

# CANADIAN FORCES LEADERSHIPAND RECRUIT SCHOOL

# BASIC MILITARY QUALIFICATION(BMQ) JOINING INSTRUCTIONS $\underline{DETACHMENT\ BORDEN}$

VERSION 1.00 July 2023

# **Record of changes**

Identification of change		tion of change	Description of change(s)
	Date	Version #	
Ju	ly 2023	V 1.00	Major release, incorporating new CFLRS JI with Borden practices.



I would like to congratulate you on being selected as a candidate for the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School. As School Commandant, I extend my personal greetings to you. The purpose of this information booklet is to help you prepare and be ready for your new environment.

Your experience here will be like no other. The courses are physically and mentally demanding and you will be challenged to constantly push your limits. Be open-minded, curious, respectful, and apply maximum effort. The knowledge you acquire and the contacts you make will be useful to you throughout your entire career as a member of the Profession of Arms.

I wish you the best of luck!

LCol C.L. Wong, CD Commandant CFLRS

#### **CFLRS Mission**

1. The Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School's (CFLRS) mission is to shape, instruct and inspire candidates using innovative training methods geared towards resilience and transformational leadership to prepare them for their professional service in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

#### **Military Values**

2. During training, you will be introduced to the CAF military values that form the pillars of your service as a future member. These are: **Loyalty, Integrity, Courage, Excellence, Inclusion, and Accountability**. You will be expected to always demonstrate and adhere to these values which can be found in CAF Ethos: Trusted to Serve.

# **Expected Behaviour**

3. Harassing, sexist, racist, or discriminatory behaviour contradicts CAF values and will not be tolerated. Violators may face disciplinary and/or administrative measures up to release from the CAF.

#### **Preparing for Basic Training**

- 4. Your recruiting centre or unit should have given you an overview of the training that you are about to begin. It is essential that you are ready, focused and, motivated.
  - a. Prepare yourself physically, it is strongly recommended you arrive physically fit and ready to undergo the training. Adopt a healthy lifestyle with a regular physical training program.
     Examples of what you should be able to sustain daily can be found in annex D. To help candidates adequately prepare for the fitness challenges of basic training a 12-week pre-Basic Military Training (BMT) program can be found here.
  - b. **Prepare yourself mentally,** Basic Training is designed to apply stress to candidates and assess their capacity to work under pressure in a variety of different environments. To prepare: practice mindfulness, meditation, or stress management techniques. If you are unaware how to prepare mentally, the CAF Road to Mental Readiness (R2MR) app can be found here.
  - c. If any local, municipal, or provincial elections are expected to take place during your training at CFLRS, it is highly recommended that you inquire about voting by anticipation. Alternative voting methods may not be available during your training.
  - d. Avoid any major financial or contractual commitments that may require your attention during the course. Ensure that your personal and family administration is in good hands before your departure and for the entire duration of the course.
  - e. If your medical condition changes advise your recruiting centre, your unit, or your ULO as soon as possible. You will be held responsible if you fail to do so.

#### **Basic Training Description**

5. Basic training provides the knowledge that is common to all trades and elements. It develops a military state of mind, professional conduct, mental and physical endurance, and the skills necessary for the profession of arms. The training is both physically and mentally demanding; prepare yourself accordingly.

Note: Keep in mind that basic training is just the first step of your military career. Depending on your trade, you may have up to two more years of training at other schools before you go to your first unit.

6. Throughout your training you will learn (among other skills) basic military discipline, drill, weapons handling, first aid and, how to react and protect yourself by using a gas mask. The course is composed of 67% classroom training with study and theoretical exams, 15% field training with practical exams, and 18% devoted to physical training.

#### **Course Types**

- 7. CFLRS provides distinct training packages that are tailored to meet the requirements of the specific program of candidate enrollment. The training offered at CFLRS is generic across all three CAF environments (Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Navy, and Royal Canadian Air Force) and no distinction is made based upon Military Occupational Classification (MOC). CFLRS provides training in two geographic locations:
  - a. Saint-Jean Garrison in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec;
  - b. CFB Borden in Borden, Ontario.

At Detachment Borden, only one type of training is offered by CFLRS:

a. Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) (8 weeks);

# **Basic Military Qualification Course**

8. The BMQ is the CAF basic training program for future non-commissioned members. The course is 8 weeks long and provides the core skills and common military knowledge required to succeed in a military environment such as those mentioned in paragraph 6.

