in touch. Personally, a highlight of 2007 was the completion of another successful summer of training for 1700 cadets at the Vernon Army Cadet Camp. We're very proud that BC hosted cadets from across Canada at the 2007 National Cadet Expedition in the rugged Cascade Mountains of Cathedral Park. We hope that you enjoy "BC Army Cadet" and welcome your feedback.

Brian Vernon, Army Cadet League of BC



### Vernon Camp: Always Challenging and Fun

Up to 17-hundred cadets representing units from across western Canada converged on the Vernon Army Cadet Summer Training Centre this past summer. For those selected to attend the two-week camps it was an exciting, first-time experience.

For the majority participating in the six-week training, they returned for another challenging summer to further their leadership skills and to renew acquaintances. Cadets attending Vernon Camp enroll in one of three levels of training including the Basic Cadet Course, the Cadet Leader Course and the Cadet Leader Instructor Course. There is also a Music Program that includes military band and pipes and drums.

The annual Final Parade and Sunset Ceremony was held on August 17<sup>th</sup>, under the fading rays of brilliant sunshine and warm temperatures and attended by a large contingent of parents and supporters. The reviewing officer was Assistant Commissioner Peter German of E Division, RCMP. After the inspection and march past, a total of nine wards were presented followed by the Feu de Joie. The day concluded with the Sunset Ceremony. *(See Page 4 for Final Parade pictures)*

### Cadet Expedition - A Towering Success

The Cascades were the backdrops for the 2007 ACLC/DND National Expedition. For ten days from September 4<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>, 16 cadets from



across Canada tested their physical and mental limits in Cathedral Provincial Park southwest of Keremeos. The cadets, including 2 from BC, hiked and climbed through the granite spires and ridges that represent the northern edge of the Cascade Mountains.

The Expedition gave cadets the opportunity to apply the skills and leadership roles that they have acquired over the last four years as Army Cadets. It included hiking 7 to 20 kilometers each day and rock climbing the Cascade Mountains.

*(Continued next page)*

**The Cadet Experience .. it lasts a lifetime**



Cadets, instructors and mountain guides relax at Cathedral Provincial Park in September.

Cadets were challenged individually and as a group to improve their skills in decision-making and problem solving, teamwork and co-operation, communications, tolerance, resourcefulness and time management. Seven mountain peaks with an average altitude of 2,550 meters were climbed. The outdoor adventure also teaches personal safety, environmental stewardship and encourages a healthy lifestyle.

Following the Expedition, participants were treated to a celebratory dinner in Vernon by the Army Cadet League of Canada and presented with the National Expedition Shield. Check: <http://www.armycadetleague.ca/Templates/exp2007/index.html>

*(See International Expedition pictures on page 4)*

## BC Cadets in Mountain Expedition



**C/WO Chris Congram** (left) **2827 BCR Corps, Port Moody.** Cadet Congram has graduated from high school and was a member of the Bisley Marksmanship team for two years. He plans on a career in welding.

**C/WO Eric J. Evans** (right) **3080 Corps, Burns Lake.** Cadet Evans is attending Lakes District Secondary School (Grade 12) and enjoys motorcycling and snowboarding. He plans on a career in mountaineering or as an air technician

## Top Award To 2290 Corps (BCR) Cadet WO



Cadet WO McCallum of 2290 Cadets (BCR) receives the top award from Brian Vernon, President, Army Cadet League of BC, at the Beatty Street Drill Hall in Vancouver on September 27.

Cadet WO Raven McCallum is the recipient of the Major General Howard Award for 2007, achieving the highest marks in British Columbia (Pacific Region) on the National Star Certification Exam 2007. This is the highest level of examination for senior cadets in the Army Cadet program.

The exam consists of a series of written and practical exams in General Knowledge, Map and Compass, Teaching a Drill lesson and Classroom lesson. Senior Cadets are also given a Fitness Test and a Bush Craft practical test.

## Cadets Need Your Help

There are numerous ways in which parents can help their children who are enrolled in Army cadets. One is to volunteer on cadet parade nights. Another is to join a local sponsoring committee. Or, you may be interested in becoming a cadet instructor. And, you can join the Army Cadet League of BC.

If you're currently involved with the Army cadets in BC you're aware of the value and rewards of Cadet activity. Perhaps you know of other parents, relatives, or friends who may be interested in becoming involved. Please check out [www.cadets.net/pac/parent](http://www.cadets.net/pac/parent) to get more information.

**Wishing you  
a challenging and rewarding  
New Year**

### Cadet Officers to the Rescue

First aid training and a sharp eye by three Vernon Camp Cadet Officers paid off last July at Oyama. The officers had taken a lunch break from teaching canoe skills at Kaloya Park when they spotted a lady who had fallen from a concrete barrier and badly injured while helping to unload a canoe trailer. Lt Tom Roebuck, Lt Gord Cousins and Capt Peter Tujik, the OC of the Canoe Cadre, came to her rescue. While Lt Cousins splinted her broken arm, Lt Roebuck called 911.

