



---

## A WORD FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

---

Hello to all,

I am taking time today to communicate with all the adult personnel involved with all of the CC/Sqns within the Regional Cadet Support Unit (Eastern) (RCSU Eastern), so that all clearly understand the significance of the deadline of 15 November 2021, in other words next Monday, to continue working within the units and the Department of National Defense (DND.)

We have received very clear directions on mandatory vaccination within the federal government and the DND. As the RCSU Eastern Commanding Officer, I must apply them with firmness and diligence.

I therefore expect all adults working within the Cadet Program to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Under the directives received, I command all military members and civilian instructors (CIs) who are not fully vaccinated or who do not meet the exception criteria to cease their participation in the Cadet Program, whether in-person, virtual or hybrid, as of 14 November 2021.

Only military members and CIs who have received a 1st vaccine dose duly notified and who have submitted a vaccination plan for the 2nd dose according to the RCSU Eastern directives, or who have submitted a request for accommodation, are authorized to continue their activities within the Program in telework mode beyond November 14th.

For the volunteers who work with the cadets, I command Corps/Sqn Cmdts to reduce to the minimum necessary their presence during cadet activities, regardless of their immunization status. Cmdts should promote their presence in virtual mode or, if their presence is deemed essential, consider employing them away from the cadets. I strongly encourage volunteers to get the vaccine to protect everyone on the team.

In this pandemic context, the health and safety of the cadets under our responsibility is my top priority. As members of the Canadian Armed Forces team, we owe it to all of our young cadets and their parents/legal guardians to be leaders in pursuing this goal. All your questions related to compulsory vaccination should be addressed without delay to your Cdt Trg Zone Cmdts, through your Z Trg O.

Thank you for your understanding, your collaboration and your civic spirit in this collective effort.

Steve Lessard  
Lieutenant-Colonel