

April 2014



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## Air Cadet League of Canada Ontario Provincial Committee

### The Air Cadets have Spoken

#### *Effective Speaking Competition*

Representatives from the thirteen OPC Regions converged at Mohawk College in Hamilton on the weekend of April 26 and 27, for the Provincial Effective Speaking and Debating Competitions.

On Saturday, after an incredible afternoon of public speaking, WO2 Kyle Fisher from 2 VandenBos Squadron, Whitby won the top award in Effective Speaking. WO2 Fisher will represent Ontario in the National Effective Speaking Competition to be held in Whitehorse, YK on June 12.

Garnering 2nd place was WO2 Ishaan Gulati of 62 Phantom Squadron, Grimsby and the Bronze medal winner was WO1 Demyan Plakhov, from 540 Golden Hawks Squadron, Oakville.

#### *Debating Competition*

The following day, the 11th Annual Air Cadet Debating Contest took place. Twenty-two teams and a total of 66 Cadets debated the resolution:

*"Be it resolved that zoos and aquariums do more harm than good and should therefore be banned in Canada".*

Top Debater Award was a tie between Sgt Kevin Zhang of 166 Bulldog Squadron, Toronto and FSgt Namita Sharma of 2 VandenBos Squadron, Whitby. Taking 2nd place was Sgt Patrick McGuire of 735 Firebird Squadron, Dundas.

Top Speaker of the House was Sgt William Murray of 756 Wild Goose Squadron, Georgetown. The winning Timekeeper was Sergeant Gordon McGinn of 136 Kiowa Squadron, Ayr.

The Gold Medal Team consisted of: FSgt Craig Roseweig, Sgt Alice Zhang, and Sgt Kevin Zhang, of 166 Bulldog Squadron, Willowdale.

The Silver Medal Team was comprised of FSgt Namita Sharma, Cpl Shehryer Aamir, and Cpl Peshiman Aaman, from 2 VandenBos Squadron Whitby. And the Bronze Medal Team were WO2 Adam Seidlitz, Sgt Patrick McGuire, and Sgt Ryan Tully, of 735 Firebird Squadron, Dundas.

Thirty-eight Cadets also attended a Debating workshop held in conjunction with the Competition, providing Cadets with an opportunity to learn and practice their debating skills.

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## Our Newest Honorary Member

On February 27, Provincial Chair Bill Cumming called upon His Honour David C. Onley at Queen's Park, to welcome the Lieutenant Governor as an Honorary Member of the OPC. He was accompanied by Governors Fred Hopkinson and Thomas Taborowski, ED Scott Lawson, RCA Major Dave Forster, 2Lt Cornelia Baptista, and an "Escort" of seven Cadets from 700 Squadron, in Etobicoke. Honorary Membership is an accolade rarely bestowed by the OPC and was given in recognition of the Lieutenant Governor's outstanding support of the Air Cadet Program, while serving as our Honorary Patron. There were two Honorary Memberships presented this year - the other going to Colonel (Ret'd) Chris Hadfield - former astronaut and Air Cadet - at the Annual Conference in October.

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## Where is the Jim Smith Trophy?

One of our trophies is missing; in fact, we've been looking for it ever since last Fall's Conference! The Jim B. Smith Memorial Award - now given to the SSC honoured as Number 4 in the Province - has 'pulled an Ambrose Small.'

The 2012 recipient (79 Port Colborne) returned it; the plaque was presented at the Banquet to someone representing the SSC from 102 Barrie; then it disappeared. The hotel says it wasn't left behind. Could you check your trophy boxes to see if it was sent home with you by mistake? Please call David Brown at the OPC Office if you know anything of its whereabouts.

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## Regional Team Leaders and Regional Squadron Advisors

As we build and implement the *Regional Operations Committee (ROC)* across Ontario, the availability and involvement of our volunteers for some of the important roles and responsibilities is paramount.

Highlighted here are two of the key volunteer positions that provide leadership roles for the ROC and the volunteer base across OPC. If you are interested, please contact Michael Hopkins, Squadron Operations Manager ([michael.hopkins@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:michael.hopkins@aircadetleague.on.ca)).

### *Regional Team Leader (RTL)*

- This is a volunteer position for the Regional as well as Squadron level of operations. Under current OPC Bylaws, RTL members are also 'Directors' and are entitled to the same voting privileges and other benefits as noted in policies and associated documents.
- Duties and responsibilities are to help plan and coordinate regular ROC and special event meetings that can include agenda items, committee reports, training requests for such activities as fundraising, volunteer recruitment, marketing, promotion, public relations, community relations, corporate/sponsor development.
- Help to ensure all OPC policies, procedures, and associated protocols are made available, understood and followed by all SSC members and audit as required.
- Act as a liaison and communication link for assigned SSC's to ensure that the SSC Chair has an avenue to secure information, documents and feedback as needed.