#### **Fitness Evaluations**

9. Candidates will undergo several different physical fitness events throughout basic training and will be tested twice: the screening fitness test and the FORCES Test. Failure to meet either of these standards will result in a transfer to the Training Reintegration Platoon where you will undergo intensive and personalized physical training to achieve the minimum passing standard. Explanations on either test can be found in annex D – Candidate Information.

#### **Arrival Times**

- 10. BMQ: you must report for duty no earlier than 1000 hrs and no later than 1600 hrs on the Wednesday preceding the course. Certain candidates arriving by commercial travel are the exception.
- 11. Detailed instructions on how to get to CFLRS Det Borden can be found in Annex A Arrival Procedures

#### **Indoctrination Period**

12. Candidates will have restricted free time for the first three weekends after arrival, with training scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays. This period helps to inculcate military discipline, develop basic skills, facilitates integration to military life, and develops cohesion among the members. After this initial period, requests for leave on the weekend will be granted depending upon your training performance.

#### **Garrison Confinement**

13. Weekend leave is dependent on performance, attitude, and success at absorbing the course material. The chain of command will always have final approval to allow weekend leave. It is possible your training platoon can be confined to base for remedial training and tasks. Confinement may also be possible if national level security risks have been identified by higher command.

#### **Dress and Deportment**

- 14. When you arrive at CFLRS, you must wear appropriate attire to walk long distances when conducting your arrival procedures. Collared shirts, comfortable pants (or equivalent) and practical footwear are required.
  - a. Nails according to the Canadian Armed Forces Dress Instructions, there are no restrictions regarding the nails of CAF members. However, this shall not affect a candidate's ability to complete training. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that nails be kept short to safely perform strenuous physical training, weapons handling and other activities requiring increased dexterity;
  - b. Hair no restrictions are placed upon CAF members' hairstyles. However, the wearing of the beret is mandatory. Therefore, candidates must consider choosing a hairstyle that will allow for the beret to be properly worn. The largest available size for the beret is size 8½;
    - Note: despite no restriction placed on hairstyles, Dress Instructions emphasize that hairstyles cannot impede the operational effectiveness of CAF members, such as the wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE) or interfere with effective camouflage.
  - c. Jewelry the wearing of jewelry is allowed for candidates during training. It is recommended that candidates limit or reduce the size of the jewelry and body adornments they wear throughout training as they may cause additional stress or injuries. For safety reasons, only flexible jewelry (ex: silicone wedding bands) will be allowed during physical training; and
    - Note: staff in charge of the training activity retain the right to deem jewelry or body adornments unsafe and require their temporary removal to ensure training can be done safely. The CAF will not pay for the replacement of jewelry or body adornments if they are lost or damaged.
  - d. Routine during training, limited time is allowed for personal hygiene. The amount of time allotted will be the same for all candidates, without regard for personal needs that result from the choice of a specific hairstyle, nail styling, application of makeup products, etc.
- 15. If you are required or haven chosen to wear religious items or clothing, the Canadian Forces Dress Instructions, <u>Chapter 2</u>, <u>Section 3</u> contains guidance on the standards for religious dress in the CAF. If you cannot find entries that reflect your religious dress, you can make accommodation requests through your instructors when you arrive at CFLRS.

#### **Kit List and Required Documentation**

- 16. Other than the clothing described in paragraph 20, candidates are required to bring a plain backpack and a water bottle. These items will be essential in your first week as your training platoon will be transiting repeatedly, on foot, throughout most of the garrison. A complete kit list for items to bring with you and items that will be issued to you can be found in Annex B.
- 17. The first days of Basic Training consist largely of administration and onboarding where you will be required to provide a large amount of documentation. The complete list can be found in Annex B. Some of these documents are essential for your security clearance. Ensure you do not forget any of those listed or else it will cause substantial delays in acquiring your security clearance and will delay your career progression.
- 18. Those who have already been issued military kit must arrive with military equipment listed in Annex B. Items on the list not previously issued will be issued upon arrival.

#### **Prohibited Items**

- 19. Firearms or edged weapons (i.e., knives with a blade longer than 4 inches);
- 20. Any form of stimulant (such as energy drinks, pre-workout supplement, ephedrine, caffeine pills, etc.);
- 21. Items with sexual connotations (magazines, photos, DVD, accessories, etc.); and

22. Food (including protein powder) and drinks (in the platoon barracks).

#### **Restricted Items**

23. All electronic devices (cellular phones, Smart Watches, MP3 players, tablets, laptops, etc.). Your platoon staff will give you specific guidance on when they may be used; and

Note: you are responsible for any damage to your electronic devices if you choose to bring them.