A stretcher from the training site was used to lift the patient while a senior Staff Cadet was dispatched to the main gate to direct the Lake Country Fire Department ambulance crew. As the firefighters attended to the woman the Cadet Officers assisted her elderly companion, offering him some food. Later the same day several Cadets helped the man to re-load his canoe.

Capt Tujik later said he was impressed with the swift and professional conduct of the Cadet Officers in dealing with the emergency, adding that he was fortunate to work with such experienced officers this past summer.

### Surrey Cadets Support Troops in Afghanistan

Last spring Cadets from 2822 Corps Surrey (RWR) decided to support Canadian troops serving in Afghanistan in a very special way. They gathered small, personal items and packaged for shipment overseas in mid April.

The recipients were the 8 Primary Reserve soldiers from the RWR who were deployed in Afghanistan at that time. The Surrey 2822 Cadet Corps packages contained soap, toothpaste, candy and magazines, including personal letters to the soldiers written by each of the Senior NCO's of 2822 Corps.

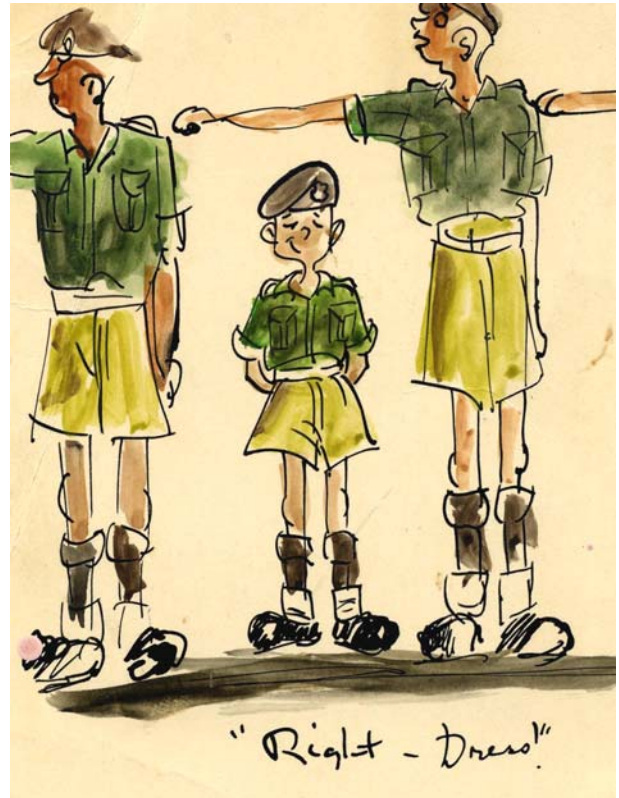
From all reports the soldiers were very grateful for the Cadets' thoughtfulness and the contents of the packages. Sadly, one of the recipients of the Cadet support packages was killed while on patrol during Operation Luger.

He was MCpl Colin Bason, The Royal Westminster Regiment, who died in Afghanistan on July 4, 2007. The remaining 7 soldiers from the RWR arrived home safely, as scheduled, in August.

#### Contact Us

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### Memories from the 50's



Who is the artist? A cadet or an instructor attending Vernon Camp during the 1950's drew this cartoon. By showing it here we hope it will trigger memories for some of our older readers, who may know the name of the artist. If you can identify the cartoonist, send us the name and we'll do the rest. We've been given a few more samples of this unknown artist's work that we will share with you in future newsletters.

### 2008 Pillars Conference Set

The theme of next year's Pillars Conference will be "Recruitment and Retention", the twin challenges currently facing the Army Cadet League of BC. The annual three day conference will be held April 25, 26 & 27, 2008 at the Prestige Inn in Vernon. Attending will be up to 70 members of the sponsoring committees along with cadet instructors, commanding officers and representatives of affiliated regimental units. Registration begins in January. For more information on the 2008 Pillars Conference contact Roger Prouse at [bcleague@telus.net](mailto:bcleague@telus.net)

The BC Army Cadet is written, edited and produced by Cam & Chris Cathcart.

**Army Cadet League of BC**

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Two BC cadets, C/WO Poon and C/WO Boyd, members of the 2007 International Expedition team are shown here in the Via Ferrata mountains, Italy.



W. Emde

**Send Us Your Stories & Pictures**

We're looking for stories and pictures about your Corps to publish in future editions of the BC Army Cadet. We need basic information about events and activities. Include unit name, affiliated Regiment, full names, rank, locations and dates. Be sure to send pictures (jpeg) too, because a picture is worth a thousand words! Send to [cccathcart@shaw.ca](mailto:cccathcart@shaw.ca).

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