Regional Team Leaders positions are available with the three current ROC's underway (ROC's 2, 3, 7) and will be also some of the key positions as we move towards building the new ROC's in 2014/15 year. *A list of the Duties and Responsibilities is available in the member section of the OPC website under the ROC folder.*

### *Regional Squadron Advisor (RSA)*

- This is a *senior* volunteer position for OPC operations working at the Provincial, Regional levels and for special projects at the Squadron level. The RSA will play a significant role in support of the Regional Operations Committees (ROC) and with OPC operations and relations with DND.
- The responsibilities of the RSA are to be the liaison and communication channel to their respective Detachment for purposes of representing issues, matters, concerns and operational requirements of their ROC's and individual SSC's to ensure consistent positions and follow-up on key matters. This is similar to the role provided by the Regional Cadet Advisor (RCA) within the DND structure.

RTL's and RSA's will be asked to complete a short nomination form. For existing SSC or other OPC members who wish to fill these positions, no new OPC Registration and Screening application is required - the same requirements for all OPC members for renewing your membership every 5 years applies. For individuals being considered who are not an OPC member, the full OPC application must be completed along with the nomination form.

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## SSC Training Needs

At a time when many Sponsoring Committees are holding elections, confirming their leadership, and seeking additional Members for next training year, why not consider your training needs as well? Whether it's for the SSC executive, new Members, or the Treasurer, contact your Program Development Officer and let them schedule something for you!

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## **The Honours & Awards Committee Annual Call For Individual Member, Cadet and CIC Officer Nominations!**

**The Honours & Awards Committee** is seeking nominations for Awards that recognize the accomplishments, proficiency and dedicated service of our Members, Cadets, Officers and Squadrons. We need you to tell us who those people and organizations are! Some of the Awards – notably those for Squadron Proficiency and Sponsoring Committees – are determined in consultation with the four RCSU(C) Detachments and Regional Directors / Regional Leadership Teams respectively. For most Individual Awards, however, any two members of the Air Cadet League community can submit the name of a deserving person or organization.

**The deadline for nominations is Friday, 2 July 2014.**

Questions about eligibility and the nomination process can be addressed to either:

**David S. Brown**  
Program Development Officer  
david.brown@aircadetleague.on.ca  
1-800-513-0952 | 416-635-4411 option 5

**David D. Hayden**  
Honours & Awards Committee Chair  
davidhayden@rogers.com

*Descriptions of Awards on next page* →

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## Awards for League Members, Staff Members and Stakeholders

### ***The Robert McMeekin Special Recognition Award:***

The most prestigious award presented by the OPC. It may be awarded annually to one individual to recognize particularly outstanding service and dedication; often, but not always, for an extended period of time. The recipient will be an individual involved in or connected with the Air Cadet Program who has demonstrated an effective and selfless commitment to the OPC and/or Air Cadets in Central Region generally. Nominations will be accepted from any two members of the OPC community. *For the guidance of proposers: please note that this award is intended to recognize service at the Provincial or Regional level, not normally at the Squadron level.*

### ***Board of Governors Certificate of Recognition:***

A prestigious award for any member - at either the Provincial, Regional or Squadron level—who has distinguished themselves by stellar, continuous performance, or through an individual act or project conducted on behalf of the OPC. Up to six Certificates may be presented annually to League members; as well as an additional, limited number for DND partners or affiliated individuals / organizations. Nominations will be accepted from any two members of the OPC community.

### ***Provincial Certificate of Merit:***

Certificates of Merit may be presented to League members at the Provincial, Regional or Squadron Level, DND partners, or other individuals or organizations, for work well done over an extended period of time, or for a specific accomplishment in support of the OPC, a Squadron, a specific Air Cadet activity, or the Air Cadet Program generally. Up to 20 Certificates (10 to League members and 10 to DND partners / other stakeholders) will be considered annually. Nominations will be accepted from any two members of the OPC community.

## Cadet Instructor Cadre Awards of Excellence

### ***Awards of Excellence for CIC Officers:***

The OPC annually recognizes up to six outstanding CIC Officers. Notes on the criteria and eligibility for this Award are on the OPC website. Any member of the OPC community may initiate a nomination; however, it must be endorsed by the appropriate Detachment or RCSU(C) Headquarters, who will forward nominations to the Honours & Awards Committee not later than August 31.