24. Personal vehicles will be restricted to weekend use if leave has been granted.

# **Baggage**

- 25. Extra baggage is authorized as outlined in the Canadian Forces Temporary Duty Travel Instructions.
- 26. Unaccompanied baggage (UAB) must be authorized by the member's home unit. All UAB must be shipped **four weeks** prior to the commencement of the course to ensure its availability upon candidate arrival.

#### Policy on Alcohol, Cannabis, and other Drugs

- 27. Upon your arrival at CFLRS, possession and consumption of alcohol and cannabis is prohibited. More details regarding the acceptable use of alcohol and cannabis will be provided during the first days of your course.
- 28. To avoid confiscation of your medications you must have a copy of your prescription (included in the required documentation, found in annex D). For all other medications they must be in **new**, **sealed containers**.
- 29. Any activities linked to illegal drugs (possession, consumption, commerce, etc.) are not tolerated. Violators may face disciplinary and/or administrative measures up to release from the CAF.

#### **Policy on Training Accommodation Requests**

- 30. In accordance with the Defense Administrative Orders and Directives (DAOD) 5003-0 *Restrictions on Duty and Individual Limitations*, DAOD 5023-1 *Minimum Operation Standards Related to the Universality of Service*, and all other accommodation-related references, CFLRS will take all reasonable steps to provide accommodation requests by a candidate while at the training establishment (TE). However, due consideration will be given to the mission and resources of the TE prior to approving any accommodations request.
- 31. Transgender candidates may make request in accordance with CF Military Personnel Instruction 01/19 *Transgender Guidance*. The accommodations granted should aim at facilitating the integration and the success of the person making the request while complying with the Minimum Operational Standards as illustrated in the DAOD 5023-1. The final decision regarding accommodation measures rests with the Commandant of CFLRS;
- 32. Religious or spiritual accommodations, such as dietary practices, dress and deportment, medical requirements and religious or spiritual practices can be requested in accordance with the DAOD 5516-3, *Religious or Spiritual Accommodation*. The final decision regarding accommodation measures rests with the Commanding Officer of CFLRS, except for what is already covered by the *CAF Dress Instructions*, Chapter 2, Section 3; and
- 33. Accommodations for learning disabilities can be requested in accordance with the DAOD 5516-5, *Learning Disability Accommodation during Recruiting, Training and Education*. All accommodation requests must be approved by the Director Personnel Generation Requirements. If a candidate requesting an accommodation for a learning disability is in possession of a psycho-educational assessment completed by a qualified specialist, they must provide it to training staff to ensure that the accommodation requests meet the needs of the identified disability.

#### **Rations and Quarters**

34. When CAF members are housed in military quarters (as you will be during your stay at CFLRS), rates are deducted from their pay to cover the costs of rations and quarters. If you have dependents (such as a spouse, children, or other family members that live with and depends on you), you will not be deducted the quarters fee. The fees will be deducted automatically each month from your pay, which is then reimbursed as a taxable benefit at the end of each month:

#### Website

35. For more information, please visit the CFLRS website and CFB Borden website

#### Annexes

- A. Arrival Procedures
- B. Kit List and Required Documents
- C. Candidate Information

#### **Transportation Methods**

1. There are two methods to get to Canadian Forces Base Borden: commercial transportation or personal vehicle. Your method of travel must be coordinated with your local recruiting centre or your home unit before you depart for training.

# **Commercial Transport**

- 2. This method includes airplane, train, bus and, taxis. Candidates arriving by commercial transport will transit through Toronto Pearson Airport. Upon arrival, an instructor will be waiting for you and transport will be arranged from Pearson Airport to CFB Borden. Move to the assembly point in the vicinity of the domestic baggage carousel. A military member in uniform will be waiting just outside the baggage collection point between 0900 and 1600 hrs on the Wednesday of arrival.
- 3. Candidates living in the Toronto area can travel by personal means to Toronto Pearson Airport to take the shuttle bus at the prescribed hours. It is important that you inform your recruiting centre of your intentions for coordination purposes.
- 4. If the shuttle bus or instructor is not present at the designated hours, contact the Det Borden Platoon WO (Sgt McCaffrey) at (519)-981-6135 or the Ops Sgt (Sgt An) at (416) 568-9110 for further instructions.

