



Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command
The Royal Canadian Legion

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All Branch Mail Out #56

Date: July 10, 2023

TO: NS/NU Branches
NS/NU Executive Council
NS/NU Zone Commanders
NS/NU Past Presidents
NS/NU Command Staff

From: Comrade Valerie Mitchell-Veinotte
Executive Director
NS/NU Command, RCL

Subject: Legion Support from Cadet Units

Message: Please see information below:

Comrades: I draw your attention to two updated Cadet and JCR (Junior Canadian Ranger) policies that relate to activities where cadets provide support to the Legion. They concern the involvement of cadets in events where alcohol is present (this was raised during the last PED call) and supervision requirements for cadets participating in fundraising activities, including the Poppy Campaign.

Amendment to CATO 13-23, Drug and Alcohol Policy. Please see <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/cadets-junior-canadian-rangers/cjcr-policy/cancdtgens/2023/cancdtgen005-23.html>

Clarification on supervision requirements during fundraising activities: Please see <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/cadets-junior-canadian-rangers/cjcr-policy/cjcrporders/5000/5001-0.html> and the attached.

The Legion is very appreciative to cadet units for the support provided to branches during the Poppy Campaign and at events throughout the year; these policy changes will have an impact and we must adjust for compliance. I reached out to the Executive Directors of the three Cadet Leagues for their added input. They noted that all cadet activities are conducted under the authority, responsibility, and accountability of the National Cadet and Junior Canadian Ranger Support Group (CJCR).

Regarding the new drug and alcohol policy, this is part of an ongoing effort to ensure a safe and healthy environment for cadets. The Leagues themselves are impacted, as seen at the recent AGM dinner of the Air Cadet League; Air Cadets were not permitted to attend as alcohol was served with dinner. Likewise, there will be restrictions on cadet participation/attendance at Legion events, such as Veterans dinners and activities where alcohol is served that follow Remembrance Day and other commemorative ceremonies.

Regarding supervision for fundraising events, all people involved with the supervision of cadets for the Poppy Campaign will be CJCR personnel, including the volunteers. The Leagues are no longer directly involved with the operation. The CJCR continues to support the campaign to the fullest and the Leagues see no negative impact regarding cadet and CAF support. There may be challenges with some understanding sections of Group Order 9010-3 (Cadet Support to Charities and Fundraising) and some requirements to adjust locations, but everyone continues to be extremely supportive. In fact, during policy development, all partners were extremely appreciative of the support provided by the Legion and wanted to preserve it. The Legion donates significant amounts of money from Poppy Funds to cadet units that assist with the campaign.

(Note: the Navy League Cadet Program is also involved with Legion branches; the Navy League itself administers/regulates the NLC Program so there is no impact on their operations as a result of these policy changes.)

I am meeting with the three League Executive Directors in August and this topic will be discussed further.

Should you have questions, please reach out to your Regional Cadet Support Unit (RCSU) for guidance.

Steven

Steven Clark

National Executive Director / Directeur exécutif national



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Cadet Fundraising Direction 2023

Clarification on supervision requirements during fundraising activities

Update regarding Fundraising Supervision as detailed in the threaded email below.

Bottom line up front (BLUF)

- 1 x on-duty (paid) CAF Mbr for each activity, centrally GeoLoc, within 20 mins response time;
- 1 x CJCR Screened Mbr (unpaid, or paid) for each distinct location (unique address / property such as a shopping centre, mall, strip mall, etc.), dispersly GeoLoc within 7-mins response time (does not need to be line of sight); and
- 1 x Sr Cdt, or CJCR Screened Mbr (unpaid, or paid) for each pair/small group at a specific GeoLoc (MUST BE LINE OF SIGHT)

-----ORIGINAL MESSAGE BEGINS-----

This email is sent to provide some clarity regarding the expectations with respect to supervision for activities involving cadets at multiple dispersed locations throughout a community as occurs for tagging, poppy drives and similar fundraising activities.

Every activity must have an overall supervisor who is appointed by the cc/sqn CO and who is a CAF mbr on paid duty (generally this is a CIC officer, but can be a COATS GSO / GSNCM, a Reg F mbr or a P Res mbr on paid duty). The overall supervisor can be situated at a central location, or can be mobile and checking in at multiple locations / sites, but must be reachable by mobile phone and able to respond to any concerns within 15-20 minutes.

Additional supervisory assistance can be provided by other CJCR screened adults (Reg F or P Res mbrs on paid service, COATS mbrs on paid or voluntary service, or CJCR volunteers) and by senior cadets. The minimum required supervision requirements are well detailed in the table at para 5.2 of ref, which stipulates that in addition to the paid supervisor for the first 15 cadets, there must be one volunteer or senior cadet for every additional 15 cadets, noting that at least half of the overall required supervisory contingent must be approved adults.

When cadets are dispersed throughout a community, there must be a screened adult to assist with their supervision at each distinct location (unique address / property such as a shopping centre, mall, strip mall, etc.). The screened adult assisting with supervision must be present at the location and circulate regularly from group to group, and be reachable by mobile phone or radio, but does not have to maintain direct line of sight contact with all pairs / groups of cadets at all times. They must be able to respond to any concerns at their location within approx 5 – 7 min.

Pairs or small groups of cadets may be situated at different sites within a location (i.e. separate entrances to a mall or grocery store, in front of separate stores at a strip mall, etc.). Each pairing or distinct small group of cadets must be in direct line of sight of a senior cadet or screened volunteer, and have a means to contact the screened adult responsible for their location.

IAW para 4.18 of ref, for particularly large units or where cadets are dispersed over a larger community, the supervisor must ensure that supervisory support is available in timely fashion. This may necessitate additional screened volunteers driving from location to location, or

additional paid supervisors located at satellite hubs, accessible by mobile phone, and able to respond to any locations where there may be a concern.

It is not sufficient to have adults driving from location to location to conduct regular checks on cadets. It must be clearly identified in the activity approval request that there will be a screened adult at each distinct location.

-----ORIGINAL MESSAGE ENDS-----

As everyone is aware, there have been numerous instances of cadets having their safety/wellbeing placed in jeopardy while in the public forum. We, as the custodians of our cadets, must prioritize the safety of everyone involved and it remain a paramount issue. We must be proactive.

Everyone must ensure the safety of our personnel is the primary focus during public engagements and our people are prepared for all predictable encounters. It is highly encouraged that CC/Sqn staff train their cadets to prepare for public engagements, positive and/or negative, prior to being placed within the community.

This direction clarification is a common-sense, realistic, and best practice approach to our changing world.