ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS

PROFICIENCY LEVEL ONE

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

SECTION 2

EO M107.02 – IDENTIFY AIR CADET AND RCAF OFFICER RANKS

Total Time: 30 min

PREPARATION

PRE-LESSON INSTRUCTIONS

Resources needed for the delivery of this lesson are listed in the lesson specification located in A-CR-CCP-801/PG-001, *Proficiency Level One Qualification Standard and Plan*, Chapter 4. Specific uses for said resources are identified throughout the instructional guide within the TP for which they are required.

Review the lesson content and become familiar with the material prior to delivering the lesson.

Have one air cadet rank slip-on for each cadet.

Have one RCAF officer rank slip-on for each cadet.

PRE-LESSON ASSIGNMENT

Nil.

APPROACH

An interactive lecture was chosen for TPs 1 and 3 as it allows the instructor to present the information.

An in-class activity was chosen for TPs 2 and 4 as it is a fun and interesting way to measure the cadets' comprehension of the material.

INTRODUCTION

REVIEW

Nil.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this lesson the cadet shall have identified air cadet and RCAF officer ranks.

IMPORTANCE

It is important that the cadets be able to identify the ranks of both cadets and officers in order to pay proper marks of respect. It is a matter of courtesy to address people by their correct rank.

Teaching Point 1 **Identify air cadet ranks.**

Time: 5 min Method: Interactive Lecture

CADET RANKS

Every cadet in the squadron has a rank. Ranks are an indication of the experience and responsibility of each cadet.

AIR CADET (AC)

Cadets will start at the rank of air cadet upon enrolment.

There is no badge for the rank of Air Cadet.

LEADING AIR CADET (LAC)

Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Leading Air Cadet upon completion of five months of training.

The Leading Air Cadet badge is a propeller. When worn on the jacket it is worn on the upper sleeves, centred midway between the shoulder seam and the point of the elbow.

adapted from Rank Badges, retrieved 30 Mar 2006 from http://www.cadets.ca/aircad/resources-ressources/symbols/air_pages_all/air_rank.html

Figure 1 Leading Air Cadet Rank Badge

CORPORAL (CPL)

Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Corporal after successfully completing Proficiency Level One.

The Corporal rank badge has two chevrons. When worn on the jacket it is worn on the upper sleeves, centred midway between the shoulder seam and the point of the elbow.

adapted from Rank Badges, retrieved 30 Mar 2006 from http://www.cadets.ca/aircad/resources-ressources/symbols/air_pages_all/air_rank.html

Figure 2 Corporal Rank Badge

FLIGHT CORPORAL (FCPL)

Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Flight Corporal after completing six months of service at the rank of Corporal and successfully completing Proficiency Level Two.

The Flight Corporal badge has two chevrons and a crown. When worn on the jacket, it is worn on the upper sleeves, centred midway between the shoulder seam and the point of the elbow.

Cadets Canada. (2005). CATO 55-04: Royal Canadian Air Cadet Dress Instructions. In Cadet Administrative and Training Orders Vol. 5). Ottawa. ON

Figure 3 Flight Corporal Rank Badge

SERGEANT (SGT)

Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Sergeant after completing six months of service at the rank of Flight Corporal and successfully completing Proficiency Level Three.

The Sergeant rank badge has three chevrons. When worn on the jacket it is worn on the upper sleeves, centred midway between the shoulder seam and the point of the elbow.

adapted from Rank Badges, retrieved 30 Mar 2006 from http://www.cadets.ca/aircad/resources-ressources/symbols/air_pages_all/air_rank.html

Figure 4 Sergeant Rank Badge

FLIGHT SERGEANT (FSGT)

Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Flight Sergeant after completing six months of service at the rank of Sergeant and successfully completing Proficiency Level Four.

