

THE ARMY CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



ACLC BC Branch The Major Charles Whisker Award Volunteer of the Year

Background

This award was established in memory of Major Charles Whisker, CD. Born in Nanaimo, BC, in 1938, Charles had a passion for learning and earned his Master of Education from the University of Victoria. He began his career with the Nanaimo School District in 1962.

Charles was actively involved in the community, serving as a member of the 257 Royal Canadian Legion, Lodge 110 of the Masons, the Canadian Frontiersmen, and St. John's Ambulance. He had a strong commitment to the Army Cadet Program and proudly served as Commanding Officer of the 2422 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (RCACC). Later, he served as the Area Cadet Liaison Officer for Vancouver Island, achieving the rank of Major after 17 years of service.

This award is a tribute to the profound impact of Major Charles Whisker's dedication to volunteerism, a legacy that continues to inspire us. He passed away in 2006.

Scope

The Army Cadet League of Canada, British Columbia Branch, will annually recognize one deserving volunteer who has demonstrated leadership, initiative, mentorship, and dedication to supporting the Army Cadet Program in their community. The award is called the ACLC (BC) Major Charles Whisker Outstanding Volunteer of the Year. The recipient of the Major Charles Whisker Award will also be nominated on behalf of the ACLC BC Branch for the ACLC League Member of the Year.

Eligibility

The award is open to anyone involved in and volunteering with the Army Cadet Program. Nominees must have volunteered with the Army Cadet Program for at least 5 years. This award is not limited to Support Committee Executives or Regular/Reserve Force volunteers, but to anyone involved with the ACLC BC Branch. Members of the CIC and Civilian Instructor are not eligible for this award. Volunteers must exhibit personal qualities that serve as role models for other members and cadets. A volunteer may receive this award more than once.

Nominations

Support Committee and Army Cadet League Members in good standing, the Corps Commanding Officer, or other DND staff members of the Cadet Corps can submit a nomination. Nominations, in the form of an official letter, should be submitted via the following link by January 31, 2027:

<https://form.jotform.com/253156179423257>. Recognizing outstanding volunteers is a meaningful way to honour their contributions and inspire others.

The nomination letter should showcase qualities that inspire pride, such as initiative, teamwork, responsibility, role modeling, leadership, youth development, planning, communication, energy, flexibility, reliability, commitment, and selflessness.

Nomination Board

Nominations for the Major Charles Whisker Award are due 31 January 2026. Once the nominations are received, the ACLC BC Branch Honour and Award Committee will hold a nomination board. If a tie occurs during the nomination process, the President of the ACLC BC Branch will cast the deciding vote to determine the award winner.

Presentation

The ACLC(BC) Major Charles Whisker Award will be presented to the winner at a function arranged by the ACLC(BC). At the time of presentation, the recipient will receive a commemorative plaque representing the award.

Previous Recipients

2007 Sgt D Bachmier
2008 Mcpl. S Clark
2009 Mike & Cheryl Godsiff
2010 Tracy Fetters
2010 Jackie & Lorna Deveau
2011 Cathy Bach
2012 Bonnie Banman
2013 Jan Webb
2014 Shannon Ryland
2015 Maija Dadds
2016 Christine Alexander
2017 Crystal Sheridan
2018 Harminder Palak
2019 Jennifer Williams
2020 Michael Johnson
2021 Ms. Shelley Johnson-Gould
2022 Ms. Wendy Yamazaki
2023 Ms. Caroline Hopper
2024 Ms. Lynnette Deaton
2025 Mr. Chris Adams