

# ***ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION***



***783 (CALGARY) WING***

**March 2012 NEWSLETTER**

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*As elected at the Annual General Meeting held June 27, 2011.*

*Non-elected positions are signified by prefix (eg. <sup>N</sup> Past Presidents Chair)*

## RCAFA 783 Calgary Wing Newsletter INDEX

• Directory - Executive and Directors	Page 2
• Wing Reports and Presentations (November 28 <sup>th</sup> )	Page 4
• President's Report	Page 4
• Awards	Page 5
• Cadet Liaison	Page 6
• Casino	Page 7
• Membership	Page 8
• Other Business	Page 8
• Notices	Page 9
• The Last Post	Page 8
• Calendar of Events	Page 9
• Last Post	Page 10
• Special Events and Tours	Page 11
• Catch up on Past Events	Page 11
• Recipe Swap	Page 12
• Comedy Corner	Page 13
• Biography	Page 14
• Other News	Page 15
• Vice-Admiral Maddison Visits Museum	Page 15
• Air Cadet Selection Boards	Page 17
• An update on the Royal Canadian Air Force	Page 18
• Southern Zone Effective Speaking Competition	Page 20
• Other Photos	Page 21
• Letter from the Editor	Page 23

## WING REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

### President's Report

#### *Feb. 27th Wing Meeting*

I attended the funeral service for Frank Mascaro on January 26th, thank you to all our Wing Members who attended the Funeral Service for Frank Mascaro. I am sure that Marion and family were very appreciative of our attendance.

I attended the Alberta Group Meeting of the RCAFA on Feb 11th. A few things that came out of the meeting:

- Donations from the National AGM for the Bagotville Museum have topped \$18,000. For the up-coming AGM in Hamilton the cause will be the Canadian Heritage Warplane Museum in Hamilton.
- Alberta wings membership numbers are; 700 Wing 93, 702 Wing 73, 703 Wing 50, 783 Wing (at time of meeting) 136, and 784 Wing 180.
- All Wings were in favour of the proposed changes to the National Constitution, and instructed Group President Roe to take our position to the National NEC Meeting.
- National Slate nominations put forward by Alberta Group; Terry Chester, President; Greg Spradbrow, 1st Vice President; Alex Richards 2nd Vice President. 783 Wing had voted in favour of this slate at our last meeting.

The report I put forward on behalf of 783 Wing is as follows;

783 Report to Alberta Group, Sat. Feb. 13th, '12

Greetings to everyone from the members of 783 Wing and welcome to those attending the meeting perhaps for the first time.

The year thus far has been a busy one for 783 Wing. Under the direction of Kenn Nixon, our Wing held another very successful Battle of Britain Parade with many Air Cadets and CIC Officers present, amazing what happens when the weather cooperates.

I had the pleasure of representing 783 at the AGM of the Association in Quebec City in October. It was a new and very informative event for me to attend. I especially enjoyed the presentation from our Hon. National President L/Gen. Lloyd Campbell, from M/Gen Blondin whose passion and enthusiasm for the Canadian Forces and its members is outstanding. The awards presentation was very enjoyable, congrats again to Alberta Group on receiving the Group Proficiency Award. Other awards that we were very honored to receive was: Nick Kroeker for Life Member, Kenn Nixon for Meritorious Service and Ken Carlin for Distinguished Service. My greatest thrill was to step forward and receive Wing of the Year on behalf of 783 Wing.

We held our 2nd Annual Remembrance Day Service with the participation of the Calgary Air Cadets. Again well done to the organizing Committee. Some 700 Wing Members, Air

Cadets and Officers, Honored Guests and public attending. A special note was the participation of long time Member Art Hill as our Guest of Honor.

Our major entertainment of the fall was a tour to Rosebud Theatre and our Annual Wing Xmas Dinner. Thanks to Bev Spielman and Sue Clarke for the great work for the Dinner and to Pat Sulek for organizing the tour.

Our congratulation to Wing Member and Past Honorary President Gerry Morrison on receiving the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation Award on Jan 18th in Calgary.

Our Wing is very proud to be experiencing some very good growth in recent times due to the great work of Membership Chair Anna Lewis, and you will be hearing details of that in her report. Congrats to Anna on a job very well done.