The Flight Sergeant rank badge has three chevrons and a crown. When worn on the jacket it is worn on the upper sleeves, centred midway between the shoulder seam and the point of the elbow.

adapted from Rank Badges, retrieved 30 Mar 2006 from http://www.cadets.ca/aircad/resources-ressources/symbols/air_pages_all/air_rank.html

Figure 5 Flight Sergeant Rank Badge

WARRANT OFFICER SECOND CLASS (WOII)

Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Warrant Officer Second Class after completing six months of service at the substantive rank of Flight Sergeant and being identified as a successful candidate through the merit review board process.

The Warrant Officer Second Class badge is a crown encircled by a wreath. When worn on the jacket it is worn on the lower sleeves, centred midway between the bottom of the cuff and the point of the elbow.

adapted from Rank Badges, retrieved 30 Mar 2006 from http://www.cadets.ca/aircad/resources-ressources/symbols/air_pages_all/air_rank.html

Figure 6 Warrant Officer Second Class Rank Badge

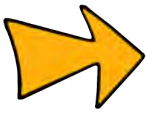
WARRANT OFFICER FIRST CLASS (WOI)

Warrant Officer First Class is the highest rank a cadet may achieve. Cadets may be recommended for promotion to the rank of Warrant Officer First Class after completing six months of service at the substantive rank of Warrant Officer Second Class and being identified as a successful candidate through the merit review board process.

The Warrant Officer First Class badge is the Canadian Coat of Arms. When worn on the jacket it is worn on the lower sleeves, centred midway between the bottom of the cuff and the point of the elbow.

adapted from Rank Badges, retrieved 30 Mar 2006 from http://www.cadets.ca/aircad/resources-ressources/symbols/air_pages_all/air_rank.html

Figure 7 Warrant Officer First Class Rank Badge



Ranks are also worn as slip-ons on the all-season jacket and the short sleeve shirt. Slip-ons are worn on both shoulders.

Bringing the badges and/or slip-ons into the classroom to hand around for the cadets to look at would add an element of realism to the class.

CONFIRMATION OF TEACHING POINT 1

QUESTIONS:

Q1. What is the highest rank a cadet may achieve?

Q2. Which rank has three chevrons?

Q3. To what rank is a cadet promoted to upon completion of five months of training?

ANTICIPATED ANSWERS:

A1. Warrant Officer First Class.

A2. Sergeant.

A3. Leading Air Cadet.

Teaching Point 2 **Conduct an air cadet ranks activity.**

Time: 5 min Method: In-Class Activity

ACTIVITY

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this activity is for cadets to become familiar with air cadet ranks.

RESOURCES

- One air cadet rank slip-on per cadet. There can be more than one cadet with the same rank).
- Tape.

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Tape one rank to the back of each cadet (the cadet does not get to see the rank that is on their back).
2. Have the cadets walk around and ask other cadets yes or no questions to determine what rank they are wearing. For example, “Do I have two chevrons?” The cadet has to determine from the answers to their questions what rank they are.
3. The cadets can only ask one question to each of the other cadets. They cannot ask the same cadet more than one question to determine what rank they are. This will ensure the cadets are interacting fully with the other members of the class.
4. Once cadets have determined what rank they think they are, have them form a group with any other cadets who are the same rank, if there are any.
5. After 10 minutes, have the cadets split into their rank groups. They will then present what rank they think they are based on the information they received. For example, if a group has determined they have only two chevrons on their back, they would present themselves as the corporal group / individual.

SAFETY

Nil.

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Nil.

Teaching Point 3 **Identify RCAF officer ranks.**

Time: 10 min Method: Interactive Lecture

The instructor should make the cadets aware that they will not usually encounter senior or general officers at the squadron. However, some larger squadrons may have a major as the commanding officer. More emphasis should be placed on the subordinate and junior officers during the lesson.

SUBORDINATE OFFICER – OFFICER CADET

The officer cadet rank is identified by one thin gold braid.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 8 Officer Cadet Rank

JUNIOR OFFICERS

Once an officer is promoted to the rank second lieutenant they become a commissioned member of the Canadian Forces. Receiving a commission means that a person has been recognized by the monarchy (Queen or King) to serve as an officer.

