



**504 Blatchford Field
Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron
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3 September 2020

To Cadets, Parents and Guardians:

As indicated in my letter of 27 August 2020, I am writing to provide additional details regarding the start up plans at 504 Squadron for this training year. As always, the safety and security of all who participate in the Cadet Program is our top priority. As you are aware, the current circumstances due to the COVID-19 virus will mean some changes in how we operate and deliver the program for the time being. These changes will help ensure the safety of our parents, volunteers, cadets and staff. We ask your patience and support as we follow these new processes, many of which are mandated through national cadet directives and/or provincial public health orders and municipal bylaws.

These changes include:

- New arrival and check in procedures upon entering the hangar. Signage and staff will direct you upon arrival.
- In keeping with municipal by laws, anyone entering the cadet facility must be wearing a non-medical mask. A mask will be provided for any cadet who does not have one. Protocols requiring 2m for physical distancing will also be in effect.
- Visitors who are not cadets will have their inquiries handled at the check in point near the front of the hangar. Visitors, including parents, are not able to remain in the facility once immediate inquiries or other business has been addressed. Parents should wait in their cars for cadets at dismissal time.
- Applications for new cadets joining the program will be accepted during the hours of 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm each Wednesday evening. Information for new cadets is available on the 504 website at www.504rcacs.ca.
- The main door will be used for arriving and the door near the Squadron Supply office will be used for anyone exiting.

National direction has been received indicating that a modified cadet program will be rolled out for this training year. Please pay close attention to the following information regarding the details for this modified program:

- All cadets will receive a minimum of 45 periods of instructional content this training year.

- Cadets may not participate at in-person training activities until at least Oct 1, 2020.
- At 504 Squadron, weekly training sessions will begin on Wednesday, 7 October 2020. Cadets will have the two following options to participate in weekly training sessions for the upcoming year:
 - Option 1 – Attend limited in-person training sessions which are supplemented with additional content that is delivered online through the 504 Learning Academy.
 - Option 2 – Receive all training content through online delivery via the 504 Learning Academy. These cadets will receive all the same content which will be delivered 100 per cent through our online platform.
- Each weekly training session will deliver two - 35 minute periods of instruction.
- No overnight activities are authorized. Planned field training exercises will be conducted as day activities at locations in/near Edmonton.
- There will be no fall gliding program, the situation will continue to be assessed for impacts to the spring gliding program.
- There will be no power familiarization flying at this time.
- The impacts for 2021 summer training courses are being evaluated and further direction is expected this calendar year.

With the above framework in mind, while there are some changes to how the cadet program has rolled out in the past, at 504 Squadron, our team has been working hard to bring forward a solid plan – in cooperation with our Sponsor, the Friends of 504, which will demonstrate our motto: Determined to Deliver. Of course, a cornerstone of our success is the amazing leadership, talent and dedication of our many senior cadets.

It is important that you take the time to closely review the Training Year Launch Details document, which will provide you with additional information about the training options mentioned above and other key information related to our program plan for the 2020-2021 training year. We are proud to have earned your trust in the past and we know we will continue to earn that trust with our plan to roll out a safe program in an environment where 504 cadets continue to have fun, make good friends and learn.

Yours truly,



Mark Lust
Captain
Commanding Officer