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## **POLICY 13.5**

### **The Royal Canadian Legion - Outstanding Canadian Army Cadet Walsh Memorial Sword**

National Council Authorization: April 8, 2005  
Revised 28 Feb 2006  
Revised Feb, 2007

#### **GENERAL**

1. In 2004, The Royal Canadian Legion (Legion) established an award for "Outstanding Cadets" selected from each of the three cadet elements, Sea, Army and Air. These cadets would be chosen by the appropriate Leagues and the Legion would host the three cadets (Sea, Army and Air) and a parent/guardian to attend at the National Cenotaph in Ottawa each Remembrance Day (Nov. 11) as part of the Vice-Regal party. As well the cadets would tour the Nation's Capital and meet both the Governor General and the Chief of the Defence Staff. The Legion generously committed to pay the costs for the travel and accommodation.
2. Each League will identify one cadet annually that epitomizes excellence in a Sea, Army and Air Cadet. The Leagues were authorized to identify their own selection process for this determination.
3. The award of the "Walsh Memorial Sword" to the Outstanding Army Cadet is funded from an endowment by the estate of LGen Geoffrey Walsh, CBE, DSO, CD a founder of the ACLC (See Annex A).

#### **AUTHORITY**

4. The authority for "Outstanding Army Cadet" shall be The Army Cadet League of Canada (ACLC).

#### **CRITERIA AND SELECTION**

5. The minimum criteria established by the Royal Canadian Legion were:
  - Be a recipient of the Legion Medal of Excellence (If not, one would be awarded);
  - Be recommended by the appropriate League
  - Be a serving cadet (not aged out or SOS) on November 11 of the award year;
6. Each Branch may establish its own internal process within these minimum standards. Selection is based on the performance of the cadets during the current training year (September to June). The Branch process should adhere to this Policy and be submitted on the "Nomination Form" (Policy 13.5A).



7. This Policy was revised by the ACLC in September 2006 by removing the requirement for the candidates to be a Master Cadet. This permitted Branches more flexibility in selecting a provincial/territorial Outstanding Cadet in each Branch and also took into consideration impending updates to the Army Cadet Program under development.

### **PHASE 1 SELECTION**

8. The first phase of the selection process is for each provincial/territorial Branch to select a Branch Outstanding Cadet in a manner of their choosing but which conforms to the minimum standards set out this Policy. The Branch must review the cadets' accomplishments and qualifications in detail. The Branch Outstanding Cadet then becomes a nominee for the "National Outstanding Cadet" and the Nomination file is then forwarded onward to the National Office. Each Branch President must forward their Branch's nomination to the National Office no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>, annually.

### **PHASE 2 SELECTION**

9. The selection of the national "Walsh Cadet" and a runner-up, shall be made by a selection committee comprised of the Colonel Commandant, the Chair of the ACLC Honours & Awards Committee, and the Executive Director of the National Office and a representative of the SSO (Army) from the Directorate of Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers, or a representative. The name of the National winner must reach the Legion Dominion Secretary no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>, annually.

10. A cadet may receive this award only once.

11. The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final.

### **AWARDS**

12. The National Outstanding Army Cadet shall be awarded a commemorative sword (Commonwealth Officer's pattern) provided by the National Office of the ACLC and suitably engraved on the blade on one side, the year and "Outstanding Army Cadet" and on the reverse side the cadet's name and Cadet Corps number. The "Walsh Memorial Sword" shall be presented by the National President of ACLC.





13. Each Cadet selected as the Branch Outstanding Cadet shall be recognized on a Branch trophy (below) provided from the National Office. The Branch may provide a keeper plaque to the Cadet.



14. The Outstanding Army Cadet shall also be invited to address the National Annual General Meeting of The Army Cadet League of Canada in the following spring as a wrap-up to their tenure. The costs of travel and accommodation shall be paid by the National Office.

