



868 YMM Rotary Northstar Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron

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Welcome to the 868 YMM Rotary Northstar Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron

The 868 Air Cadets of Fort McMurray provide a free program for youth aged 12 to 18 year old who are interested in leadership, citizenship, physical fitness, flying and learning about the Canadian Armed Forces. We have many other activities that the cadets can take part in, including survival (camping, skill building), music, sports, biathlon and marksmanship (air rifles).

We parade at the Boys and Girls Club of Fort McMurray, which is located at 20 Riedel Street. Cadets have their own entrance at the right side of the building. Regular parade nights are Tuesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:15 pm and these are considered mandatory training nights. Through the year, there will also be some Monday and Thursday night optional training, such as drill team, ground school, sports, and various weekend activities. Depending on the time of year, there may be more or less activities. In the summer months, many of our cadets have the opportunity to attend a summer training centre in other areas of Canada.

Our unit has an excellent Parents Committee. All parents are encouraged to participate as you are automatically a member by having a child in the unit. The Parents Association, known as the Squadron Sponsoring Committee (SSC), holds regular meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at the Boys and Girls Club. Please consider joining our Parents Committee. Without help from the parents, our staff cannot provide all the wonderful opportunities for the cadets.

There is lots of information about becoming a cadet and it can seem daunting - even for parents! Don't worry! Your officers and senior cadets are there to help you and guide you on your journey. Included in this package is a parent handbook that will give you the basics of everything you need to know. In addition to the parent handbook, we also have our website www.868rcacs.ca, which is full of useful and important information, which is kept up to date on a regular basis. On the website, you can find things like: training information, dress regulations, etc. You may sign on to our Google Calendar to get regular updates and follow along with important program dates. Information will be provided to you on registration night. Parents interested in reading more are also welcome to check out the National Cadet Website – www.cadets.ca.

This training year will bring a series of new challenges as we navigate our new reality. Our goal is to keep our cadets engaged, while ensuring everyone's safety through direction from our Chain of Command and AHS. We will continue to communicate updates as we receive them. It will be imperative to check your emails and follow our social media pages to receive those updates.

What is Expected of You? – The Cadet

As a cadet you will be expected to work as a member of a team. By cooperating with fellow cadets and instructors of the Cadet Squadron, you can accomplish anything! You should remember that your Officers and Civilian Instructors are volunteers just like you. They work or attend school and have personal and family commitments. They deserve your full support and cooperation. You can do your part by meeting the following expectations.

ATTEND PARADES

You should plan to attend parades and activities as often as possible – attendance to regular parade nights is considered when choosing awards, applying for summer training opportunities and planning special activities. You are required to have a 60% attendance to mandatory training to complete your training level.

BE ON TIME

Parades and training start on time – you should arrive 15 minutes prior to a parade or a training activity. If you are unable to attend an activity or will be late, please email the squadron or submit your absence through our website.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR UNIFORM

Cadets are expected to be well turned out at all times. Being sharp in appearance reflects well on your Squadron and on you! The uniform is loaned to the cadet for their time in the Program and **MUST** be returned when the cadet leaves the Program.

FOLLOW THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Listen to direction from your Senior Cadets and your Officers. Respect your peers and yourself. Refer to the Code of Conduct that you sign at the beginning of each training year.

STAY INFORMED

Check the website and the squadron weekly email to stay informed. Stay in touch with your Senior Cadets. Make sure your parents know what is going on too, so they can plan to take you to the activities on time!

Be a full member of your Squadron. When parades, weekend training exercises or other events have been planned, REMEMBER it has all been organized for your benefit. The staff rely on your support as a member of the Squadron to take an active part. Help others, especially new cadets.

Be loyal, work hard, play fair and be proud of being a cadet with 868 YMM Rotary Northstar RCACS. Your Commanding Officer will appreciate your effort and will, in turn, ensure the necessary support as you seek and accept new and greater challenges.

Most of all, take advantage of all that this amazing Program has to offer and have fun!

Thank you for your interest in the Cadet Program. We can't wait to see you on Tuesday nights!

Hélène Hopkins

Captain Hélène Hopkins

Commanding Officer

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