SECOND LIEUTENANT (2LT)

The rank of Second Lieutenant is identified by one thick gold braid.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 9 Second Lieutenant Rank

LIEUTENANT (LT)

The rank of Lieutenant is identified by one thick gold braid, with one thin gold braid on top of it.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 10 Lieutenant Rank

CAPTAIN (CAPT)

The rank of Captain is identified by two thick gold braids.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 11 Captain Rank

SENIOR OFFICERS

MAJOR (MAJ)

The rank of Major is identified by two thick gold braids with one thin gold braid in between.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 12 Major Rank

LIEUTENANT COLONEL (LCOL)

The rank of Lieutenant Colonel is identified by three thick gold braids.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 13 Lieutenant Colonel Rank

COLONEL (COL)

The rank of Colonel is identified by four thick gold braids.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 14 Colonel Rank

GENERAL OFFICERS

General officers are unique in that there are two manners to distinguish their ranks. All four of these ranks will wear one extra thick braid on the sleeve of their dress uniform. To distinguish between the four general ranks, there are differences in their epaulettes. All of the epaulettes will have a crown over a crossed sabre and baton, with the distinguishing feature being the number of maple leafs under the swords.

BRIGADIER GENERAL (BGEN)

The rank of Brigadier General is identified by one maple leaf under the swords.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 15 Brigadier General Rank

MAJOR GENERAL (MGEN)

The rank of Major General is identified by two maple leafs under the swords.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 16 Major General Rank

LIEUTENANT GENERAL (LGEN)

The rank of Lieutenant General is identified by three maple leafs in a triangular pattern under the swords.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 17 Lieutenant General Rank

GENERAL (GEN)

The rank of General is identified by four maple leafs in a diamond pattern under the swords.

www.forces.gc.ca/site/Community/insignia/aira_e.asp

Figure 18 General Rank

CONFIRMATION OF TEACHING POINT 3

QUESTIONS:

Q1. What is the lowest rank that an air officer may hold?

Q2. Which rank has two thick gold braids?

Q3. How many braids does a Lieutenant wear?

ANTICIPATED ANSWERS:

A1. Officer Cadet.

A2. Captain.

A3. One narrow and one wide braid.

Teaching Point 4 **Conduct an RCAF officer ranks activity.**

Time: 5 min Method: In-Class Activity

ACTIVITY – RANK TRADE

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this activity is for cadets to become familiar with the air officer ranks.

RESOURCES

One RCAF officer slip-on per cadet.

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Distribute one slip-on to each cadet.
2. Have the cadets introduce their rank to another cadet. When both cadets have introduced their ranks, they will trade slip-ons. Repeat so that each cadet has traded with three different cadets.
3. Have the cadets form groups based on the ranks they are holding.
4. Direct the groups to form a line of ranks in ascending order.

SAFETY

Nil.

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Nil.

END OF LESSON CONFIRMATION

The cadets' participation in the activities will serve as confirmation of this lesson.

CONCLUSION

HOMEWORK / READING / PRACTICE

Nil.

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Nil.

CLOSING STATEMENT

Every member of the squadron has a rank. It is important to be able to recognize cadets and officers by their rank in order to demonstrate the proper respect. Practicing rank recognition and knowing the officers at the squadron is vital for cadets to be able to serve as a member of the squadron. Rank recognition is the first step in knowing and following the chain-of-command.

INSTRUCTOR NOTES / REMARKS

Nil.

REFERENCES

A0-149 CATO 13-02 Director Cadets 4. (2009). *Cadet rank promotions*. Ottawa, ON: Department of National Defence.

A3-005 QR&O 3.01 Departments of National Defence. (2006). *QR&O 3.01: Ranks and designation of rank*. In Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Canadian Forces (Vol. 1, Ch 3). Ottawa, ON.