Lastly, in January we lost another long time and devoted Wing Member Frank Mascaro after a very courageous battle with poor health. Our condolences as always go out to Marion and her Family.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Keith Mann*

*783 Wing President*

## Awards

### Swearing in of New Members (February 27<sup>th</sup> 2012)



*Betty Molnar*

*Frank Molnar*

*Keith Mann*

## Cadet Liaison

*January 2012*

The Air Cadet units within Southern Alberta are maintaining their very busy status

On 03 December 2011, approximately 80, Cadets from 11, 52, 604 11, and 903 took part in the Wreaths Across America ceremony with their USA Counterparts in the Civil Air Patrol. Air Cadets participated with the 604 Band and Flag Party and the silver cross mother Mrs Dianne Dallaire was delighted with the ceremony which honored her 22 year son who had been killed in action.

For this event the US and Canadian Border Agencies also co-operated by closing a commercial lane for a 10 minute ceremony.

Next year the goal is to try and make this a tri service event with the Army and Sea cadets. Next years event will be held on 01 December 2012.

All units were busy leading up to the Christmas season, with mess dinners, and festive celebrations taking place at each of the units.

On December 23, 2011 the Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Peter McKay, announced the appointment of the first ever Colonel-Commandant for the Air Cadets, Country Singer George Canyon was selected to the appointment. Colonel Canyon is the former Honourary Colonel for 14 Wing in Shearwater NS. Colonel Canyon lives in Southern Alberta.

Cadets who applied for the Power Pilot Scholarships and for the Glider Pilot Scholarships wrote their exams the first week back in Jan and have just finalized their applications for these prestigious awards.

The Selection Boarding process will take place at the Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School in Red Deer on the 24th of February 2012. The Air Cadet League is also looking for individuals who may be interested in sitting on this years selection boards. If you think you might want to participate, please get a hold of Pat Sulek and she can help you with this.

The formation of the two new air cadet units is well under way and will be ready to stand up for 01 September 2011. One of the units is in the staffing stage, and already have a venue picked at the Juno Beach Academy, the second unit is slightly behind the our estimated time frame, but is working towards a September start up.

This year also marks the 70th Anniversary for several cadet units in Southern Alberta. Each of the units will be presented to 11 RCACS, 15 RCACS, 52 RCACS, and 187 RCACS.

The Nanton Bomber Command Museum of Canada as a way of celebrating the service that Air Cadets have provided to communities across Alberta is working on a Salute to Air Cadets. The event will take place at the museum in Nanton on May 6, 2012.

An itinerary of event will be published in my report. If you are interested in attending please feel free to join them on that date.

Please visit our website for more info. about our museum at:

**[www.bombercommandmuseum.ca](http://www.bombercommandmuseum.ca)**

**Itinerary – Nanton Museum May 6, 2012**

10:00 A.M. Cadets arrive at museum ( parking on north or west side of museum)

10:00- 12:00 Tours, video presentations, guest speakers, demonstrations (rear turret, etc.), photo ops ( Snowbird jet, Lancaster mock-up, etc.) Tours will include going through the actual Lancaster bomber while it is on display outside.

12:00-1:00 Lunch in the north hangar (at this point it looks like each squadron will be responsible for their own lunch arrangements)

1:30-2:00 Parade with all squadrons participating. A marching band has been requested. There will be a reviewing stand with civilian and military dignitaries taking part. After the parade all cadets will form up in front of Bomber Command Memorial Wall for a ceremonial wreath laying and photo session.

2:30-3:00 Lancaster engine run( the museum hopes to have our third engine running that day.) Two lucky cadets will be chosen in a draw to act as Lancaster crew members during the engine run.

3:00-3:30 Fly-past of civilian and military aircraft (depending availability, weather considerations, etc.) Lancaster tours, presentations, etc. will be adjusted according to the number of squadrons and cadets participating.

The museum is excited about this opportunity to honour the cadet movement in Canada and those squadrons that have or will be celebrating their 70th anniversary. We would welcome comments, questions, etc. regarding this event.

*Respectfully submitted, Randy Fisher – Cadet Liaison*

Randy Fisher was not available at the February meeting. Air Cadets held the scholarship boards in Red Deer for 230 cadets for 78 scholarships. Pat announced the Tri-service drill competition was to be held at Mewata Armouries from on 3 March. The Southern Wing Cadet effective speaking competition was also to be held at Mewata Armouries. All were invited to come out and enjoy the day. The cadets love having an audience.