### ***Awards of Excellence for Junior CIC Officers:***

The OPC also annually recognizes up to four outstanding 'junior' CIC Officers (i.e., those holding the rank of Lieutenant, 2nd Lieutenant, or Officer Cadet). Notes on the criteria and eligibility for this Award are also on the OPC website. Nominations are made in the same ways as those for the Awards of Excellence.

### ***Awards of Excellence for Gliding Centre / CRGS Officers:***

The OPC annually recognizes one outstanding CIC Officer and one outstanding Junior CIC Officer, who are employed at a Gliding Centre and/or the Central Region Gliding School. Notes on the criteria and eligibility for this Award are on the OPC website. Any member of the OPC community may initiate a nomination; however, it normally originates from OPC members or DND partners actively involved in the Flying Program. All nominations must be reviewed by the appropriate Gliding Centre Commander and the Regional Cadet Air Operations Officer. The latter will add his endorsement and submit a priority list to the Honours & Awards Committee, not later than August 31.

### ***Nomination Form:***

The current *Individual Awards Nomination Form* is included with this issue of DESPATCHES, and is available on the OPC website.

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## Insurance Matters

### ***Out of Country Emergency Medical and Dental Coverage for Cadets and the Activity Supervising Escort Officer:***

As per CATO 16-05, DND provides Emergency and Dental Coverage for Cadets and for the *Activity Supervising Escort Officer* or the *Officer in Charge* through the Canadian Forces with Blue Cross.

When the CO is submitting the *Recreational Trip Application Form (Ref CATO 14-06: Training or Recreational and Education Trips/CRCO 1814: Out of Region and International Visits)* to Detachment, the application should include a request for coverage for medical and dental care to be considered for approval.

Once D-Cadets has approved the out of country trip, the CO will receive information including a Blue Cross Identification Number to be used in the event an emergency during the trip.

The Canadian Armed Forces does not provide coverage for any other additional staff members and/or SSC members attending on the trip. The additional personnel may wish to apply for emergency medical and dental coverage should they not already have coverage through their employer. The SSC may or may not opt to cover these additional costs.

### ***Medical Coverage within Canada:***

The Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) is accepted in all the provinces and territories. The fees for ambulance services outside of Ontario and within Canada are not covered by OHIP. OHIP does not cover dental costs. The SSC may or may not opt to purchase additional insurance for such circumstances.

### ***Other Types of Trip Insurance***

#### **Trip Cancellation (before Departure):**

Coverage begins the day of purchasing the policy to the day of the trip departure. The trip cancellation portion of the insurance can help cover non-refundable pre-paid travel expenses as a result of unexpected or unforeseen circumstances, such as Canadian government issued travel advisory towards a destination, the death of an immediate family member, or unexpected job loss.

#### **Trip Interruption (after Departure):**

Coverage in the event there is an interruption due to mechanical failure of a vehicle to the airport, the scheduled carrier is delayed due to inclement weather, or a person has a medical condition requiring to return home.

#### **Trip Delay:**

In the event there is a delay with transportation (such as on the way to the airport due to mechanical failure of the vehicle), this insurance will cover the costs of re-booking.

#### **Lost, Damaged & Stolen Luggage:**

This insurance covers the costs of replacing the luggage, including documents such as a passport, birth certificate, etc.

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## OPC Representatives for Annual Reviews

From Victoria Day to mid-June is Annual Review "Season." Please notify the OPC Office of the date, time and location of your Annual, if you haven't already. We make the information available to members of the Board of Governors, Regional and Squadron Directors, and ROC Leadership Teams.

If you do not have an assigned OPC representative for Annual - or if your assigned rep is not available - notify your Program Development Officer (Anne, Jackie or David) and we'll do our best to ensure an OPC official is on hand, in their blazer, and read to carry out whatever duties you have for them (presentations, remarks, etc.).

