YEAR 2, ISSUE 2 DECEMBER 2021



# 2332 Major EJG Holland, VC RCACC Newsletter

Edited and produced by the Social Media Team

## A Message from the Commanding Officer

Cadets, Parents and Guardians

Looking back on 2021, I'm most proud of the ways our Staff and Cadets led the Cadet Program through continued change and uncertainty, stepping up to the challenge from being fully virtual at the beginning of 2021 to going full steam ahead for when we started the Cadet year off in a hybrid virtual/in-person training. Despite navigating a virtual and in-person environment that was continuously challenging; your support, care and commitment to the Cadet Program was the most powerful reflection of our culture and values at the Corps.

As the past year has presented us with both challenges and opportunities within the Cadet Program that brought many new platforms for training and continuous learning for both Cadets and Staff. It feels as though we are in a new stage of COVID recovery,

focusing on keeping everyone safe. As we are monitoring the current situation closely with your health and safety in mind, we will continue to follow the guidelines that are communicated to us from Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers headquarters. I continue to feel confident with the Cadet Program as it continues to grow in this new environment.

As the holiday season approaches, please take time to reconnect with friends and family and continue to take care of yourselves. I look forward to seeing everyone back in 2022.

Happy Holidays from all of us at 2332 Major E.J.G Holland V.C Army Cadets!!

Major PA Bonacci
Commanding Officer
2332 Major Holland VC RCACC

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On Wednesday, December 8th we held a virtual Change of Pace Stick Ceremony. While we say goodbye to our outgoing RSM and DSM we also give a huge congratulation to our incoming RSM and DSM: CWO Tibbles and MWO Serbouti!

## **Outgoing Messages**

Over the past 6 years, I came into the program as someone who was shy and did not know much about myself, or what I wanted to do with my life. I was unconfident but, I am very glad to say that the cadet program helped shape me into who I am today, and I know that who I was when I first joined cadets is proud of who I became. Between being able to grow up in the band, surrounded by many amazing people and learn and develop through the program with them, making some of my best friends in the program, including MWO Patel, to going to summer camps and having the times of my life there, ending up being able to go to to the rocky mountains, seeing incredible sights, and making friendships to last a lifetime. I am so glad to have come up with my star level, they were always great motivation to me and I'm very proud to see how far all of us have come, and I'm excited to see what's next for us.

Being a cadet gave me a chance to do things many people dream of, between several parades, ceremonies, camps and expeditions not only did the program teach me so much but also gave me experiences I will hold onto for my whole life. After I finished 4 years in the program, I had just come back from the Leadership & Challenge course in the rocky mountains, Once the cadet year was restarting, as a new Warrant Officer I had the honour of becoming the Service Support Warrant Officer. This gave me a chance to work closely with staff, and see how things work behind the scenes. 6 months later I was promoted to the Service Support Sergeant Major, as a Master Warrant Officer. It was not an easy tasking but I am very glad I took it on, I was able to get a lot of experience in that position and I learned a lot.

Shortly after I was promoted, in March 2020, we went into the first lockdown. Cadets had been shut down for in-person training. The corps quickly moved to online virtual training. I am so thankful to our officers and staff for working so hard to ensure that although everything had changed, and all of a sudden we were not allowed to return in person, but we were still able to do a virtual ACR, where I was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer, on June 6th, 2020. Becoming the RSM, although rewarding, at the same time it felt very stressful. Once I became RSM, it felt as if all eyes were on me. Still not able to return to in-person training, stresses were high. No one knew what to expect from virtual training, and it was definitely a tough time for all of us, but I am very happy that there was still cadets attending, and I'm very proud of the seniors who did come during that time.

Despite shutdowns and even once we returned to in-person training with new safety rules and guidelines, the corps still came together, and every night I got to be there I was so happy to see that cadets were back up and running and very proud to see the cadets that I came up with applying leadership which we all learned together.

If you asked me 6 years ago, where I thought I'd end up, I'd never have thought that I would have been able to accomplish what I have.

2332 will always be part of my family and we will only get stronger. I'm very proud of how far we have all come, and although my time with the corps is coming to an end, I know I'm leaving you in great hands. I'm very proud of my successor, and I cannot wait to see what they can accomplish.

To all the new and younger cadets, keep your head up. There's a long road ahead of you, but it is so very worth it.

Thank you all for 6 amazing years. CWO Muhammad Raza



Having been in the program for 6 years and 9 months, I went from an unconfident and shy cadet to be someone that I am truly proud of. It was a blast going through the training, making friends, and creating an innumerable amount of memories.