**Casino**

*February 27th, 2012*

1. The Casino License Application for our upcoming Casino on April 26th & 27th, 2012, went forward to the AGLC, along with supporting material and requirements, on February 13th, 2012. I have no word back yet from them.
2. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all those who have stepped up to volunteer to work at the Casino – the response was very gratifying and it makes my job a lot easier. I will have the volunteer schedule made up and ready for distribution at the March Wing meeting, and will try to distribute to as many as I can electronically about that time, so that if you have questions, or wish to make changes, there will be plenty of time before the Casino proper, to do that.

Thank you again.

*Respectfully submitted by Peggy McAllister – Casino Chairman*

*Refer to the note in the Calendar of Events for details of the Volunteer Opportunities.*

## Membership

As of February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Regular Members: 131  
 Life Members: 6  
 Total Members: 137

12 New Members: (10 MALS & 2 New)

Arline Chartier	MAL Transfer	Harold Reischman	MAL Transfer
Gordon M Hill	MAL Transfer	Bruce Pultz	MAL Transfer
Brown Balcom	MAL Transfer	Ian Morgan	MAL Transfer
Hugh Beaton	MAL Transfer	Sylvia Pultz	New Join
Rober Lilja	MAL Transfer	Faye Morgan	New Join
Bruce Millar	MAL Transfer	Charles Weeks	MAL

As a "Welcome to the 783 Wing", every new member was sent a copy of our quarterly newsletter. This gets them acquainted with the activities that we currently are doing with our local wing.

*Anna Lewis, Membership*

## Other Business

### Public Relations

Brian reported that February has been a busy month with Cadets and an Alberta Group meeting. He met with Mike Legacy PR director for the prairie region and attended a seminar sponsored by Maj Legacy. Brian along with many wing members attended the annual Air Cadet scholarship boards.

### Military Museum Report

May 5th will mark the third anniversary of the Air Force Museum with the 100th anniversary of the Royal Flying Corps and a few new displays. Grant mentioned the visit to the museum of Vice Admiral Madison and how Edith McMinn showed him her display and how he was impressed and will return.

### Entertainment Report

Dot Dienes expressed the difficulties she is having finding events for us. Bev Spielman explained that they are looking at some ideas for our charter activity possible around April 14.

### Special Events

There is nothing to report at this time, however Pat reported that the Telus Science Centre rates for seniors is \$12.50 and \$5.00 for parking for those who might be interested in an outing in the city..



**285 Legion Liaison**

Pat announced that Ali the former manager has left to open a restaurant downtown and the new manager is Doug Boyd. The Legion held its election last week and has a new executive. She reminded everyone that this legion has an active and entertaining calendar that is advertised in the lobby. Some events coming are:

- Meat draws 3:30 pm Saturdays
- Friday Night buffets – 4:30 – 7:30 pm
- Seniors +50 Dinner Dance Sundays March 25, April 29, May 27 and June 24.  
Dancing at 3:30 pm followed by dinner served at 4:30 pm. There are door prizes.  
Tickets on sale Friday Buffets. The cost of \$13.50 per person.

**NOTICES**

- Please save your used stamps for Marion Mascaro, to be donated to the Alberta Cancer Society. You can bring them to the monthly meeting or send them to:



#783 (Calgary) Wing, c/o 100 Rosevale Drive NW, Calgary, AB T2K 1N5

- Eleanor Berlin requests notification of any wing member who are ill so that she can send them a card from the Wing. Phone: 403-244-8217

**Air Force Museum Society of Alberta – Volunteers needed**

The Air Force Museum of Alberta (AFMSA) website is [www.airforcemuseumalberta.ca](http://www.airforcemuseumalberta.ca). The Museum needs Tour Guides. Consider volunteering. Contact Kenn Nixon for more information.

**783 Wing Casino – Attention Volunteers**

Thanks to everyone who stepped up to volunteer. The success of this Casino depends on our volunteers. If you are one of the Casino volunteers, you should have received notification of your assignment. Your participation role in this event is critical. Unfortunately, last minute substitutions are very difficult.

