EO MX01.06 – PARTICIPATE IN AN ELECTION

1. **Performance:** Participate in an Election

2. **Conditions:**

   a. Given:

      (1) Supervision, and

      (2) Assistance

   b. Denied: Nil

   c. Environmental: Any.

3. **Standard**: The cadet shall participate in an election.

4. **Teaching Points**:

   a. Conduct the following activities concurrently:

      (1) Have Phase One / Green Star / Proficiency Level One and Phase Two / Red Star / Proficiency Level Two cadets participate in an activity about democracy and the electoral process in Canada, such as:

         (a) a guest speaker presentation (eg, Elections Canada, political candidate, campaign worker) as per EOs MX01.02 (Attend a Presentation by a Community Organization) and MX01.03 (Attend a Presentation by a Citizen-of-Interest),

         (b) watching and discussing related Heritage Minutes videos as per EO MX01.07 (Participate in Heritage Minutes Video Activities), such as:

            i. *Baldwin & LaFontaine,*

            ii. *Nellie McClung*, and

            iii. *Responsible Government*; and

         (c) relevant learning stations as per EO MX01.08 (Participate in Citizenship Learning Stations), such as:

            i. Learning Station 5: How Canadians Govern Themselves, and,

            ii. Learning Station 6: Elections.

      (2) Have Phase Three / Silver Star / Proficiency Level Three cadets, in teams, prepare a campaign on an option, of their own choice or selected by the appropriate authority, such as:

         (a) cadet representative to the officer cadre,

         (b) citizenship tour destination, and

         (c) new canteen items.

      (3) Have Phase Four / Gold Star / Proficiency Level Four cadets, in teams, prepare to conduct the election as election officials, filling the positions of:

         (a) deputy returning officer, and

         (b) poll clerk.

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b. Have Phase Three / Silver Star / Proficiency Level Three cadets implement their campaigns in an effort to convince the other cadets in the corps / squadron to vote for their proposed option. This may include speeches, posters, pamphlets, etc.

c. Have the Phase Four / Gold Star / Proficiency Level Four cadets conduct the election. All cadets will be given the opportunity to vote and the results shall be binding.

d. Have the cadets reflect on the electoral process, to build understanding of:

(1) the importance of Canadian electoral procedures for ensuring free and fair elections,

(2) decision-making techniques used by voters, and

(3) the role of electors, campaign workers, and election officials and the challenges faced by the people filling these roles.

e. Link the election to federal elections by naming the local riding(s) and Member(s) of Parliament and explaining the eligibility requirements to vote in Canada.

5. **Time**: One session (3 periods) = 90 min.

6. **Substantiation**: A practical activity was chosen for this lesson as a fun and interactive way to build on the cadets' knowledge of citizenship.

7. **References**: Elections Canada. (2010). *Canada at the Polls!* Retrieved March 13, 2013, from http://elections.ca/content.aspx?section=vot&dir=yth/stu/gui&document=index&lang=e. (www.elections.ca > teacher > *Canada at the Polls!*)

8. **Training Aids**: Nil.

9. **Learning Aids**: Nil.

10. **Test Details**: Nil.

11. **Remarks**:

a. In order to stimulate interest, it is important that the cadets vote on real options with real consequences.

b. At least two assistant instructors are required for this lesson.

c. There are numerous potential leadership opportunities for cadets when conducting an election session, such as:

(1) Phase Three / Silver Star / Proficiency Level Three, Phase Four / Gold Star / Proficiency Level Four, and Phase Five / Master Cadet / Proficiency Level Five cadets may complete leadership assignments, such as leading a campaign team, in accordance with POs 303 (Perform the Role of a Team Leader), 403 (Act as a Team Leader), and 503 (Lead Cadet Activities); and

(2) Phase Five / Master Cadet / Proficiency Level Five cadets may plan, prepare and conduct the session as a leadership project in accordance with PO 503 (Lead Cadet Activities).

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