



Pacific Region Cadets

ROYAL CANADIAN SEA CADETS
ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY CADETS
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS

THE CANADIAN CADET ORGANIZATION IS A NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE CANADIAN FORCES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CIVILIAN ARMY CADET, AIR CADET, AND NAVY LEAGUES OF CANADA

NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUÉ

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CADET MUSICIANS MEET PRO INSTRUCTORS AT FALL AND WINTER BAND CLINICS

ESQUIMALT, B.C. – Cadet musicians from Royal Canadian Sea, Army and Air Cadet Squadrons will improve their music skills at a series of two-day band clinics held throughout the province through to the end of the year. The 10 clinics will be held in 100 Mile House, Terrace, Abbotsford, Prince George, Vancouver, Creston, Victoria, Vernon, Comox, Richmond and Port Coquitlam. Each is an intense weekend of instruction involving the study of music theory and rhythm, instruction in instrument care and maintenance, practical musical exercises, rehearsal and band parade drill. The training begins at 8 a.m. Saturday and continues until 1 p.m. on Sunday.

A team of professional instructors from the Regional Cadet Support Unit in Victoria will evaluate the musical competency of each cadet to assist in determining their eligibility for selection for summer music training or appointment to the spring break Honour Band. There is also a workshop for drum majors who learn to lead and direct a marching band.

Cadets need no previous music experience to join a cadet unit band but they must participate in the regular cadet training as well. The music program is optional and is dependent upon significant funding and support at the community level to provide instruments and music. Cadet musicians are graded through six levels of competence: Levels basic, one and two provide the cadet musician with the skill to play in the local unit band for parades and other local ceremonies. Levels three, four and five are equivalent to the Royal Conservatory of Music grades two, four and six without the technical study portion. As cadets grow in their musical ability, they instruct other cadets at the local unit and may be employed as staff cadets to assist the adult instructors at summer training centres.

There are over 1,800 young musicians involved in about 100 bands in nearly 70 communities throughout B.C. Most of the bands are military brass and reed ensembles and about a quarter are pipe bands. Each summer 400 cadets attend three and six-week band courses held at Vernon, Victoria, Comox and Penhold, Alta. Many cadet musicians are involved in music training at home and/or school as well as at cadets and bring their musical talent to the cadet program in addition to a school or community band. Participation in the cadet program is eligible for high school graduation credits in B.C.

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