



September 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We are anticipating another great cadet training year and are looking forward to welcoming returning cadets, and new ones!

Our commanding officer & staff have already started to plan a new and exciting training year for 2016-2017. Events will include military parades, Santa Claus parades, orienteering and drill competitions, band, ground school, two field-training exercises (FTX), gliding and the much-anticipated annual March Break trip. Additional events include fund-raising initiatives, such as air cadet tag days, Remembrance Day poppy sales and the sale of Ontario Provincial Committee lottery tickets.

The squadron is a member of the Air Cadet League of Canada and is therefore required to adhere to strict guidelines, such as weekly parade nights, drill, and ground school, however, each individual squadron is responsible for its own fund-raising initiatives. (For example, 608 have a fantastic band, but we are not provided the funds to purchase instruments; it is our job to acquire the instruments we need.)

As members of the sponsoring committee, we are approved civilian volunteers through the Air Cadet League of Canada and the Ontario Provincial Committee. We strive to support the squadron in various ways, particularly through fund raising. **OUR MOST IMPORTANT** fund raisers are **cadet tag days** and the sale of **OPC tickets**.

When the cadets sell tags on tag days, all monies raised are kept in the squadron.

Every squadron receives a set number of OPC lottery tickets as determined by the OPC; these tickets are not returnable, nor are they refundable. The squadron has no control over the number received, and all tickets must be **SOLD!** There is no cost to join air cadets; however each and every cadet is required to sell at least ONE book of tickets every training year!

Come prepared at the beginning of the cadet year to pick up your book of tickets. You pay \$60 for the book but you are reimbursed as the tickets are sold – you keep the money! Cheques can be post dated and made payable to 608 Duke of Edinburgh AC SSC. Encourage your cadet to sell them to their teachers, family and friends for an opportunity to win one of a number of NEW JEEP and CASH PRIZES for just \$5.00 a ticket!

If you are interested in other fund-raising or know of way to help, please speak to myself or any of the squadron sponsoring committee members.

Additional ongoing fundraising initiatives include:

- canteen items sold each parade night (fruit, such as apples, bananas and clementines, is provided for free by the squadron but all donations are welcome)
- 608 Dukes sports bags with our logo - **\$10.00** (handy for monthly sports night)
- 608 Dukes metal water bottles with our logo - **\$5.00** (also handy on monthly sports night)
- the sale of Christmas planters and wreaths – so successful in the last two years we are doing it again this year! * Details are posted on the website *

Monies raised from all of these fund-raising initiatives is what makes it possible for our cadets to enjoy a full year of fun, interactive and learning events, many of them off-site. When all cadets participate, all cadets benefit.

The air cadet program is a fantastic opportunity for youth in our community. We are happy and proud to be a part of 608 Dukes, and we support and encourage your children in any initiatives they wish to pursue through air cadets.

If you would like to speak to us at any time, at least one of us can be found every Wednesday evening at the Belleville Armouries. We can also be reached via the squadron email at 608dukes@live.com

Your 608 Duke of Edinburgh Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron Sponsoring Committee:

Susan Vincent (chair) – Cathy Henry (treasurer) – Mike Henry (member)

Alexandra LeBlanc (secretary) – Sandra Kioke (member)

608 Duke of Edinburgh Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron at <http://www.608dukes.com/>

608 Dukes Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/608RCACS>

The Air Cadet League of Canada – Ontario Provincial Committee at <http://aircadetleague.on.ca>