## **NOTIFICATION**

15. Branches shall notify the Commanding Officer and Sponsor of the cadet corps of the winning cadet in their province or territory NLT June 30<sup>th</sup> annually.

16. The National Office shall simultaneously notify the following of the selection of the National Outstanding Cadet and the runner-up NLT July 31<sup>st</sup> annually:

- Dominion Secretary – The Royal Canadian Legion
- The Winning Cadet (directly);
- The Cadet Corps Commanding Officer;
- The Cadet Corps Sponsor;
- All Branch Presidents;
- The Director of Cadets & Jr Canadian Rangers (DCdts 4-4);
- SSO Army Cadets;
- All Commanding Officers of the RCSU's;
- Results posted to the ACLC web site.



## ANNEX A - ACLC POLICY 13.5

**BIOGRAPHY****LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GEOFFREY WALSH, CBE, DSO, CD**

BORN: 19 AUGUST 1909, BRANTFORD, ONTARIO

DIED: 3 APRIL 1999, OTTAWA, ONTARIO

**DECORATIONS AND AWARDS**

COMMANDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE (CBE)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER (DSO)

CANADIAN FORCES DECORATION (CD)

ITALY STAR

FRANCE AND GERMANY STAR

DEFENCE MEDAL

CANADIAN VOLUNTEER SERVICE MEDAL

MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES (MD) (TWICE)

COMMANDER UNITED STATES LEGION OF MERIT

COMMANDER OF THE ORANGE ORDER OF NASSAU (NETHERLANDS)

EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR ARMY CADET LEAGUE 1972

**SUMMARY OF MILITARY CAREER**

1922-1926	ARMY CADET AT ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE CADET CORPS (CC# 68)
1926-1930	ATTENDED ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, KINGSTON, ONTARIO
1930	COMMISSIONED AS LIEUTENANT IN ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS
1932-1933	BRITISH ARMY SCHOOL OF MILITARY ENGINEERING
1934-1937	CAPTAIN ADJUTANT ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS
1938	STAFF AT ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
1939	MILITARY DISTRICT NO. 2 (TORONTO)
1940	OVERSEAS: COMMANDING OFFICER 3 <sup>RD</sup> FIELD COLUMN ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS
1941	SPITZBERGEN EXPEDITION
1942-43	COMMANDER ROYAL ENGINEERS, 1 CANADIAN DIVISION, SICILY AND ITALY
1944	BRIGADIER, CHIEF ENGINEER, 2 CANADIAN CORPS, NORMANDY
1944-45	CHIEF ENGINEER, 1 CANADIAN ARMY
1945	DEPUTY QUARTER MASTER GENERAL, ARMY HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA
1946	COMMANDER NORTHWEST HIGHWAY SYSTEM
1948	ATTENDED NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE, KINGSTON
1949-50	COMMANDER, EASTERN ONTARIO AREA
1951	COMMANDER, 27 <sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY BRIGADE, EUROPE
1953	DIRECTOR GENERAL MILITARY TRAINING, ARMY HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA
1955	PROMOTED MAJOR GENERAL, QUARTER MASTER GENERAL OF CANADIAN ARMY
1959	GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING WESTERN COMMAND (EDMONTON)
1961	PROMOTED LIEUTENANT GENERAL, CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF CANADIAN ARMY
1964	VICE CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF, FOLLOWING INTEGRATION OF THE THREE SERVICES
1965	RETIRED FROM CANADIAN ARMY
1970-74	COLONEL COMMANDANT ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY CADETS AND THE CADET SERVICES OF CANADA



Annex "B" to  
ACLC Policy 13.5

**WINNERS – THE WALSH SWORD**

- 2005 - C/CWO Shannon Potvin, CC# 2784 – Ottawa, ON
- 2006 - C/CWO Guylaine Archer, CC# 3027 – LaMeque, NB
- 2007 - C/MWO Katie McKenna, CC# 148- Charlottetown, PE