

142 Mimico 'Determination' Squadron

Established July 2nd, 1942 Royal Canadian Air Cadets

1085-10 (CO)

21 September 2017

Exercise Canadian Invasion 2018 – Old Blighty March Break Trip 10 – 19 March 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This is to advise that the Officers and Squadron Sponsoring Committee (SSC) of 142 Mimico 'Determination' Squadron is developing plans for the 2018 Squadron 'March Break Trip'. Exercise Canadian Invasion 2018 – Old Blighty is being planned to be an educational, cultural and recreational trip to London, England, from 10 – 19 March 2018, inclusive.

This is a significant undertaking for the staff and SSC of the Squadron, one which has been worked on for a number of weeks. The emphasis of this trip will be to provide the Cadets with an educational understanding of dates and locations of significance associated to service our nation by Canada's Veterans. Additionally, Cadets will enjoy the opportunity to participate in recreational and cultural activities of the host country.

Cadets participating in this trip will have the unique opportunity of experiencing educational tours and cultural activities in England, with a specific focus upon the First and Second World Wars.

Enclosed is the Parental Information Package which provides the details of this trip, including the Cadet selection process, significant dates and some other relevant information. As only a limited number of Cadets can be selected to participate in this trip, it is important that these specific requirements and deadlines are adhered to in order to ensure that your Cadet may attend. Please note, due to participation requirements, <u>Cadets must be 13 years of age by 1 February 2018 and meet the criteria detailed to participate</u> in this activity.

It is important to understand that within the Canadian Cadet Movement, this activity is not part of the normal training programme and is described as an "Optional Activity". As such, the Department of National Defence/Canadian Forces neither sponsors this activity nor provides support for it.

The funding for this trip is coming primarily from the various fund raising activities that the Cadets undertake throughout the year, and the cost per participant is approximately \$1,800.00. Working together with the SSC, we will establish fundraising activities specifically to help defer the costs to the Squadron and the individual Cadet's family. However, each Cadet who participates in the trip will have a financial responsibility for some expenses associated with the trip. At this moment, the estimated cost to each Cadet is approximately \$800.00 - \$900.00, although we will continue to update the cost per Cadet when more information on trip expenses and fundraising revenues are gathered. It is our hope that through fundraising activities and sponsorship contributions the financial burden to each Cadet is reduced as much as possible.

To ensure your Cadet's attendance in this international trip, it is imperative that you meet the timings for travel, health and other documentation, as well as meeting the financial timelines established for pre-payment as outlined in the attached documents. Please ensure that you meet the payment deadlines as we also have to meet deposit and payment schedules from the airlines and suppliers.

Please complete and return the attached "Intent To Participate Registration Form", which will permit your Cadet to be included in the trip selection process, no later than Thursday, 12 October 2017 to the Squadron Office.

The initial deposit of \$250.00, part of your expression of interest to participate, is also due by 12 October 2017. Deposit payment does not necessarily confirm participation within this trip until all criteria are met. Should a Cadet fail to meet the eligibility requirements, the initial two deposit(s) will be refunded. Cadets who meet the eligibility requirements will be expected to meet the full financial pre-payment schedule.

This is a "once in a lifetime opportunity" for Cadets to visit London, England, touring some of the world's most historic locations and magnificent museums, not to mention experiencing what life in London is like. Please attend our Participant Information Session to be held at Mimico Adult Learning Centre, in the gym, on Thursday, 19 October 2017, between 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. for information, to receive an information package.

Ric Rangel-Bron Major Commanding Officer 142 Mimico 'Determination' Squadron