

THE ARMY CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



ACLBC BC Branch The Major Sam Meckbach Top Para Award in BC

Background

This award was created in memory of Major Sam Meckbach. Sam began his military career in 1956 with the High School Cadet Corps #109 in Ingersoll, Ontario. He attended cadet leadership and communication courses in London, Ipperwash, and Blackdown and attended the Banff National Cadet Camp in 1960. He joined 3 RCR in 1959 and attended Officer Training in Borden. Sam served with 1 and 2nd Battalion of the Canadian Guards, 2 PPCLI in NW Europe, the Combat Training Center in Gagetown, NB, 2 Commando in Edmonton, and then 3 PPCLI in Victoria. In 1985, Sam left the Regular Force and joined the 11 Svc Bn as their DCO. He then volunteered to become the C Coy commander at the Vernon CTC and later as the DCO. This led to his appointment of Commanding Officer of 3005 RCACC in Victoria. In 2011, Sam was privileged to take the National Rifle Team to Bisley, UK. Sam also commanded CTC Whitehorse in 2005 and in 2006. Sam was the graduate of many courses-Staff College in Kingston, Ontario, the US Ranger Course, the Australian Jungle Warfare Course, and the Royal Marine UK High Angle Training. Sam retired in 2007 after 48 years of Regular and Reserve Force Service. Sam then began volunteering with the ACLBC BC Branch and served as the Executive Director. He passed away in 2012. This award was created for the many years Sam dedicated to the Army Cadet Program.

Scope

The Army Cadet League of Canada, British Columbia Branch will recognize annually, one deserving cadet in the Pacific Region that has graduated from the Canadian Armed Forces Basic Parachute Course. The award is called the Major Sam Meckbach Top Para Award.

Eligibility

The winner of this award must have completed the Pre-para course and successfully completed the Basic Parachute Course at the Canadian Armed Forces Parachute School. The following criteria shall be used as a basis for selecting the top cadet:

- Dress & Deportment
- Willingness to accept duties & responsibilities
- Demonstration of leadership qualities
- Participation in off-duty programmes & activities
- Exceptional physical fitness and endurance
- Course activity
- Support his/her peers
- Embodies the spirit of teamwork

Nominations

Nominations for this award will be provided from the RCSU(P). RCSU(P) will provide the name and Cadet Corps of the top Cadet in the Pacific Region that has completed the Basic Parachute Course. This name is due to the ACLC BC Branch by 01 October of the nomination year.

Presentation

The ACLC(BC) Major Sam Meckbach Top Para Award will be presented to the winner at a function arranged by the ACLC(BC). The recipient of the award will be given a commemoration trophy representing the award at the time of presentation.

