

2444 Kings County RCACC Wins Starthcona Trophy



One of the WNSR affiliated Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps has been awarded the Strathcona Trophy as the Best Army Cadet Corps in Nova Scotia. What's more is that this corp has won that award in each of the last three years that it was awarded. That corps is 2444 Kings County RCACC in Camp Aldershot. On 5 November 2014 at the Aldershot Drill Hall where the corps parades, Maj (Retd) Ken Hynes, Past President of the Army Cadet League of Nova Scotia, presented the prestigious trophy. There are 28 Army Cadet Corps in communities across Nova Scotia, and 2444 Corps is among the largest in the province at about 70 cadets between the ages of 12 and 18.

Asked what the secret is to maintaining such high numbers, especially among those aged 16 to 18, Captain Mandy Forbes, the Corps' Commanding Officer, says, "We engage them and have them be part of the planning, ask their opinions, give them leadership roles, and let them lead as much as possible."

Matching summer training opportunities and responsibilities at the unit with the cadets' personal interests helps also. Holding youth accountable, and allowing them to make mistakes works well under guidance from Captain Forbes and her staff.