#### **Taxicab**

5. When DND transport cannot be arranged, candidates who arrive at the airport before 0500 hrs or after 1500 hrs are allowed to travel to Det Borden by taxi, at a cost of \$120 refundable with proof of payment.

#### Personal Motor Vehicle

6. If you or a family member are driving to CFLRS Det Borden, directions to CFB Borden can be found on any GPS or navigation app. If, however, you do not have access to any of these please refer to the maps provided in this annex.

#### **Physical Address**

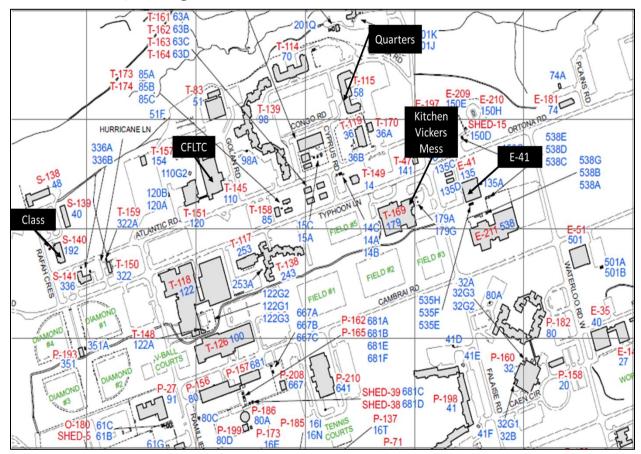
7. GPS: 65f Atlantic Rd, CFB Borden, Ontario.

MGRS: 17NK 88023 03526. Lat/Long: 44.279679 -79.896908.

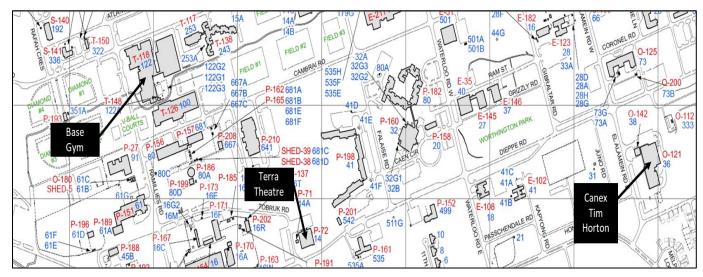
#### **Reporting for Duty**

- 8. If you are arriving by shuttle bus, staff on the bus will provide direction to you.
- 9. If you are arriving by personal transport or by taxicab, you will report to the Main Door of building E-41.
- 10. Once you arrive your instruction staff will be waiting to initiate the intake procedures, follow their directions.

#### CFB Borden - BMQ Training Area



#### CFB Borden - Services Area



# Kit List

1. Candidates must report to CFLRS Det Borden with the following items:

Civilian clothing	Qty
Seasonal jacket	1
Business Casual pants or clean jeans	2
without holes (no leggings or	
"athleisure")	
Business Casual dress shirt or polo shirt	3
Business Casual sweater (fall to spring)	2
Pair of casual dress shoes (comfortable)	1
Underwear	6
Sports socks	4
Pair of running shoes (non-marking soles)	1
Athletic T-shirt	2
Athletic shorts	2
Bath towel	1
Bathing suit (for aquatic sports)	1
Sports bras as needed (3 for PT and 3 for	6
daily use)	
Mandatory items available at CANEX	Qty
Shoeshine kit (KIWI brand) to include:	1
-Black polish (1.5 oz/31 g)	
-Soft cloth	
-applicator brush	
-soft boot brush	
Combination padlocks	4
Key padlock	2
Bands for combat pants	2 sets
Plastic hangers	20
Towels, must be dark green:	1 each
-bath towel 25x50 inches	
-hand towel 16x28 inches	
-facecloth 13x13 inches	
Lint brush	1
Mouthwash	1
Laundry Soap max size 2.5L	1
Fabric softener sheets (IE Bounce)	1 box
Reusable Shopping Bag	1

