

The Jean Minguy Memorial



RCMP Youth Academy



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The Program:

Established in 1999 the Vernon RCMP Youth Academy was designed by the Vernon North Okanagan Regional Detachment as a youth support program with the intent of promoting positive values, respectful behavior and leadership development in our youth. The program has a secondary benefit of encouraging youth to consider policing or related community service as a career.

The Vernon RCMP Youth Academy changed its name following the tragic death of Cst. Jean Minguy while on duty on Okanagan Lake. Cst. Minguy was actively involved in the Youth Academy and it is in his name that this worthwhile program continues.

The Academy is a one week intensive work experience program, attended by up-to 50 students from the Okanagan and Thomson areas. We are partnered with five School Districts who give career program credits and, in some cases, help fund the student applicants.

Program Outline:

The Academy replicates one week in Depot, the national training center for the RCMP. Each applicant must undergo each phase of the selection process prior to being accepted for the Academy and once selected will have the opportunity to experience the full variety of activities that a Police cadet would experience.

The Academy is facilitated by RCMP officers, School District staff, City of Vernon employees, and volunteers within the community. Cadets are exposed to lectures on law and police tactics as well as practical experience in drill and self-defense. They receive coaching in self-discipline, tolerance, team building, integrity, respect, and many other core values that the RCMP exemplify. The students are expected to demonstrate these newly acquired skills in role playing scenarios which are facilitated by RCMP officers and community volunteers.

Upon completion of the one-week training they will participate in an official para-military closing ceremony in front of RCMP officers, peers, parents and invited guests.

Program Outcomes:

Students are offered an excellent opportunity for self-development with specific career training for policing and other related fields. Most of the School Districts will provide career program credits. Upon successful completion cadets will receive a certificate bearing their name and plaques will be awarded for various achievements to specific cadets.

Most importantly, all cadets benefit from the challenges, team building, friendships and life skills they receive. These personal and practical skills are useful for any career they choose and for basic personal growth as a whole.

Our cadets and their parents consistently provide highly positive feedback on their experience. Since the Academy's inception we have many examples of cadets moving into leadership roles within their respective communities, not to mention several who have gone on to become police officers.

All facilitators involved in the program regularly report that it is one of the most rewarding events in which they have ever been involved.

Program Interest and Support:

Our program has handled as many as 60 cadets in the past years however we now limit the camp to 45 applicants. Interest is such that there has always been more applicants than positions available.

Our School Districts consistently recognize and support the Academy to the extent that their budgets will allow. The camp is facilitated by RCMP officers who volunteer their time above and beyond their regular work schedule.

The Jean Minguy Memorial RCMP Youth Academy is known and respected within the policing community and highly spoken of by all who are familiar with it.

Why We Need Your Support:

The RCMP, School Districts, and volunteers facilitate this program however we receive no base budget to support it. We operate the Academy on a break-even basis year to year.

The cost to run this camp is approximately \$35,000.00 based on a base number of 40 cadets. Historically we have required participating students to pay \$300-\$500 each but have also realized that many possible candidates have been excluded due to this fee.

In the past participating School Districts have been able to supplement much of the cost difference but the funding for the career program has been reduced significantly thereby reducing their ability to assist. Other sources of funding such as service clubs and community grants, though appreciated, are not consistent and reliable each year. Annually the organizers of the Youth Academy struggle with the possibility that the previous year's sponsorships and grants will not be achieved and the Youth Academy would have to be cancelled. It has become more and more difficult to gather the resources, both financial and human, to sustain this worthwhile program.

We are therefore seeking sustained funding to support the program for this and future years and are asking for your assistance in this objective.

Communities, through their School Districts, have provided cadets to attend the Youth Academy in the past and some of these communities have also contributed financially through grants. The RCMP Detachments have also provided uniformed members to act in the capacity as coaches, mentors and facilitators and have all contributed to the success of each year's Youth Academy.

Unfortunately, one thing has always been lacking....consistency.

We have not lost sight of the fact that this is a RCMP based program, named in the memory of one of our own, and it is now time that core sustained funding be obtained to ensure that the Youth Academy's future is solid.

The Proposal:

We are requesting Vernon City Council consider an increase of \$6,000 in the RCMP budget in support of the Jean Minguy Memorial RCMP Youth Academy.

It should also be added that each Municipality and Regional District that has provided students in the past will also be approached for sustained funding attached to their existing RCMP

budgets.

In addition we are also requesting that each Detachment would provide one regular member for each 7 cadets that would be attending from each area and these identified members would be part of the steering committee for the following year. This is not a significant time commitment other than 2-3 meetings per year and 7 days for the actual Youth Academy.

Students who would be attending the Youth Academy would also be expected to pay a fee for that privilege. At this time, if the sustained funding can be established the estimated student fee is not likely to exceed \$200.

Funding applications have also gone forward to Mounted Police Foundation and local service clubs to assist in the overall costs of the Academy's operation.

We appreciate your consideration and support of this proposal and help us to ensure the Jean Minguy Memorial RCMP Youth Academy will continue to be a successful program for benefit of our youth and communities.



Terry Pakenham, Chairperson
Standing Committee
Jean Minguy Memorial RCMP Youth Academy



Supt. Reg Burgess
Officer-in-Charge
Vernon / North Okanagan Regional Detachment
Royal Canadian Mounted Police



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BUDGET ESTIMATE

Expenses

Vernon Army Camp Site Rental.....	\$3,000
Meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner).....	\$21,000
Transportation.....	\$1,500
Evening snacks / Closing ceremonies.....	\$1,000
Equipment.....	\$1,000
Binders, Stationary.....	\$1,000
Track Suits.....	\$3,500
Shirts, Caps, Lanyards.....	\$1,500
Promotions, printing, awards.....	\$1,500
Total.....	\$35,000

Revenue

Registration Fees (est. 40 x \$200).....	\$8,000
Local Government Support (to be obtained).....	
Corporate Sponsorship (to be obtained).....	
Total (necessary).....	\$35,000

Note that facilitation of the Youth Academy is provided as an in-kind contribution on behalf of the R.C.M.P. and our local School Districts.