



2332 Major EJG Holland, VC Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps 2016/2017 Year in Review

2332 Major EJG Holland, VC Royal Canadian Army Cadets participated in a very productive training year that commenced on September 3, 2016 and ran until June 24, 2017. This news letter will present the highlights of our training year that focused on Community events, support for our two sponsoring Legion Branches, Barrhaven Legion Branch 641 and Bells Corner Legion Branch 593, Team Competitions, the Mandatory / Optional Training and Summer Training.

Community Involvement

Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day Ceremonies

We assisted the Bells Corners and Barrhaven Legions in the 2016 Poppy Campaign by raising over \$30, 000 dollars. 85 Cadets stood at the Cenotaph for both Legions on November 11th do their small part in honouring those who sacrificed their lives for Canadian freedoms. A large number of our Cadets also took part in Remembrance Day Ceremonies at their schools by proudly wearing their uniforms.

National Capital Region 2016 Remembrance Week Ceremonies

We had Cadets take part in several Remembrance Week Ceremonies including:

First Poppy Ceremony at Rideau Hall
Senate Remembrance Ceremony on Parliament Hill
Veterans Affairs Candlelight Vigil at Centre Pointe Theatre
Wreath Bearers on Remembrance Day
Wreaths across Canada Ceremony at the National Military Cemetery

Leliefontein

The Commanding Officer and 20 Royal Canadian Dragoon (RCD) Cadets were invited to represent their affiliation to the RCD Squadron at CFB Petawawa in November 2016.

VETS BOG Walks

In September 2016, cadets of 2332 Major Holland VC Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps embraced a new civics project. Their aim was not only to become more aware of the homeless and less fortunate in their community, but also participate and aid in the solution. To see and understand this issue, the cadets integrated themselves with VETS (Veterans Emergency Transition Services Canada, Ottawa Chapter. Among the many services provided for veterans in crises, this group also engages in a monthly event referred to as “Boots on the Ground” (BOG) walk. The objective of the BOG walks is to assist the homeless in the hopes of meeting a veteran and provide a means to allow the Veteran to get in contact with VETS. The ultimate goal is to get Veterans off the streets. During this event, volunteers from all walks of life, including the 2332 Army Cadets walk around the downtown core, surrounding communities and local shelters in Ottawa. Additionally, these volunteers provide non-perishable foods, blankets, warm clothing, smiles and thoughtful conversation.

During a BOG walk in January titled “In Her Boots” which focused on women’s shelters and the search for female veterans; the female Cadets from 2332 met a young female refugee. They discovered that she had only been in Canada just over a month and was 9 months pregnant. She arrived on the steps of a women’s emergency shelter with only a small suit case of clothes and a large amount of courage. This refugee had recently escaped a war torn country in the hopes that she could provide her unborn child with a better life free from fear and religious persecution. This woman's story touched the hearts of our Cadets so much that they made it their mission to assist the young women! Cadet Warrant Officer Juanita Mpiana at the helm, Cadet Master Corporals Rayne Topping, and Sherissa Francis-William and Cadet Corporals Shannon Wiseman and Abigail Tibbles set a goal to provide their new found friend with all she would require to welcome her baby. These Cadets wanted to demonstrate what true Canadian spirit is all about; they reached out to the Cadet families and the local Ottawa community via social media to help create a safe and welcoming environment for her and her child. They spent weeks gathering clothes, toys, baby furniture and a myriad of other items to provide what she and her new baby would require. On Thursday 13 April 2017, a new healthy Canadian baby boy was welcomed into the world!

This is not the end of our journey as our Cadets have now realized the potential they have to help make a difference in their communities. The Cadets plan to take on bigger challenges in their upcoming training year, and now we can only imagine where they will go with their new found aspirations. The staff, Cadet Families, and our Support Committee will be there to support them every step of the way!

2332 In Her Boots Initiative

From left to right (back row): Cadet Corporal Abigail Tibbles, Cadet Corporal Shannon Wiseman

From left to right (front row): Cadet Master Corporal Rayne Topping, Cadet Warrant Officer Juanita Mpiana, and Cadet Master Corporal Sherissa Francis-William



2332 Band

2332 Brass and Reed Band



Over this past year our band has had an amazing year under the directions of the Drum Major and CI Jean-Louis as they went from 3 cadets to 25 musicians. The Band's goal was to compete on the Band & Drill Competition in 2016 and they made it and came 6th place out of 12 teams. Now they are focused on improving that placement and we have no doubt that they will achieve their goal.

2332 Competition Teams

2333 had fantastic team successes with every team hitting the podium in top place finishes.

Drill Team

On April 25, 2017 the 2332 Drill Team without Arms participated in the Eastern Ontario Area Drill Competition at CFB Kingston. Civilian Instructor Arnaud Jean-Louis and the Team Captain Master Warrant Officer Ahadi led the Drill Team without Arms to first place in the drill demo and best dressed. The drill team placed 1st overall in the Eastern Ontario Area competition on 27 May 2017. On May 27th the Drill Team placed 2nd overall in the Provincial competition.