This is an important activity for our Wing to carry on its operation, and to help charitable groups in need in our community. The money we raise helps us fund the Air Cadet Programs and other youth groups, as well as community charities in Calgary and area. A large portion of our own operations is supported by gaming revenues, including the trips and functions that we all enjoy so much.

If you were unable to volunteer for this Casino, please consider participating next year. It is always a fun event with lots of time to visit with your fellow Wing volunteers.

## THE LAST POST

It is with deep sadness that I regretfully announce the passing of Bev Spielman's Mother. I know I can speak on behalf of the membership in extending our thoughts and prayers to Bev and her family. I know many of us had the pleasure to share a "glass or two" of bubbly during New Year's Eve with Mrs. Spielman at Bev's house, what a classy and gracious Lady.

The Family will be having a private service but are planning a celebration of her Life at a time and date to be announced.

*Keith Mann*

### CHECK SIX – In Memoriam of Colonel R.D. Schultz



After a fighter pilot's struggle, slipped the surly bonds of earth appropriately on Remembrance Day 2011 in his 89<sup>th</sup> year. His love of flying carried over a distinguished 37-year career with the RCAF and beyond. A well-documented WWII *Mosquito* night fighter pilot with 410 Squadron he went on to fly over 40 different aircraft including the CF18 twice in his later years. As the Director of Flight Safety for 10 years, he was known as "Mr. Flight Safety". His efforts were recognised internationally by the International Flight safety Foundation in 1977 and he was elected as honorary member of the USAF Aerospace Safety Hall of Fame. In Canada, he was awarded the Trans-Canada McKee trophy in 1978 and was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame in 1997 with the following citation: "Over many years in cooperation with the military and the civilian agencies associated with aviation, his vision, dedication and pursuit of excellence resulted in significant advancement in air operations generally and flight safety accident prevention programs in particular." He will not be forgotten.

Colonel Schultz was a native of Bashaw, Alberta. An extensive biography and dedication to Colonel Schultz, from "Flight Comment, Edition 3 1977" can be found at:

<http://rcf-arc.forces.gc.ca/dfs-dsv/pub/nr-sp/index-eng.asp?id=12581>.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**General Wing Meetings are usually held on the fourth Monday of each month.**

No meetings will be held in July, August or December.

Meetings are at 1930 hrs at the #285 Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, on Horton Road.

Members may enjoy dinner at #285 Legion before Wing meetings. Last call for the kitchen is around 1815 hrs.

All members are encouraged to attend Wing Meetings to find out what's going on and have input into the Wing decisions and activities. Summer dress attire is from May 1 to Sept 30.

<b>April 23, 2012</b>	<b>✓ Wing Meeting</b>
<b>April 26 &amp; 27, 2012</b>	<b>Wing Casino at Deerfoot Inn &amp; Casino (see following)</b>
<b>May 11-13, 2012</b>	<b>Alberta AGM hosted by 784 Diamond Jubilee Wing, Cold Lake</b>
<b>May 26, 2012</b>	<b>702 Wing Lobsterfest in Lethbridge (702 Wing)</b>
<b>May 28, 2012</b>	<b>✓ Wing Meeting</b>
<b>June 25, 2012</b>	<b>✓ Wing Meeting &amp; 783 Wing AGM</b>
<b>July 7, 2012</b>	<b>783 Wing Annual Stampede Breakfast at Spielman's</b>

*DATE MISSING? WRONG INFORMATION? LET US KNOW!*

*WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING AHEAD, SO ALL DATES (EVEN A YEAR IN ADVANCE) ARE MOST WELCOME.*

## SPECIAL EVENTS AND TOURS

### Upcoming Events and Tours



No events are planned for the immediate future. Stay tuned for exciting new events soon.

EMAIL PAT AT [psulek@shaw.ca](mailto:psulek@shaw.ca) with your ideas and comments.

## RECIPE SWAP

### 5 Minute Chocolate Mug Cake



My suggestion is that your mug is big enough for expansion  
And of course, spriz the finished cake with whipped cream!!!

