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## POLICE TRAINING TO ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

RCMP Academy has been providing police training to Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) "cadets" since its establishment in 1885. Cadets wear the iconic red serge of the force. In the RCMP's early days, the Academy had a full horse stable and horsemanship is no longer part of the cadets' training since 1966, and the few horses still at the Academy are for ceremonial purposes only.

The Academy is the only location where the RCMP trains its cadets. Many Canadian municipal and provincial police forces hire police officers who graduated from the RCMP Academy. No one can join the RCMP as a regular member without completing the RCMP Academy's 24-week Cadet Training Program. The RCMP Academy has altered its curriculum due to the social and economic changes of Canadian society; the school now focuses more on knowledge relating to the multiple facets of law enforcement than on military discipline. In the early 1990s, the six-month thorough military-style RCMP training was slightly modified to face the new make-up of

trainees. Cadets are now 10 years older than their 1950s or 1960s counterparts; and decade after decade, the ratio of college and university-educated future Mounties keeps increasing. The higher maturity level of trainees requires fewer disciplinary actions and enables the instructors to focus on the very demanding requirements of modern police work.

**Cadet Training Program** The Cadet Training Program is an extensive 24-week basic training course, offered in both official languages. The cadet is part of a 32-member troop which is diverse in composition. Upon successfully completing the Cadet Training Program, cadets may be offered employment as members of the RCMP and given peace officer status. Once employed, they must then complete a six-month Field Coaching Program at selected training detachments where they are involved in everyday police duties under the supervision of a Field Coach.

The Cadet Training Program consists of 785 hours broken down as follows:

- Applied Police Sciences
- Police Defensive Tactics
- Fitness and Lifestyle
- Firearms
- Police Driving
- Drill, Deportment and Tactics
- Detachment visits, exams, etc

**Police Defensive Tactics** The police defensive tactics component of the Cadet Training Program is designed to provide cadets with safe and effective techniques to manage policing-related incidents within the context of the Incident Model. The Model was designed based on the following principles:

- The primary objective of any intervention is public safety;
- Police officer safety is essential to public safety;
- The intervention model must always be applied in the context of a careful risk assessment;
- Risk assessment must take into account the likelihood and extent of life loss, injury and damage to property.

Cadets learn and practice different techniques under a variety of simulated circumstances. The techniques taught include joint locks, take downs, use of O.C. spray, placement and removal of

resistant suspects in/from vehicles, moving resistant suspects through doorways, blocks, strikes, use of batons, carotid control hold, grappling, ground defence, body hold releases, handcuffing and searching suspects, and use of weapon defences.

**Fitness and Lifestyle** The Fitness component of the Cadet Training Program is designed to develop cadets' commitment to a life-long healthy lifestyle to ensure their physical and mental readiness for police duties. The program addresses issues of nutrition, and stress management. Cadets are taught safe and effective techniques to develop their resistance through weight training, anaerobic, aerobic capabilities through a variety of methods. The on-site swimming pool is used to provide cadets a session on life savings skills, as well as circuit and interval training. Cadets also access the pool to complete mandatory fitness competencies and other exercises to assist in their recovery from training related injuries. The program is designed in two phases moving progressively from instructor-centred to learner-centred. Once cadets have learned appropriate physical training techniques, they establish in consultation with their instructors, fitness and lifestyle objectives and select those techniques and strategies best suited to them to maintain standards set. Cadets participate in a series of challenge exercises to understand their limits and use this knowledge in risk assessments when involved in policing situations. Cadets must meet the Physical Examination standard to successfully complete the program.

**Firearms** The Firearms curriculum covers handling firearms with safety for public and police safety within the provisions of law and policy. Cadets must gain competency with the Force issued semi-automatic 9 mm pistol and the 12 gauge pump action shotgun. Firearms training simulators are also used to provide cadets with training specific to decision making in situations where firearms use may be warranted. Safe practices, accuracy and judgement making applying the RCMP Incident Management Intervention Model are all assessed.

**Police Driving** The driver training curriculum is designed to provide cadets with police driving skills and related knowledge to ensure public and police safety while on patrol and when responding to incidents. Cadets learn to gather appropriate evidence to ensure

the fair outcomes of investigations of traffic related incidents, and to identify opportunities for crime prevention while on patrol. They learn about the laws and policies pertaining to the use of police vehicles and driver- related offenses. Safe and effective handling of the police vehicle, appropriate use of police vehicle equipment, observational skills and use of the radio while driving are emphasized.

This component of the program is designed based on the assumption that basic driving and defensive driving skills have been obtained prior to entry in the Cadet Training Program. However, cadets' basic driving skills are constantly monitored to ensure that they are in fact safe and responsible drivers.

Drill, Deportment and Tactical Unit This component of the Cadet Training Program is designed to develop a sense of pride in self through professional deportment. Cadets are taught how to care for and maintain their kit and proper turn out in uniform and mufti. Cadets are taught the importance of maintaining a clean and orderly dormitory out of respect for those who share their environment with them. They also learn etiquette and proper protocol in formal settings. This program also aims at developing “esprit de corps” through precision team work in ceremonies and tactical-related exercises. Cadets learn to listen and respond to orders as would be required in situations of celebration, where the RCMP represents Canada on formal occasions or in situations where public safety may be threatened by potential crowd violence. The skills learned are essential to professional client service.

#### Список використаних джерел

1. <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/index.shtm>
2. <http://www.mountieshop.com/>
3. <http://www.rcmpheritagecentre.com/>
4. <http://www.rcmphc.com/>