

AIR CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE

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Branch Presidents/SSC Chairs,

November 4, 2020

In the last week you probably received correspondence from your Corps/Squadron CO regarding cadet registration, fees and messaging as directed by Cdr. Gresmak, CO, RCSU(Pac). Many of you have expressed concerns regarding the messaging in that direction and the accompanying letter to parents. On Thursday the Air and the Navy League presidents had a virtual meeting with the Commanding Officer and his senior staff at RCSU(Pac) to discuss these concerns and endeavor to come to an agreement regarding common language and messaging. After two hours, we reached partial agreement on some aspects of the issue but we remain divided on some others. We will continue to engage our partners on your behalf. Notwithstanding, we have collectively agreed to the following:

1. The term **Branch/SSC Assessments** (for ease referred to as assessments in this document) shall be used in place of Registration fees, Activity fees, Administration fees etc.;
2. We shall **ask** for Assessments rather than presenting them as mandatory. Assessments may be presented as a vehicle for parents to support their youth's activity;
3. **No** youth will be turned away if their parent/guardian is unable to manage the assessment; assessments must not be a financial barrier to participating in the program;
4. The Canadian Cadet Organization (CCO) is funded by the CAF and as such is "free access," however we recognize there are additional costs incurred by the partners;
5. We need to be transparent in how we approach Branch/SSC Assessments, however the Branch/SSC Information Package should not be included in the Corps/Squadron Cadet Registration Package. With the registration process being electronic this year our ability to interact with parents on registration night is off the table. Once a parent has registered their cadet, the Corps/Squadron CO can advise the parent/guardian the Branch/SSC will be sending them their Information Package and share the parent/guardian contact information with the Branch/SSC to facilitate this; and

6. The Corps/Squadron COs will assist the Branch/SSC in telling “their story.” The suggested analogy is based on:
 - a. The Cadet program being delivered through a partnership between the elemental Leagues and the CAF, each having their own responsibilities. We would suggest there is a third partner in this relationship – the parents/guardians and the youth they support. One analogy that can be used to explain the relationship is the purchase and operation of a vehicle;
 - b. Analogy on Page 3

Please work with your CO to ensure your websites adhere to the common messaging: Branch/SSC Assessments, no cadet will be turned away from the program due to financial reasons, inclusion. This is also the perfect time to ensure the information on your website is current.

Traditional fundraising is one of the many areas that have been seriously impacted by COVID – 19. While many of you are exploring other methods of fundraising, the success of these endeavors has yet to be demonstrated. We encourage you to keep a very close watch on your cash flow to ensure you remain viable not only for this year, but for the coming years. If you’re in doubt please don’t hesitate to contact your League representative for assistance.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued hard work and dedication to the Cadet Program. You are appreciated!

Terri Hinton
BCPC President
Air League of Canada

Julie Hillsden
VID President
The Navy League of Canada

Denise Robson
BC Mainland President
The Navy League of Canada

ANALOGY EXPLAINING THE PARTNERSHIP – CAF – LEAGUE – PARENT/GUARDIAN

Operation of a Vehicle	Operation of a Cadet Unit
<p>You purchase a vehicle as a means of transportation. This is a major purchase however it is not the only expense.</p>	<p>The CAF provides substantial funding for the free access Cadet program; the funded portion includes the elemental training program, officers, uniforms, local support allocations, officer/unit IT requirements, supported training days, regional activities/competitions etc. However, there are a number of unfunded expenses.</p>
<p>Additionally, you will need insurance, gas, oil, regular maintenance, and a driver the vehicle will remain parked in your driveway. These are the operational costs that go with operating a vehicle. These will fluctuate to some degree, depending on how much you use the vehicle</p>	<p>The local Branch/SSC provides additional support to their local unit by covering the unfunded expenses. These can include: facilities, utilities, cadet uniform accoutrements, aircraft maintenance, unsupported activities, ceremonial equipment; band instruments, biathlon equipment, financial oversight, insurance, ACR expenses, volunteer screening etc. Like the operating costs of a vehicle these expenses will fluctuate depending on the activities/needs of the unit you support.</p>
<p>Often the vehicle has passengers. They have a responsibility to wear a seat belt, not distract the driver and to respect the vehicle. Sometimes they help the driver by being an extra pair of eyes.</p>	<p>Parents and guardians support their youth in the program by providing: haircuts, gel, hair nets, elastics, boot polish, an iron and ironing board, transportation to and from cadets, volunteer time, and assessments</p>

The successful delivery of the cadet program requires all three partners to work together to ensure the youth are exposed to the **best** experience possible.

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