



525 PATHFINDER ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADET SQUADRON

595 Keith Rd, West Vancouver BC

Dear Cadets of 525 Pathfinder Squadron,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 Air Cadet training year for 525 Pathfinder Squadron!

When cadets initially join the Air Cadet program, they are enrolled in a training level (similar to a school grade). To successfully complete a level, cadets must pass evaluations and attend all mandatory events. Due to the number of required mandatory events that are part of your level curriculum, activities are spread throughout the week, not just on Tuesday nights.

In order to allow families and cadets the opportunity to plan personal events and vacations around the training schedule, all of our activities and their details are published online: www.525aircadets.org. We encourage you to review the calendar frequently as our schedule is subject to change.

If you anticipate a scheduling conflict with one or more of the mandatory events, please inform the training staff and we will do everything possible to make alternative arrangements.

The documents that follow will outline teams you can join and the criteria to pass each level.

We wish you a most enjoyable training year!

Sincerely,

Commanding Officer,
525 Pathfinder Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron
Department of National Defence / Government of Canada
Email: Khan.ibn.zakir@gmail.com / Cell: 7788779226

Commandant,
525 Pathfinder Escadron des Cadets de l'Aviation Royale du Canada
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Parents,

As a new training year approaches I want to ensure that there are neither concerns regarding communication with parents nor misconceptions about the requirements for cadets to successfully complete their training level. This letter is intended to clarify the expectations of each cadet and the responsibility to them the training staff at the squadron has.

First, I would like to start off with the responsibilities of the officers at 525. Our goal is to develop all cadets into the future leaders of Canada, leave positive memories with each cadet that will stick with them for the rest of their lives, and to develop them into responsible young adults. This begins with creating a training plan that optimally accomplishes our goals with the resources we are provided. After creating a training plan for the year, we create a training calendar that aids everyone involved at 525. For us, as the adult supervisors, it helps us prioritize the organization of events and provides a media platform where changes can be distributed electronically and in real time to all involved. For cadets, it allows them to be responsible for their training by looking ahead and seeing what they will need to attend in order to be successful in the Air Cadet program, along with obtaining the relevant details. For parents, we understand that the information from the signup sheets posted in the squadron and the announcements made every week don't always make it home. The calendar is a great resource that allows you to be proactive and informed about all current and upcoming events scheduled for the training year. Parents have a few options to get details about the training their cadets are receiving: first from the end of parade announcements, second from the sign up/memo board at the squadron, third from the two-month calendar posted at the squadron, and lastly from the online calendar at 525aircadets.org. In addition, if one "clicks" to see more details for an event on the calendar, a window should appear listing a description for the event, including any important information.

The second purpose of this letter is to inform parents of the requirements their cadets must meet, in order to be successful in their level training. The attachments to this letter outline the requirements for each level, along with the scheduled dates on the calendar that the cadets will need to attend.

We do everything in our powers to accommodate and deliver the best possible program, but there are also some expectations that we have for the cadets and parents involved at 525. Through the calendar and the attachments outlined in this letter, all interested parties should walk away with an understanding of how the program is administered. The training staff understands that along with being an excellent cadet, they also need to be well rounded through school and other organizations. We encourage cadets and parents to look ahead in the calendar to plan optional activities, other organized groups, family events etc. around our planned events. We understand there are some instances where there will be



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conflict. We ask that as soon as a potential scheduling conflict is observed that you come to the training department and speak to an adult staff member, so that arrangements can be made. With sufficient lead time, alternate plans and/ or training can be arranged. We also expect if a cadet cannot attend an event that they signed up for or a mandatory training evening, that they will go to the 525 website and fill out an absence form. If you or your cadet does not know how to complete the absence form, please speak to any of the adult staff at 525. It is also expected that you or your cadet will approach the adult staff if they require additional support beyond the current training provided. Handouts, workbooks, teaching points and alternate methods of instruction are available for every cadet at 525 if required. Please speak to the training staff as soon as you think there may be an issue requiring a more personal approach, which would allow for the cadet's training goals to be accomplished.

Along with the points stated above, we expect cadets to put in work on their own time to maintain their uniform, practice teaching points taught to them in class and complete assigned duties. All standards are referenced in the squadron standing orders which can be made available upon request.

Finally, as you can imagine, running an Air Cadet squadron with the responsibility of making a positive impression on the youth you entrust to us is a daunting task. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions on how we can improve on our interpretation of the program, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned. We have a few initiatives in the works to close some of the gaps identified, but it usually comes down to a matter of available labor to work through the area of development. We are always looking for extra hands to help. If you want to campaign an initiative, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned as well.

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Training Requirements

The events outlined below for each level are only the minimum required successfully meet the cadet training requirements. Promotions, Summer Camp selections and Squadron Awards are based for cadets who go above and beyond the minimum requirements. We recommend cadets join an option team and assist their assigned flight as much as possible.