Other necessary articles	Qty
Water-resistant sports watch	1
Pair of shower sandals	1
Soap dish and toothbrush case (white)	1
Toothbrush	1
Tooth paste size 120 ml	1
Soap bar	1
Dental floss	1
Razor with blades (non-disposable)	1
Shaving cream max size 311g	1
Deodorant	1
Shampoo (max 750 ml)	1
Hairbrush (if required)	1
Backpack (plain coloured)	1
Water bottle	1
Hairnet and Hairpins	
Female Candidate Specific Items	Qty
Menstruation products	*
PH balanced wipes	*
Birth control	*
Period swimwear	1
Regular (non-sports) bras	3
Optional Items	Qty
Portable personal computer	
Headphones	
Reading material	
Water bottle Dry shampoo	

# • \* Items: in sufficient quantity for the duration of the course.

#### **Notes on Female Candidate Specific Items**

2. Menstruation Hygiene Products and PH Balanced Wipes. Candidates who need these products should always have them with them while at CFLRS. The stress of a new environment and change of daily habits can cause your period to start unexpectedly so you need to be prepared with the required items. It is recommended to always have 2-3 tampons or pads, PH balanced wipe and a clean pair of underwear in a waterproof bag starting on your first day of training.

Note: Menstrual cups are permitted while in garrison, however, they are not recommended during field training as availability of clean water in the field training environment may not guarantee the resources necessary to properly clean the cup regularly and would be extremely unhygienic.

- 3. During the field phase of training, candidates who menstruate should continue to carry their emergency period kit in a waterproof bag including pads / tampons, PH balanced wipes and spare underwear. This bag should be kept in your pocket or patrol pack as your rucksack may be loaded in the truck for transportation to and from the field and would therefore be inaccessible.
- 4. Birth Control. If you are using birth control that requires prescription medication, you should bring enough to cover the duration of your course and one additional month to get to your next training location. You must bring all prescriptions with you to your immunization appointment at the MIR to be added to your medical profile for refills.
- 5. Period Swimwear. For menstruating candidates who do not wish to use tampons, specialty designed period swimwear is an option as you are required to participate in all pool PT classes, even while on your period.
- 6. Regular (Non-Sports) Bras. Sports bras are recommended during training due to the physical nature of many activities beyond the PT classes. Laundry will be washed daily but it's advised to arrive prepared with sufficient brasiers for your week of training. This is helpful since you could have multiple physical training activities during the day which require showering and a change of clothes.

#### **Notes on Optional Items**

- 7. Hair Net and Hairpins. Candidates with hair extended below the collar of their shirt will be required to ensure their hair is secure during certain training events for safety or operation reasons.
- 8. Dry Shampoo. During field training, showers and fresh water may not always be available. Dry shampoo can be used to absorb naturally occurring oils and clean your hair during this phase of training.

# Military Kit

9. The following military kit will be issued upon arrival. Those that have already been issued this kit must have it in their possession for the course:

Work Dress		
Beret	2	
Combat trousers CADPAT	3	
Combat shirt CADPAT	3	
Combat T-shirt	5	
Combat underwear	5	
Combat socks black	5	
Combat socks green	5	
Pairs of combat boots	2	
Cold wet weather boots	1	
(Gore-Tex)		
ICE jacket	1	
Wind pants	1	
Rain jacket	1	
Rain pants	1	
Thermal undershirt	2	
Thermal underwear	2	
Bush cap	1	
Combat toque	1	
Kit bag	2	
Winter Kit (Required 31 Oct – 1 May)		
Combat parka	1	
Parka bib pants	1	
Boot, mukluk	1	
Duffle socks, mukluk	2	
Polar fleece shirt	2	
Polar fleece pants	2	
Suspenders	1	
Insert arctic mitt	1	
Shell, arctic mitt	1	
Thermos canteen 1L	1	
Balaclava white	1	

Fighting Order	
Helmet with cover	1
Tactical Vest	1
Ballistic Eyewear	1
Combat gloves	1
Mortar gloves	1
Bayonet carrier	1
Gas mask carrier with	1
shoulder strap	
Gas mask	1
Water bottle 1L	1
Cup canteen water bottle 1L	1
Water canteen 2L with	1
cover and sling	
Flashlight	1
Field Kit	
Rucksack	1
Patrol pack	1
Valise	1
Air mattress with bag	1
Utility sheet (groundsheet)	1
Bivy bag	1
Liner sleeping bag	1
Hood sleeping bag	1
Outer sleeping bag	1
Inner sleeping bag	1
Wash basin	1