Some of my fondest memories are from the team I cared the most about in the program: the band. This is where I began my musical journey and where I met my best friends in the program, including CWO Raza. I remember struggling to play the first note on the trumpet for the first few weeks. It took a while, but eventually, I was able to hone my musical skills. Performing at ceremonies, parades, and competitions was my favourite thing to do in the program as a junior cadet. After nearly 3 years of work, I achieved the top musician award.

Soon enough, I had to take on leadership roles. My goal at that time was to become the Drum Major, leader of the band. I worked hard to achieve that goal, and with the guidance of the staff, they helped me greatly and always pushed me to reach for success and beyond.

My first major role as a Warrant Officer was instructing drill lessons, and I remember my first lessons being very rocky. Just like my trumpet playing though, I worked really hard to improve, and later on, I achieved the top instructor award. After becoming a Master Warrant Officer I assumed the role of Drum Major...for 4 months, as I was promoted to the position of Drill Sergeant Major shortly afterwards.

Being the DSM for the last two years has been amazing. I love sharing my experiences with the cadets, teaching them about drill and dress standards, and inspiring them to become the future leaders of our corps. I am thankful for all the opportunities that I've had over the years and I am certain that the future of this corps is bright. 2332 is and will always be part of my family and I know that we will only get stronger. After spending some time to contemplate, I realize that I was dead wrong about myself. When I first joined, I would have never believed that I would be able to achieve any of this. I really did come a long way, but my journey is far from over. As I always say, be the change you want to see in the world, and join band. Thank you.

I joined the program in March of 2015, as a very shy and unconfident cadet. The first few months were the hardest, but I worked hard and kept pushing myself out of my comfort zone to succeed. I joined the band and made many friends as well as memories throughout. My musical journey started with Cadets and it's now an integral part of who I am. As the Drill Sergeant Major, I really enjoyed teaching and sharing my experiences, as well as inspiring my cadets to push themselves. I really can see that the corps will only get stronger, and I am proud of the accomplishments that I achieved with my peers throughout these last 6 years. Thank you all for the memories, and I wish the best of luck to all of you, and join band!

MWO Neel Patel

## **Incoming Messages**

Hello 2332 cadets, staff and parents!

As we head into January, it seems as though this training year has flown by so fast up to now, that's what happens when you're having fun! 2332 is a great cadet corps filled with motivated cadets, skilled leaders and very knowledgeable officers- which is something that we should not take for granted. As the corps new RSM, I am so excited to help my cadets grow and become Canada's next generation of leaders! In the new year, I encourage every single person at 2332 to try out a new skill, set new goals and make as many memories as possible. The best piece of advice I have ever received throughout my cadet career is that you only get back what you put into the program. So now is the best time to push your limits and try new things because it will all come in handy someday! We are so lucky to be a part of such an amazing program and I am so grateful that I get to be the RSM of a cadet corps filled with so much potential and skill. I encourage all of the 2332 community to use every day as an opportunity to learn something new and make positive changes in this world.

We will only get stronger! CWO A Tibbles Hello 2332!

I'm MWO Serbouti, from now on I will be working as the new DSM at our corp! I am looking forward to working alongside all of you for all of us to grow stronger. I have been in the program for almost 6 years, and I can say that I have learned a lot. With that my goal is to know more about each one of you and hopefully teach you all a thing or two. And I also look forward to learning from you guys as well!

Thank you,

MWO Serbouti





## DCO's Message

Hello 2332!

It has been such an unpredictable training year so far and it seems we need to brace ourselves for continued changes. It is amazing to see all of you jump to in-person training! OSLA managed to get everyone engaged through various weekend activities where cadets from different corps could participate in the "fun" part of our training. Several of you came through to support the Bell's Corner and Barrhaven Legions through the poppy campaign. Teams had the opportunity to come together and practice their skills. The seniors managed to fit in a trekking day too. The opportunities are never-ending, regardless if they are in person or virtually. We are so proud of you and look forward to everyone staying strong and continuing their participation.

With the holidays around the corner, we hope you enjoy a little break for family and friends!

Whenever you face any challenges in life, remember "We Will Only Get Stronger."

Lieutenant Karolina Galaska Deputy Commanding Officer 2332 Major Holland VC RCACC

## **Training**

2332 has kicked off the 2021-22 training year with lots of fun and exciting activities over the past 3 months. In October, the Ottawa and St-Lawrence Area (OSLA) Headquarters organized and facilitated numerous weekend day activities where Cadets could partake in Air Rifle Marksmanship, repelling from the Abseil Tower, trekking through the woods, using maps and compasses for Orienteering, going through a challenging Obstacle Course, and for those 16 years and older, firing the C7 rifle!