All the events outlined below can also be found on the 525 Air Cadet calendar. If one clicks on an event a more detailed description will appear. Again, if you foresee a scheduling conflict for your son or daughter or require more information about a certain event please contact khan.ibn.zakir@gmail.com as soon as possible.

In May cadets will receive a year-end report card outlining if they were successful or not on the minimum requirements outlined below.

LEVEL 1 & 2 Requirements

1. Maintain 60% attendance
 1. Attendance is conducted at the start of every mandatory event
 2. Attendance is also recorded for optional events that cadets sign up for
 3. If cadets can't attend, please fill out an absence from
2. Maintain 80% uniform standard
 1. Marked at the start of every mandatory training night
 2. Marked at the start of each day of the Cadet Training Course
3. Attend a Flying Day (Gliding or Power FAM)
 1. Dates are to be announced by the end of February
4. Attend a Survival Exercise (Fall and Summer)
 1. Dates to be announced by end of October.
5. Participate in Tag Days
 1. Cadets must complete a minimum of three shifts
6. Participate in Fitness Testing
 1. Fitness testing will be conducted on Tuesday Evenings
7. Participate in shooting the air rifle
 1. Participate in the Squadron Shoot on November 17th
8. Attend the Cadet Training Course
 1. February Family Day long weekend. (over night)
9. Attend the year end Annual Ceremonial Review



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Level 3 Requirements

1. Maintain 60% attendance
 1. Attendance is conducted at the start of every mandatory event
 2. Attendance is also recorded for optional events that cadets sign up for
 3. If cadets can't attend, please fill out an absence form
2. Maintain 80% uniform standard
 1. Marked at the start of every mandatory training night
 2. Marked at the start of each day of the Cadet Training Course
3. Attend a Flying Day (Gliding or Power FAM)
 1. Dates are to be announced by the end of February
4. Attend a Survival Exercise (Fall and Summer)
5. Participate in Tag Days
 1. Cadets must complete a min of three shifts
6. Participate in Fitness Testing
 1. Fitness testing will be conducted on Tuesday Evenings
7. Participate in shooting the air rifle
 1. Done on November 17
8. Attend the Cadet Training Course
 1. February Family Day long weekend. (over night)
9. Successful completion of their small leadership tasking that is conducted during the Cadet Training Weekend and summer exercise.



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Level 4 Requirements – Same dates as the past level requirements

1. Maintain 60% attendance
2. Maintain 80% uniform standard
3. Attend a Flying Day (Gliding or Power FAM)
4. Attend a Survival Exercise (Spring and Summer)
5. Participate in Tag Days
6. Participate in Fitness Testing
7. Participate in shooting the air rifle
8. Attend the Cadet Training Course
9. Successful Completion of a Drill and IT Evaluation
10. Attend the year end Annual Ceremonial Review



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Squadron Activities

Sunday

All Practices will be at the JP Fell Armoury at 1513 Forbes Avenue, North Vancouver.

Band Practice

- 525 will be starting up a band. Anyone who plays an instrument and is interested in joining may attend. We will be combining with other Corps and Squadrons on the North Shore in the annual band competition.
- Time TBD.

Drill Team Practice

- Drill Team is comprised of 15 members. The team will be chosen by tryouts which will select a team commander as well as the team itself. The drill competition will be comprised of a 10-minute compulsory routine and a 15-minute precision routine. In the Spring, a drill competition will be held for each squadron in the lower mainland.
- Time TBD.

Range Practice

- Although we will have our own team, we will be having combined range practice with 103 Thunderbird Squadron. Under the supervision of an experience coach, 525 will form a range team in preparation for a competition in the Spring. Practice will be 2 hours long and certification will be awarded to those who qualify.
- Time TBD.

Monday

Spector Flight (starting in January)

- Spector flight is an advanced survival group. Each Monday night, Spector flight will learn advanced survival techniques that can be used in a survival situation and can be useful on survival exercises.
- Time TBD. Will be combined with 103 Thunderbird Squadron.
- Location: JP Fell Armoury – 1513 Forbes Avenue.

Ground School

- Ground school is used to prepare cadets interested in applying for the glider or power pilot scholarship course. Cadets wishing to apply during the current training year and or future training years are welcome to attend.
- Ground School prepares each cadet to write the entrance exam which is a requirement of the scholarship selection process.
- Time TBD. Will be combined with 103 Thunderbird Squadron.
- Location: JP Fell Armoury – 1513 Forbes Avenue.



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Tuesday

Mandatory Training Night

Friday

First Aid Team

- First Aid is a knowledge that everyone should have. There are two levels of first aid qualifications. Emergency and Standard First Aid.
- Interested cadets will be practising how to do a site survey and conduct first aid in different situations while preparing for the first aid competition.
- Location and Time TBD.