Distinctive Environmental Uniform	
(DEU)	
(Not req for CHSC or Mil Col BMOQ)	
Oxford shoes (officers only)	2
CF tunic	1
CF trousers	2
CF shirt short sleeve	3
CF shirt long sleeve	2
CF sweater	1
CF necktie	1
CF belt, black	1
CF socks, black	3
Ankle boots	1
CF raincoat	1
CF gabardine	1*
CF parka	1*
CF gloves	1*
CF scarf	1*
CF wool toque	1*
*Items: Required 31 Oct – 1 May	

Air Force Personnel Only	
Wedge	1
Jacket, wet weather, Gore-Tex blue	1

Navy Personnel Only	
Peaked cap, white (unisex)	1
CF Hat, bowler, white (women)	1

#### **Required Documents**

- 10. The following documents are required on arrival and some are essential for your security clearance:
  - a. birth certificate and Certificate of Canadian Citizenship, Permanent Residency Card or Certificate of Naturalization if you were born outside Canada;
  - b. proof of name change (certified true copy);
  - c. <u>COMPLETED</u> security clearance form (TBS 330-60 request for Secret or Top Secret) obtained from your recruiting centre;
  - d. CF 100 Leave Request Authorization provided by your recruiting centre;
  - e. CF 742 Emergency Contact Notification and DND 2587 Next of Kin Identification you're your recruiting centre;
  - f. social insurance (SIN) paperwork;
  - g. void cheque (for pay purposes); and
  - h. your lease with a recent proof of ongoing payment or proof of mortgage.
- 11. The following documents are required where applicable:
  - a. medical prescriptions;
  - b. eyeglass prescriptions (prescribed within last year). It is strongly recommended to bring two (2) pairs of glasses;
  - c. vaccination booklet. IMPORTANT NOTE: vaccine proofs must be in paper format so that the hospital can enter them into their system;
  - d. birth certificates for any dependents (certified true copy);
  - e. marriage certificate (certified true copy);
  - f. affidavit respecting your common-law relationship (original);
  - g. certificate of divorce (certified true copy);
  - h. proof of change in medical status;
  - i. DND 1654 (reimbursement of moving expenses);
  - j. DND 279 FORCE Program, proof of evaluation (for CHSC Reservist candidates if possible);
  - k. CF-100 for post-course leave from your home unit;
  - 1. route letter (Reservist); and
  - m. second language evaluation results (<a href="http://www.psc-cfp.gc.ca/ppc-cpp/test-examen-result/result-eng.htm">http://www.psc-cfp.gc.ca/ppc-cpp/test-examen-result/result-eng.htm</a>)

#### Overview

- 1. This annex is designed to address frequent questions and concerns for candidates arriving at CFLRS for Basic Training.
- 2. When you first arrive, it is expected that you will know absolutely nothing about the military. So don't stress. So long as you show up at the right place on time, the staff will take you from there. As the weeks progress, however, and you learn new skills, the standard that you will be expected to maintain increases, so don't let up.

#### **Teamwork**

- 3. The key to a successful Basic Training lies in your teamwork with your platoon mates. Unlike the movies, there are no super-soldiers that fight alone. Even Canada's Special Forces fight as a team, from their front-line assaulters to their support and operations staff behind the lines. If you have never worked as a team, you will be introduced to this dynamic in the first week of the course and will get plenty of practical experience.
- 4. You will be joining a platoon of people from all over Canada of different ages, genders, backgrounds and, lifestyles and will need to learn to work together despite your differences. You will succeed and fail as a team. Take this concept to heart. Don't leave anyone behind.
- 5. The CAF defends all Canadians regardless of their background without exception. As such, enrollment in the CAF is open to all Canadians. This organization represents a cross section of Canadian Society. Your differences present a unique strength through different ways of thinking and doing things. Be open to suggestions and listen to your platoon mates. **Discrimination on any ground is not accepted and has no place in the CAF.**

#### **Preparation**

6. There is no perfect way to prepare for basic training, but you should be aware of a few things. Your sleep, exercise, and nutritional habits will change. Generally, it is recommended to exercise for one hour per day, but on course you will be much more active. Try to get into a routine of walking, exercising, and going to bed on a regular schedule. This will help prevent injuries and aid in mental health. You can consult the following Facebook <u>page</u> for more ideas.