2332 Eastern Ontario 1st place Drill Team



Biathlon Team

In past years 2332 has had a strong history in competing in the Canadian cadet biathlon championship series. This year was no exception, this season has been an impressive year for the 2332 Biathlon Team.

In their first competition of the season at the Eastern Ontario Area (EOA) which took place at Camp Fortune in Chelsea QC, the team stunned everyone by dominating the competition. 2332's Female team comprised of WO Sarah Ryan and Sgt Darcy Hayden placed FIRST in the open

Female category. 2332's junior male team comprised of MCpl Alex Sardelis and MCpl Theo Viltakis placed third in their category.

On the individual side of the competition at area's both MWO Samantha Fraser and Sgt Darcy Hayden placed FIRST in their categories with WO Sarah Ryan not far behind them placing second in her category. Sgt Jade Wilkinson-Deroche also achieved her personal best finishing 18th, all while persevering and skiing the race with the huge smile on her face which kept the teams esprit de corps at an all-time high. Another first was Cpl Abigail Tibbles who competed in her first biathlon competition and came 18th in the junior female category, her determination and willingness to be grow establishes Abigail as one of the most promising young biathletes 2332 has ever seen. In the junior male category, MCpl Sardelis placed 6th and MCpl Viltakis placed 21st. Cpl's Haider Almatni and Muad Farah are this competition's honourable mentions, both of them trained very hard to compete in their FIRST competition, however they felt they were not ready enough to compete at the level needed. I would like to thank both of them for their hard work and dedication this year and can't wait to see what next season brings for them.

Now on to Regionals in Sault St. Marie, both unit teams went on to represent EOA which is also a FIRST for 2332. After a full weekend of competing the unit's female team comprised again of WO Ryan and Sgt Hayden skied to a best ever finish by a unit team from 2332 and came 2nd in Ontario coming only seconds behind the 1st place team. The junior male team of MCpl's Sardelis and Viltakis placed a respectable 12th again - the best ever finish by a male unit team from 2332.

The individual result for the regional competition are as follows: Sgt Hayden had another first in 2332 history meddling in her category coming in 2nd place, WO Ryan improved her personal best at regionals placing 6th in her category. In the junior male category the competition was very high and MCpl's Sardelis and Viltakis placed 12th and 22nd.

After the best ever regional performance for 2332 the team did not stop there. The female unit team moved on to represent 2332 and EOA at the national cadet biathlon competition. Both WO Ryan and Sgt Hayden relished the experience that they earned, after a full week of competition and experience at nationals the pair used everything they have learned all year and came back to the unit a top 6 finish in the unit relay race, top 10 finishes in the individual races and races in their FIRST ever team patrol race.

After all that said, I am so proud of the 2332 biathlon team as a whole, in the beginning of the year the team dedicated themselves with a goal to progress and improve. All their hard work and dedication paid off. After a season of FIRST's the whole team is ready to keep excelling and proudly represent 2332 in the upcoming biathlon season.

“Ski hard and shoot straight”.

Orienteering Team

Orienteering is a sport involving great cardiovascular endurance and map reading skills. 2332 has a strong history of being one of the top teams in the Eastern Ontario Area (EOA), and this year was no exception. 2332 participated in the EOA orienteering competition at Gould Lake, ON where the cadets ran two different races during this competition. A team race of 3 people, 2 senior and a junior (score course) as well as running an individual race (line course). At this year's competition we had 2 male teams and 1 female team. The male teams placed 10th and 15th respectively (out of 44 teams), and our female team took 1st place in their bracket! WO Wilkinson-Deroche placed within the top half of the bracket for Intermediate Female during the line course as well. The female team advanced to the regional orienteering competition in CFB Borden (28-30 October 2016) where they ended up placing 6th out of 14 teams. MWO Samantha Fraser placed 2nd in the Senior Female bracket in the individual race. Congratulations go out to the entire team, and we look forward to an even better season next training year!

Orienteering Team 2017



Cadet Expedition Program

CWO Eunice Kabasele completed the Madawaska Regional in September and CWO Samantha Fraser attended the National Expedition in Chile in February. These Cadets continue to be advocates of the Expedition Program and go above and beyond to inform and teach adventure style programs at the corps level. The Cadets have worked very hard over the years in this program to earn positions of Expedition Team Leaders and their efforts paid off as CWO Samantha Fraser helped staff the first level of training for all Cadets in the Army Cadet Expedition track in May. She has helped out numerous times as an Assistant Team Leader. This summer WO Abdalrahman Abu has been selected to attend The Regional Madawaska Expedition at the end of the summer.