Update: use a mug that holds more than 8 oz, otherwise one can't mix the dry ingredients well and that it almost fills to the top without the liquids added. I used a large 10 oz mug

Cook Time: 3

Prep Time: 1

Average Rating: 5

#### Ingredients

- 1 – Coffee Mug
- 4 – tablespoons flour  
(that's plain flour, not self-rising)
- 4 – tablespoons sugar
- 2 – tablespoons baking cocoa
- 1 – egg
- 3 – tablespoons milk
- 3 – tablespoons oil
- 3 – tablespoons chocolate chips (optional) some nuts (optional)
- Small splash of vanilla



Add dry ingredients to mug, and mix well.

Add the egg and mix thoroughly.

Pour in the milk and oil and mix well.

Add the chocolate chips (if using) and vanilla, and mix again.

Put your mug in the microwave and cook for 3 minutes on high.

The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but don't be alarmed!

Allow to cool a little, and tip out onto a plate if desired.

**EAT!** (this can serve 2 if you want to share!)

*Submitted by Marj Burman (wife of RJ Roe)*

## COMEDY CORNER

### Quotes:

- "Defeat is not bitter unless you swallow it."* — Joe Clark
- "The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."* — Helen Keller
- "Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."* — Dr. Seuss
- "I haven't failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."* — Thomas Edison
- "It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark."* — Howard Ruff
- "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up."* — Vince Lombardi
- "Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere."* — Albert Einstein
- "Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter."* — Mark Twain

### In a Bit of a Parking Spot

An Irishman was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place.

Looking up to heaven he says "Lord, have mercy on me. If you find me a parking spot, I will go to Mass every Sunday for the rest of my life... and even give up me Irish whiskey!"

Miraculously, a parking place appeared.

The Irishman looks up again and says "Never mind, I found one."

### Planting Season in Ireland

An aging man lived alone in Ireland. His only son was in Long Kesh Prison, and he didn't know anyone who would spade up his potato garden. The old man wrote to his son about it, and received this reply, "For HEAVENS SAKE, don't dig up that garden, that's where I buried the GUNS!!!!!"

At 4 A.M. the next morning, a dozen British soldiers showed up and dug up the entire garden, but didn't find any guns. Confused, the man wrote to his son telling him what happened and asking him what to do next.

His son's reply was: "Just plant your potatoes."

### DIVORCE versus MURDER

A nice, calm and respectable lady went into the pharmacy, walked up to the pharmacist, looked straight into his eyes, and said, "I'd like to buy some cyanide."

The pharmacist asked, "Why in the world do you need cyanide?"

The lady replied, "I need it to poison my husband."

The pharmacist's eyes got big and he explained, "I can't give you cyanide to kill your husband, that's against the law! I'll lose my license! They'll throw both of us in jail! All kinds of bad things will happen. Absolutely not! You CANNOT have any cyanide!"

The lady reached into her purse and pulled out a picture of her husband in bed with the pharmacist's wife.

The pharmacist looked at the picture and said, "You didn't tell me you had a prescription."

## BIOGRAPHY

### Captain Robert J. Vanderlee

Captain VanderLee was born in Calgary, Alberta in Canada's Centennial year-1967. His family moved to Banff National Park where he attended school in both Banff and Canmore until graduating High School in 1985. Captain VanderLee was one of the first cadets to sign up with the newly formed 878 Banff/Canmore Squadron in March of 1980.

Captain VanderLee has worked with three different squadrons in Alberta during his career, his first position as an officer in the Cadet Instructor Cadre was 781 Calgary, from 1986 to 1988 he was the unit supply officer and then from 1988 to 1991 he held the training officer position. He has also worked at 504 Blatchford Field Squadron in Edmonton where he was the Training and then Commanding Officer in the mid 90's, and most recently 878 Banff/Canmore Squadron where he is now the Administration Officer.

Captain VanderLee began his cadet career at 878 Squadron as a cadet, attending his first summer training course, a two week basic training course at Penhold AB in 1981. He then attended Air Studies at Rivers MB and the three week SOLO Gliding Course also in Rivers. He accepted his first staffing position, as a Flight NCO for Basic at Penhold Air Cadet Camp, in 1985. After graduating from cadets in June 1986 at the rank of Warrant Officer 2nd Class, Captain VanderLee enrolled in the Cadet Instructor Cadre and began work at Penhold Air Cadet Camp as the Adventure Training Officer.