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**2014 OPC Lottery Winners**

| <i>Ticket No.</i>                                                                                     | <i>Winner's Name</i>                 | <i>Selling Squadron</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1st GRAND PRIZE: One Honda Pilot LX or One Honda Odyssey EX RES (\$41,000 MSRP taxes included)</b> |                                      |                         |
| 136700                                                                                                | Camille Puppa, Orléans               | 632 Orléans             |
| <b>2nd GRAND PRIZE: One Honda Accord LX or One Honda CR-V LX (\$31,000 MSRP taxes included)</b>       |                                      |                         |
| 073434                                                                                                | Hong Hue Ong, Toronto                | 180 Toronto             |
| <b>3rd GRAND PRIZE: One Prize of \$10,000 Cash</b>                                                    |                                      |                         |
| 169024                                                                                                | Balazs Balazs, Guelph                | 758 Brampton            |
| <b>4th PRIZE: Five Prizes of \$5,000 Cash Each</b>                                                    |                                      |                         |
| 159925                                                                                                | Christine Floro, Penetanguishene     | 724 Midland             |
| 074816                                                                                                | Brad Tait, Owen Sound                | 183 Kincardine          |
| 139732                                                                                                | Peter A. Lapointe, Pembroke          | 638 Pembroke            |
| 074822                                                                                                | Marilee Tait, Owen Sound             | 183 Kincardine          |
| 155143                                                                                                | Irene Walker, Wasaga Beach           | 714 Wasaga Beach        |
| <b>5th PRIZE: Ten Prizes of \$1,000 Cash Each</b>                                                     |                                      |                         |
| 148817                                                                                                | Ken Montgomery, Mount Uniacke, NS    | 706 Ottawa              |
| 084395                                                                                                | Hulda Dumont, Sudbury                | 200 Sudbury             |
| 012320                                                                                                | Cheryl Young, Petrolia               | 44 Sarnia               |
| 012464                                                                                                | Mike McKenzie, Sarnia                | 44 Sarnia               |
| 081880                                                                                                | Romeo Gascon, Chelmsford             | 200 Sudbury             |
| 052822                                                                                                | Suzy Biondic, Mississauga            | 142 Mimico              |
| 187141                                                                                                | John Kay, Brampton                   | 800 Mississauga         |
| 195122                                                                                                | Anwor Jadalla, Hamilton              | 826 Hamilton            |
| 110317                                                                                                | Grant Barlow, Windsor                | 364 Windsor             |
| 176699                                                                                                | Eunsook Lee, Richmond Hill           | 778 Richmond Hill       |
| <b>6th PRIZE: Five Prizes of \$500 Cash Each</b>                                                      |                                      |                         |
| 237849                                                                                                | 188 Cobra Sqn, Downsview             | 188 Downsview           |
| 035305                                                                                                | Dee Fyfe, Brantford                  | 104 Brantford           |
| 143250                                                                                                | Angel Ji, Toronto                    | 700 Etobicoke           |
| 110556                                                                                                | Steven Kidd, Windsor                 | 364 Windsor             |
| 136277                                                                                                | Louise Bourgault, Orléans            | 632 Orléans             |
| <b>7th PRIZE: Four Prizes of \$250 Cash Each</b>                                                      |                                      |                         |
| 217909                                                                                                | <i>(Telephone no. only provided)</i> | 883 Markham             |
| 152388                                                                                                | R. Scott Harvey, Cedar Valley        | 707 Stouffville         |
| 159580                                                                                                | Alfred J. Brooks, Severn Bridge      | 724 Midland             |
| 151085                                                                                                | Linda Gilmour, Stittsville           | 706 Ottawa              |

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## Time to Dream of A Fine Summer's Day On the Golf Course And Get Registered for The 2nd Annual OPC Golf Tournament!

Following the successful launch of our inaugural tournament last year, OPC is offering another great opportunity to gather with friends and acquaintances in support of the Air Cadet Program.

The same great *Golf Course*, the same great *Cause*...and this year an ***even better price!! This years Early Bird Special runs until June 30, 2014***...don't miss out on even more savings for this great event!

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, August 28 at 1:00 pm** and join us at the prestigious Deer Creek Golf Course in Ajax!

### ***Highlights include:***

- 3 course prime rib dinner
- Full cart, GPS and green fees
- Contests and prizes and raffles

Don't forget to be a Sponsor!!! Check out the great sponsor packages which give you phenomenal opportunity to promote yourself and your company while supporting the Air Cadets.

- Tournament Sponsors
- Special Contest Sponsors – hole in one, longest drive, closest to the hole!
- Individual Hole sponsors

### **FULL DETAILS ARE BEING SENT BY E-BLAST**

The official package and registration forms is now on the OPC website.

[www.aircadetleague.on.ca](http://www.aircadetleague.on.ca).