#### **Physical Readiness**

- 7. It cannot be stressed enough that you prepare physically **before** your arrival on course. **Do not use the course to get you into shape**. If you fail the screening Test or the FORCE test, you will be transferred to the Training Reintegration Platoon (TRP) and delay your graduation. Furthermore, statistics have shown that candidates who arrive physically unfit succumb to injury much more frequently than those who maintain an elevated level of fitness. If you are injured, you will be transferred to TRP until you are healed and fit to continue training.
- 8. **The Screening Test** is the initial fitness test used to assess your fitness level when you first arrive on course. It is comprised of certain elements of the FORCES Test (explained below) and a modified Rockport Test that you will be required to pass before you are allowed to continue with training.
  - a. the first task will be the 20m rushes, candidates will have to complete in 46 seconds or less.
  - b. the second task will be the sandbag drag, candidates will have to complete in 35 seconds or less.
  - c. the third task will consist of walking 1.6 km in 15 minutes or less.

- 9. **The FORCE Test** is the mandatory annual physical fitness exam that all CAF service members take. It presents a baseline standard for operational fitness. There are different levels you can achieve depending on your performance, and you may receive rewards as a result. Your physical fitness staff will introduce you to the test on your arrival, however, an explanation of the various events on the test can be found <a href="here">here</a>.
- 10. For fitness preparation, please follow the 12-week pre-BMT program developed by the CAF Personnel Support Program, found <u>here</u>. This program, if followed **prior** to your arrival at CFLRS, will help you meet the rigours of daily physical training on your course.
- 11. Whatever your regular fitness routine, use the below as a baseline to either achieve or maintain **prior** to your arrival:
  - a. jogging, (aim for 5 km in 30 min or less);
  - b. walking (13000 steps or 8 km per day);
  - c. hiking with a 5-10kg weight in a backpack (start with 3 km, no more than 8 km)
  - d. climbing stairs (300 to 500 steps per day);
  - e. push-ups (25 in a row without stopping);
  - f. holding plank position (1 min without stopping)

#### **Mental Readiness**

- 12. As mentioned in the main document, Basic Training is a stressful and demanding experience. Your instructors will apply pressure to you in a variety of different ways to test your capacity to handle stress and overcome adversity. Modern soldiers, sailors, and aircrew learn to deal with the stress of operations and stay focused and sharp. If you do not already practice some kind of stress management here are some suggestions:
  - a. practice some kind of quiet meditation or mindfulness every day. This, like physical training, takes time to master. Start a mental readiness routine well before your arrival on course.
  - b. plan a routine for contacting friends and family to stay connected (for example every Saturday afternoon);
  - c. There are many mindfulness apps you can access on your preferred platform. The free CAF Road to Mental Readiness (R2MR) app can be downloaded from the following <u>website</u>.

#### **Immunizations**

13. You should have the following vaccines prior to your arrival at on course. If you do not have any of the following vaccines, they will be provided to you by medical staff.

Note: It is strongly recommended to not receive any vaccines in the 14 days before arrival on course to allow sufficient time before being offered other vaccinations.

- a. hepatitis A/B;
- b. MMR (measles, mumps, rubella);

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- c. poliomyelitis.
- d. tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough);
- e. varicella (chicken pox);
- f. meningococcal (meningitis);
- g. human papillomavirus (Gardasil, HPV);
- h. influenza; and
- i. COVID-19.

#### **Daily Routine**

- 14. A typical training day on BMQ consists of the follow (timings may vary throughout the course):
  - a. 0500-0530 hrs: wake up;
  - b. 0540 hrs: morning physical training;
  - c. 0630 hrs: breakfast;
  - d. 0700 hrs: inspection of quarters and beginning of instruction;
  - e. 1130 hrs: lunch;
  - f. 1230 hrs: instruction;
  - g. 1700 hrs: dinner;
  - h. 1800 hrs: common station jobs, personal hygiene, study period; and
  - j. 2200 hrs: lights out.

# Life Skills to Learn or Practice

- 15. Learn to use a washer, dryer, and iron.
- 16. Learn to clean floors with an old-fashioned mop and bucket.
- 17. Practice laying out your clothes the night before and getting dressed within 3 minutes of your alarm.
- 18. Practice having a shower in 4 minutes or less.
- 19. Practice going a full day without electronics.
- 20. Practice getting up early, depending on your phase of training you could be up at 4a.m. regularly.