He has worked for 23 years at various summer training centres including Penhold, Winnipeg and Cold Lake. After his first year at Penhold as an Officer Cadet in 1986 he proceeded to work his way up the rank and organizational structure holding positions in Training, Administration and Command. Most notably he has held the Position of *Officer Commanding Senior Leadership, at Cold Lake, Chief Administration Officer (Cold Lake) and Deputy Commanding Officer (Cold Lake)*. In 2006 he moved back once again to Penhold Air Cadet Summer Training Centre where he filled the *Deputy Commanding Officer* role for two summers.

In 2009 he was selected to represent Prairie Region and the Canadian Cadet organization as an escort officer for the International Air Cadet Exchange program, ending up in Washington DC and Texas. In 2011 he was extremely fortunate to be again selected as an escort officer, this time with 5 Canadian Air Cadets to Israel.

Aside from a number of awards received as a cadet, Captain Vanderlee was selected as the Top Coach in 2006 and 2007 at the National Biathlon Championship as well as the Officer of the Year for Alberta in 2005 and Officer of the Year – Canada in 2006. He also holds his Canadian Decoration – with one Clasp.

Captain VanderLee has a diploma from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and a Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Alberta. He is currently teaching Woodworking, Science, and Computer Technology in his hometown of Canmore Alberta. Captain VanderLee is married to Ms. Nadya VanderLee (nee Malakoff) of Nelson B.C. They have one miniature Dachshund named Moose.

## OTHER NEWS



### February 16<sup>th</sup> – Vice-Admiral Maddison Visits Museum

Hello fellow members,

I have had the honor and privilege to represent the Royal Canadian Air Force as a volunteer at The Military Museum, here in Calgary. I am usually found there every Thursday afternoon and sometimes am available on other days for special tours. On Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, our gallery was thrilled to have received a visit from Vice-Admiral Paul Maddison, first in command of the Royal Canadian Navy, who toured our gallery, along with his *entourage*. He engaged me in a pleasant conversation in both of our official languages. When I asked if he recognized my photo in the glass case, he said no, and insisted that I personally show the photo to him. Not only did the Vice-Admiral follow me, but his entire staff followed as well for another look, upon arrival, he made the most flattering comments.

Chivalry knows no borders or rank, and it made for a most enjoyable afternoon.

*Respectively submitted by Edith McMinn (nee Préfontaine)*



Left to Right: Vice-Admiral Paul Maddison, Lt.(N) Nadia Shields, Chief Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Claude Laurendeau, Dick Evans (background), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Peter Musters & Edith McMinn at the Military Museum.

**Vice Admiral Paul A. Maddison, OMM, MSM, CD** is Chief of the Maritime Staff, head of the Royal Canadian Navy. Vice-Admiral Maddison was promoted to his present rank and assumed Command of the Royal Canadian Navy in July 2011.

Vice-Admiral Maddison was commissioned in 1980, and earned his Bridge Watchkeeping and Above-Water Warfare qualifications in HMC Ships Terra Nova and Qu'appelle.

Vice-Admiral Maddison's sea-time has been equally divided between Canada's Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, including Combat Officer of HMCS Skeena (1988), Executive Officer of HMCS Winnipeg (1994), and command of HMC Ships Calgary (1997) and Iroquois (2002).



Other sea-going appointments have included: Staff Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer to NATO's Commander Standing Naval Force Atlantic (1989), Staff Weapons Officer to the Commander Canadian Task Group deployed to the Persian Gulf (1991), Combat Officer Sea Training Atlantic (1992), Executive Officer Sea Training Pacific (1996), and command of the experimental Standing Contingency Force (2006).

Vice-Admiral Maddison's shore appointments have included: Aide-de Camp to the Governor General (1985), command of a joint Space Control Center crew in Colorado Springs (2000), Director General Maritime Force Development (2005), and Assistant Chief of Military Personnel (2007).

In 2008 Vice-Admiral Maddison was appointed Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic and Joint Task Force Atlantic in Halifax NS. He returned to Ottawa in 2010 to serve as Deputy Commander Maritime Command and Assistant Chief of the Maritime Staff.