Week-end Activities

Seniors Team Building Week-end

In September 2016, 2332 held its very third senior's team building week-end that was partially planned by the Cadet RSM and Cadet DSM. Over 20 senior Cadets from Master Corporal up to Chief Warrant Officer participated in a very challenging hike in Gatineau Park. The Cadets were all divided into teams and along the route had to perform very challenging small party taskings. Some of the highlights ranged from responding to a major injury and evacuation of the injured Cadet, search and rescue operations at night, and crossing water obstacles.

Seniors Team Building



Week-end Exercises

Over the past few years under new leadership, 2332 has been given the freedom to start transforming its focus and training environment to include a more innovative and robust program. We participated in a fall adventure training exercise in a new location at Bon Echo Provincial Park – with a focus on hiking over long distances in a race format –, a winter exercise at Connaught Training Centre, and a spring exercise at Irvine Lake that included improvised shelter training and an involved night navigation.

Week-end Exercises: winter, spring, and fall





Corps Events

2nd Annual 2332 Corps Drill Competition

This was the second year at 2332 that the unit has held an in corps drill competition between the different platoons. This competition provides the Cadets a good opportunity to show off their drill skills that they have been developing over the training year before they are assessed on their performance by Detachment and their parents. The competition involves an Inspection and Compulsory sequence phase – in which both their dress and deportment are assessed. This year, WO Darian Lacasse was awarded the top team captain out of the different Gold stars who fulfilled the role during the competition. Bravo Zulu to all those who participated in the competition.

2332 68th Annual Cadet Review

The 2332 Annual Cadet Review was well attended with 110 cadets on parade. The cadets were reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Swinton 33 Signals Commanding Officer. The cadets also were greeted by the honourable MP David McGuinty, the Bells Corners and Barrhaven Legion presidents, many high ranking officers, parents, family and friends of the cadets.

Annual Cadet Review



Summer Training

2332 is in the process of ramping down and closing its doors for the summer as our Cadets get ready to attend their summer training programs. The corps will have over 60 Cadets attend a range of junior, senior, advanced camps, and international exchanges. CWO Samantha Fraser has worked extremely hard as was named RSM of the 2017 Rocky Mountain Summer Training Centre, this is a first for 2332 and an extreme honour to achieve. CWO Kabasele earned a MWO staff position at Blackdown Training Centre (CFB Borden) another very honoured accomplishment. WO Ahadi and WO Toito earned WO Staff positions at Connaught Training Centre (Ottawa) which is a very hard achievement especially in their first years as staff cadets. WO Reid will be spending his summer training in the UK as part of the Maple Leaf Exchange. WO Hayden will work hard at Connaught to earn a position on the Canadian National Rifle Team. Our junior Cadets will experience life at Connaught and Blackdown participating in programs that range from Basic to Instructor level.

Cadet Successes

We have been very honoured and proud to have our below senior cadets and now we take this time to wish them all of our best. We know that they will be successful in all their future endeavours.

CWO Kabasele: will be attending Carleton University in the fall
MWO Castagner will join the ranks of RMC
MWO Khan will be attending Ottawa University in the fall
MWO Krupenko Joined the CAF in the Communication Research Occupation
WO Damasco will be attending college in the fall
WO Guy will be attending University in the fall
WO Wilkinson-Deroche: Joined the CAF in the Combat Arms Field

Support Committee

2332 has one of the hardest working and caring Support Committees that actively assists with all the community events that the Cadet corps participated in. The 2332 Support Committee changed what we did for fundraisers this year and held bottle drives. We have completed three very successful bottle drives this year and have raised over \$3000. We also offered a kit shop which had several different pieces of clothing and items with the corps insignia on it; it was very well received and will be continued in years to come. The Support Committee changed the weekly canteen menu to offer more nutritious snacks, which will also be continued next year. The Support Committee worked closely with both the Bells Corners and Barrhaven Legions to support them in their various activities such as the Poppy Campaign, Christmas Wrapping for seniors, Remembrance Day ceremonies, the Annual Cadet Review and many more. It was another successful year for the corps as well as the Support Committee with Eugenia William winning top Support Committee Member of the year. We now look forward to getting ready for next year!

Getting ready for 2017/2018

2332 staff has already begun the planning stages for the next training year and will continue to work over the summer to ensure that we are prepared to hit the ground running on September 6th.

We will once again open our doors and greet our Cadets with a welcome back family BBQ on Wednesday, 6 September 2017 with an information session to all attendees about the army cadet program, summer camps, and what their commitment may entail throughout for the 2017/2018 training year.

Conclusion

Hopefully we have provided an overview of some of our accomplishments, highlights, and insight into our Cadets and their successful year. We continue to strive for better ideas that will benefit our Cadets. The corps has a lot of hard working dedicated Cadets and staff who are truly in it for the right reasons - the *Cadets*. We hope to see many Cadets join us for the upcoming training year for an even more successful training year!

Sincerely,

Debra Parsons

Captain Debra Parsons
Commanding Officer
2332 Major Holland VC Army Cadet Corps



“We Will Only Get Stronger”