#### **Services Available**

- 21. You will have access to the following services at CFB Borden:
  - a. chapel (Protestant and Roman Catholic) and a multi-faith room;
    - i. The multi-faith room is not provided with religious items, therefore, if items are necessary for a specific religious practice, candidates are responsible to bring those items with them.
    - ii. The indigenous peoples' spiritual space is provided with traditional medicines common among Canada's indigenous peoples for smudging and other ceremonies. If you wish to use of this space requests can be made through your platoon staff.
  - b. internet (limited access);
  - c. public telephones;
  - d. general store (CANEX) with drycleaning service;
  - e. barber;
  - f. banking facilities (ATMs for BMO: Bank of Montreal);
  - g. post office (mailing address for candidates can be found below); and
  - h. physical training and recreation facilities.
  - i. Terra Theatre (movie theatre)

#### **Mailing Address**

- 22. You will be able to receive mail while on Basic Training. You will be required to inform those sending you mail of your service and course numbers.
- 23. Service number

Rank, surname, initials

Course number

CFLRS - D Div

CFB Borden

P.O. Box 1000, Stn Main

Borden ON, L0M 1C0

#### **Visitors**

24. Depending on your phase of training you may be allowed to have visitors while on Basic Training. Visits during the week or during the indoctrination period are prohibited. When visitors are allowed, they are restricted to areas indicated by your staff and may only visit on non-duty weekends during certain hours. However, many candidates find they do not have enough time to invite someone to the TE and wait until their graduation day.

#### **Emergency Telephone Number**

- 25. In case of emergency or if you have any questions or issues in regards of the joining instructions or having an issue getting to CFB Borden, contact the Det Borden Operations Warrant Officer at: 705-818-3875.
- 26. Make sure to read the entire joining instruction package before calling in for joining instruction questions, as many of your questions will be answered in the package.
- 27. In case of emergency where the Operations Warrant Officer cannot be reached, candidates can reached out to the Base Borden Base Duty Officer as a last resort at: (705) 424-1200, ext. 2445.

# **Training Delays and Leaving CFLRS**

- 28. There are a number of different reasons your training and eventual graduation could be delayed during your Basic Training. Depending on the nature of your shortcomings you may be sent to a Performance Review Board (PRB) where you could be sent back to a week deemed appropriate to best correct your deficiencies. Reasons for doing so include but are not limited to:
  - a. if you do not adapt to military life or discipline adequately;
  - b. if you do not absorb the training well enough and are consistently substandard;
  - c. if you do not absorb the classroom material adequately and fail too many academic tests;
  - d. if you do not pass the initial screening fitness or FORCES tests; and
  - e. if you are injured while on course.
- 29. If you do fail your course, that isn't always the end. You can be transferred to Training Reintegration Platoon (TRP) to get fit, receive more training on the course content, or whatever else you might need. Once you are deemed ready, you will then go to the next available training platoon and will have another chance to succeed. A transfer to TRP or a re-course may necessitate a transfer to CFLRS in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC in order to provide you with the appropriate support.
- 30. The military way of life is not for everyone. If you find yourself not adapting well to Basic Training, you may submit a Voluntary Release (VR). This can take time. The normal timeline is 8 weeks, but can take longer because of a variety of issues, especially medical.
- 31. If you do, however, complete the enrollment process and have a change of heart prior to your arrival to CFLRS for whatever reason, stay home and notify your Recruiting Center as soon as possible. The release process is much quicker than if you arrive at CFLRS and no longer wish to be in the military.
- 32. Do not complete your enrollment process if your life circumstances have changed and you no longer want to be in the CAF.

#### **Basic Training Social Media Sources**

- 33. CFLRS is aware of the online sources created by candidates and graduates to help in attempts to make Basic Training easier. Do not attempt to cut corners, cheat, or skirt the training. Doing so will delay your training as this is considered a breach of military discipline and you will have administrative and disciplinary action taken against you.
- 34. Basic Training helps you achieve the baseline standard common to all members of the CAF. Your next career courses will increase in difficulty substantially, especially if you are a combat arms trade. Set yourself up for success. Complete the training in its entirety and prepare yourself adequately for what comes next.
- 35. Your instructors have taught thousands of candidates and have delt with numerous situations where they have tried to outsmart the system. They are very well prepared. Your effort is better spent absorbing the course material, learning from your mistakes, and going through shared hardships with your platoon mates. Doing so forges the bonds of comradeship and better prepares you for the next steps in your career.