An avid hockey enthusiast who still straps on the blades when he can, Vice-Admiral Maddison also enjoys watching Aussie Rules football, keeping fit, studying naval history, fishing with his son, discussing the meaning of life with his daughter, and actively seeking that ever-elusive work-life balance that would enrich all of the above. He met his love Fay on a blind date during a port visit to Hong Kong, and humbly admits that only through Fay's personal sacrifice and unselfish commitment as a military spouse has he been able to stay young at heart and serve Canada in uniform for so long.

*Courtesy of [www.forces.gc.ca](http://www.forces.gc.ca)*



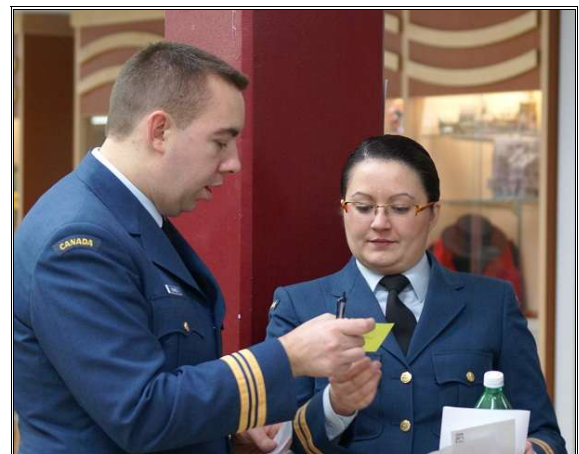
## February 24<sup>th</sup> – Air Cadet Selection Boards

285 Cadets vied for positions at the Air Cadet Selection Boards held in Red Deer this year. They were competing for the following positions:

- 4 for Oshkosh
- 7 for International Exchange
- 5 for Airport Operations
- 5 for Aircraft Maintenance
- 5 for Aerospace Technology
- 27 for Glider
- 23 or 24 (not confirmed) for Power Pilot.

No results have yet been posted to the CO or the SSC Chairs.

*Brian Lewis*



## February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – An update on the Royal Canadian Air Force



Lieutenant-General André Deschamps

*On Feb. 27, 2012, the Commander of the Royal Canadian Air Force, Lieutenant-General André Deschamps, appeared before the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence to update committee members on the missions, activities and future plans of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Here is the text of his formal remarks.*

Our mission is to provide the Canadian Forces with relevant, responsive and effective air power to meet the defence challenges of today and into the future.

Over the past 12 months or more, the RCAF has been tested in its ability to fulfill that mission. I am pleased to report that the men and women of the RCAF have passed the test with flying colours.

Delivering excellence in operations is my top priority.

Our recent missions in support of Canadian government priorities have circled the globe.

Most recently, Operation Mobile – our participation in the NATO-led mission to protect the people of Libya – tested our readiness as never before, as we deployed our CF-18 fighters fewer than 24 hours after the United Nations passed Resolution 1973.

The effect delivered by our CF-18s, Airbus and Hercules tankers, and our Auroras – which were deployed for the very first time in ground surveillance and targeting support – was simply outstanding.

Our success brought credit to the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Canadian Forces and to Canada on the international stage.

During this period, our Air Wing in Afghanistan was still very much active. Our ability to integrate aviation, tactical airlift, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities ensured we delivered joint air effect to Canadian and Allied commanders under extremely demanding conditions.

In that operational Petri dish, we developed new doctrine – for example, air-to-air integration – that will shape our future capabilities such as the Air Expeditionary Capability located in Bagotville, Quebec.

Moreover, around the same time that Op Mobile's combat mission began, we deployed CF-18s to Iceland to carry out an air policing mission under the auspices of NATO.

Last August, we deployed Griffon helicopters and crews to Jamaica to conduct search and rescue training, and to support the Jamaican Defence Force during hurricane season.

Closer to home, we responded to threats from Mother Nature. We evacuated residents of several northern communities in Ontario and in Saskatchewan who were threatened by wildfires – bringing more than 1,600 people to safety – and participated in flood relief and evacuation efforts in the Richelieu Valley and Manitoba.

At the same time, we continued to deliver on our domestic no-fail task of protecting Canadians from air threats through NORAD.

And we continued to fulfill our very demanding search and rescue mandate, responding to maritime and aeronautical incidents throughout our vast nation.

In this extremely busy and unprecedented period of activity, we delivered excellence in every area of responsibility. I am so very proud of our personnel for their professionalism and resilience in the face of adversity.