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## OPC Photo Gallery

If you haven't noticed the new Photo Gallery in the members section of the OPC website, you may want to check it out the next time you sign in. We are starting to build this photo repository to capture some of the highlights of the organization. Though we can't include all of the great Cadet and SSC photo's that exist, we are soliciting some of your best photo's that you would like to make available for everyone in OPC land to see!

If you have some top photo's of CADETS and SSC people and activities, send them to [silva.chan@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:silva.chan@aircadetleague.on.ca) and we will select as many as possible for viewing and downloading. Please send a JPEG format.



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## Tagging at Walmart

OPC has been in touch with the Walmart Corporate office in order to secure details and guidance to assist our SSC's with regards to tagging. The following will provide you with the information and best advice as you establish, or maintain, your positive relationship with your local Walmart store for tagging.

### ***How the Local Matching Grant program works***

Each local Walmart store assigns their budget and determines the charities that they will support through their Local Matching Grant program. For those SSC's that have not participated in this program but have a Walmart store in their region, this program offers the charity a matching dollar amount for all the funds raised by the charity for their day of tagging. So, if you raised \$1000 in tagging, they will match this and you will have earned \$2000 for the day!

It is fully at the discretion of the manager as to the charities approved and the overall budget they apply to this particular program. Therefore, even if you have participated in this program one year, there is no guarantee you will be accepted as one of the charities every year. Some stores rotate charities over the years to ensure broad support to those in their community.

### ***Some Helpful Tips for SSC's***

Based on input from Walmart corporate and advice from OPC and some SSC's who have participated, here are some helpful suggestions:

1. Make sure you have a professional letter and information about the Air Cadets and your Squadron to present to the manager when you are enquiring about the Local Matching Grant program. Based on the time of year for your tagging, it is best to make your formal enquiries as early as possible for the next tagging season... 3-6 months is a good timeframe to work within.
2. Make sure your charitable number is included in the letter. Some new managers are not always aware of which organizations are charities, and may not include you as a candidate if they don't have full confirmation.
3. As with all good corporate sponsorship and fundraising support, make sure you recognize the store and manager for their contributions and support. This can take many forms, from inviting them as special guests at a parade night or mess dinner, to extending special plaque or framed photo of your Cadets as a thank you gift. Recognize them on your website or have some Cadets participate in a small presentation at the store. Always follow-up with appropriate letters, and if you send out media releases be sure to acknowledge their support along with all other contributors.
4. Even though you may not participate in the Local Matching Grant program, Walmart stores can still allow you to tag at their facility. So, if the Walmart location is a good retail outlet for tagging, continue to apply for approval each year to tag there. Being involved each year may also assist you to get back on the list of charities for the upcoming years if the local store works on a rotating basis.

If your SSC has any concerns or questions that arise in regards to your involvement with the local Walmart store for this program, or any feedback you get from the manager that you may not understand, please contact OPC and we will make enquiries to the corporate manager in charge of this initiative.

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## 2014 Annual OPC Conference and AGM



This year's AGM & Conference is now set and preparations are underway for another exciting and informative event. The Conference will be held on **Saturday, October 25**, a one-day event that will feature some new content and events.

We also have a new conference location: the **Hilton Garden Inn in Vaughan**, located at Hwy. 400 and Hwy. 7.

Highlights of this years program include:

Cadet Awards Luncheon  
Annual Awards Banquet  
Specialized Workshops for SSC's, OPC members and our partners  
OPC Strategic Plan  
AGM and 'state of the union' addresses

We will feature group rates that will save you money. Sponsorship opportunities will also be available. The AGM team is organizing the keynote speakers and special guests at present.

Stay tuned for the full registration package and ongoing announcements as we firm up our guests and speakers... coming soon to the OPC website and your friendly e-blasts!

## Staff Email Addresses

**Scott Lawson**, Executive Director ([scott.lawson@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:scott.lawson@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**Michael Hopkins**, Squadron Operations Manager ([michael.hopkins@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:michael.hopkins@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**Vince McGovern**, Fund Development Manager ([vince.mcgovern@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:vince.mcgovern@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**David Brown**, Program Development Officer for EOA/NOA ([david.brown@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:david.brown@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**Anne Kozich**, Program Development Officer for COA ([anne.kozich@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:anne.kozich@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**Jackie Villanueva**, Program Development Officer for WOA ([jackie.villanueva@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:jackie.villanueva@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**Nicky Grantham**, Finance Officer ([nicky.grantham@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:nicky.grantham@aircadetleague.on.ca))

**Silva Chan**, Administrative Assistant ([silva.chan@aircadetleague.on.ca](mailto:silva.chan@aircadetleague.on.ca))