All this was just in October! November was also a busy month, as we had more involvement with our supporting Legions during the 2021 Poppy Campaign and had more in-person training during weekly Regular Training nights. Fundamentals of leadership, drill and instructional techniques were some of the more focused areas where we spent our efforts. We also managed to run a Cadet Fitness Assessment, which had lots of Cadets achieving their Fitness qualifications! The Corps has grown so much in the little time we've been able to train in person thus far and I'm hopeful all Cadets will continue to demonstrate their desire to learn and willingness to grow within the Army Cadet program in the months ahead.

Although we're now faced with more challenging times, 2332 remains a strong unit filled with bright and keen Cadets that have proven that here, we only get stronger! I encourage everyone to take some well-deserved time off and spend time with your family and loved ones this Holiday Season. We can't wait to see you all in the New Year!



## **Team Practices**

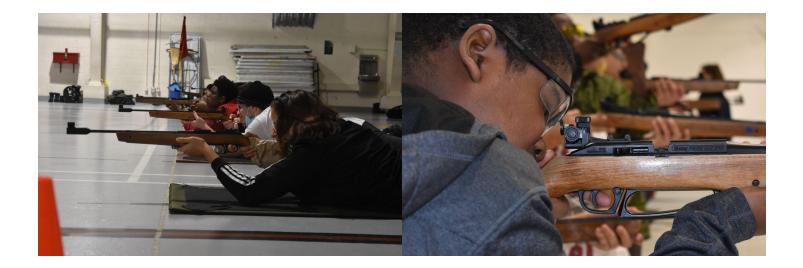
#### **MARKSMANSHIP**

This year's Marksmanship Skill Development Program took aim starting back in October.

This program is a strong and well-balanced marksmanship training opportunity focused on reinforcing the fundamental principles of precision shooting that will lead into the competitive aspects of this highly-competitive sport, producing a well-rounded athlete and a well-disciplined cadet.

This initial phase of the program consists of Open Development sessions, where any cadet, regardless of past experience, can come out to the armoury Monday evenings (6-9 pm) to learn, practice and have fun! The second part is scheduled to commence in January and will involve a final selection process (team try out) that will then focus more on the Competitive Marksmanship Program (CMP) as the team prepares to pit their skills against other cadet corps and squadrons in the Ottawa Area, before hopefully advancing to the Provincial and National Championship levels.

Any cadet interested in getting involved with the Marksmanship Program is encouraged to contact Lieutenant Champagne directly.





## **Team Practices**

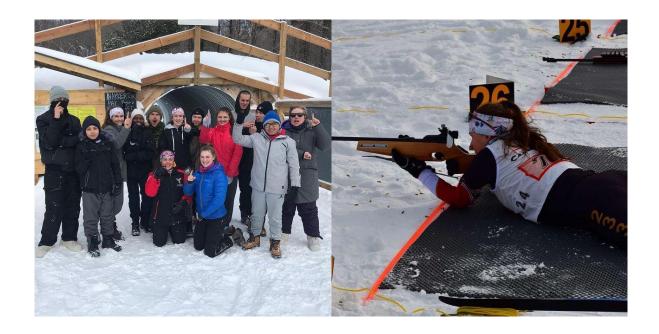
#### **BIATHLON**

Biathlon is an Olympic sport that combines physically demanding cross-country skiing with focus-intense precision shooting.

The Cadet Biathlon Program has grown in popularity and become a fun, challenging activity that embodies the vision of the Cadet Program in promoting physical fitness and developing attributes of good citizenship and leadership.

This year's program is focused on reconstituting our athletes' foundations of core strength and balance; enhanced aerobic capacity; and the efficient application of marksmanship principles during periods of increased heart rate. Our team completes their rifle training alongside the marksmanship team on Monday evenings, and meet a second time each week to work on physical fitness and skate-skiing techniques.

Although team selections were completed last month, our Biathlon Program is always open to any cadet who thinks they have what it takes to master two separate sports at the same time. Speak with Captain Lohnes for more information.





### **IMPORTANT DATES**

16 Dec - 2 Jan
Winter Break Standown
Corps Calendar

## **Supply**

All supply appointments have been cancelled until in-person activities start again.

If you have any questions please contact Lieutenant Dang at <a href="mailto:2332supply@gmail.com">2332supply@gmail.com</a>

# **Happy Holidays**

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND A JOYFUL NEW YEAR. BEST WISHES FROM 2332 RCACC!



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