My next priority is integration of our new fleets.

There is a tangible mood of excitement in the Air Force as we continue to bring into operation a modernized fleet, one that will bring tremendous benefits to the Canadian Forces and Canadians alike.

We have already seen the tactical and strategic advantage that our new Hercules and Globemaster airlifters have brought us, and I am looking forward to receiving the last of our 17 J-model Hercs later this spring.

In the next horizon, we will begin the testing and operational evaluation of the Cyclone, a world leading maritime surveillance and control helicopter. We are actively tackling right now the ways and means to transition from the venerable Sea King to the new platform.

The new F-model Chinook medium-to heavy-lift helicopter – scheduled to arrive in Petawawa in 2013 – will enhance the level of support we can provide to the Canadian Army and increase our capacity to respond to operational imperatives both at home and abroad.

We are working actively to prepare the RCAF to receive the F-35 Lightning II, which will introduce a new generation of fighters with the latest advances in the areas of sensors, data fusion and crew survivability. The F-35 will establish and maintain the RCAF on the leading edge of many new technologies and capabilities.

At the end of the day, our ability to deliver excellence in operations and face the opportunities and challenges associated with our fleet modernization program, rest on the shoulders of our airman and airwomen. Our people are our strength.

As we look toward the future, it is clear that the RCAF will need to continue meeting a wide range of responsibilities.

We will continue to provide persistent air control of Canada's airspace and approaches.

We will ensure our continuing mobility and ability to independently respond rapidly to domestic and international events.

- We will continue to be interoperable with our allies.
- We will continue to be expeditionary – at home and abroad.
- Our operations in the Canadian Arctic will grow in importance.
- We will continue to provide one of the best search and rescue capabilities in the world.

The RCAF has proven its ability to deliver robust air power and – with our ongoing modernization – I am confident that we will continue to provide the high degree of service that Canadians expect from us, in a fiscally responsible manner.

*Courtesy of [rcmf-arc.forces.gc.ca](http://rcmf-arc.forces.gc.ca)*

## March 9<sup>th</sup> – Southern Zone Effective Speaking Competition



*All of the participants of Southern Zone Effective Speaking Competition South with Pat and Kenn*



*Winners of the Effective Speaking Competition South*



*The Judges and Work Party for the Effective Speaking Competition South*



## Other Photos



New Juno Beach Squadron at 52 Parade.  
Maj Caswell 52 CO, Pat Sulek SW Chair,  
Lt Forbes CO Juno Beach, Juno Beach Cadet,  
Dwayne Hauk SSC Chair, Anna Lewis Treas,  
Angele Mullins SSC Advisor (Feb 7)



Advanced Boards - Officer Pam Maddock,  
Alberta Air cadet Chair Darlene Larouce,  
Maj Mike Lagace, Pat Sulek, Keith Mann (Feb 18)



PR Seminar at Mewata DND (Feb 17)



Alberta RCAFA at work in Red Deer (Feb 10)



Anna Lewis turns 50!



Surprise Party in Red Deer



Night before Selection Boards (Feb 24)



52 Squadron Cadets at Comber Command, Namaton (Mar 2)



Keith Mann's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Mar 10)



Brian Lewis's Bus at Camp Worthington (Mar 17)



FTX for Airdrie 88 and Drayton Valley at Camp Worthington (Mar 17)





Returning from Trapani, Italy, 7 CF-188 Hornet fighters and a CC-150 Polaris Refueler fly in formation before landing at CFB Bagotville, Quebec, on Nov. 4, 2011

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

*Greetings to all.*

The last few months have been relatively quiet. I have missed the drama and adventure of Wing Tours and look forward to the Casino and summer events on the Horizon.

If you find any interesting photos, articles, jokes and recipe's that would appeal to Wing members, please pass them along.

I love to pass along personal information and encounters of Wing members. After listening to Edith's encounter with Vice-Admiral Maddison at the last meeting, I was excited to put her picture and perspective into print.

My next newsletter will follow the May meeting which, unfortunately, I will miss. I hope to share my adventures of attending an RMC Graduation with you both in print and person when I return from Kingston.

Stay safe and may the winds keep you aloft.

*Cheers, Thom Gordon*  
*tgordon@iterstar.ca*