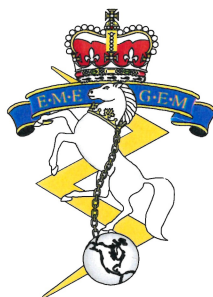


Office of Director RCEME
National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K2

2184-1000-1 (Corps SM)



B March 2019

Distribution List

DIRECTOR RCEME COMMUNIQUÉ NO. 03/2019
ADOPTION OF CANADIAN ARMY BLUE BERET

References: A. 18400-1 (DLR 5-4) Implementation Order-Canadian Army blue beret & Foot Guards khaki beret. B.A-DH-265-000/AG-001 Canadian Forces Dress Instructions.

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this communique is to provide direction and guidance on the planned re-adoption of the CA blue beret by the Corps of RCEME.

DISCUSSION

2. **General Background.** The Corps of RCEME and other select Corps will be entitled to wear the CA blue beret with all orders of dress in accordance with ref. The blue beret is considered a universal pattern beret and equal to the in-service green and black berets. It is not a specialist beret like the maroon beret, which is authorised only when posted to specific positions within CA units. As a universal beret, mbrs of the Corps of RCEME will wear the blue beret throughout their career unless a posting dictates otherwise IAW the CAF Dress Instructions, as would be the case for instance when one is posted to an Armour Regiment or Special Forces Unit.

3. **Historical Significance.** The wearing of the colour blue and the blue beret is not new to the CA or the Corps. From our founding, the colour blue has been worn as a backing material to our cap badge to indicate our affiliation with other technical branches of the CA. Further, RCEME members wore the blue beret during the period leading up to unification. Wearing it once again rekindles those links to our storied past and to the technical Corps that serve the CA today.

4. **Distribution.** The blue beret is produced through Logistik and supplied through Clothing –Online IAW the MOSID of entitled mbrs. Berets ordered through Clothing-Online will be distributed individually and all mbrs should receive their initial issue before the end of FY 18/19. **Members of the Corps of RCEME shall not wear the blue beret prior to the official change date of 15 May 2019.**

5. **Initial Issue at CFLRS.** RCEME Recruits will receive their blue beret upon initial kitting starting 15 May 2019. Coordination between CFLRS and the Corps SM will be made to ensure the Corps implementation date is adhered to and however possible, recruits arriving at the RCEME School from CFLRS will be in possession of a blue beret.

6. **Badging Policy.** The re-adoption of the blue beret shed light on the current policies and practices of badging within the Corps of RCEME. As a result, commencing 15 May 2019, RCEME Officers and NCMs will only wear the **metal badge regardless of beret colour** until such a time as the Corps can conduct an analysis of best practices going forward.

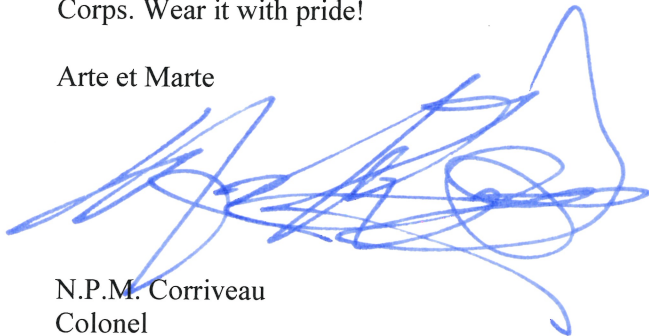
7. Scheme of Maneuver. Formation and or unit tempo will dictate the most fitting moment and best method to change head dress. That said, it is expected that all parades are planned to occur on 15 May or shortly thereafter. It would be ideal if the hoisting of the new RCME Camp Flag, also authorised for use starting on 15 May was incorporated in the local parades.

8. Inclusion and Esprit de Corps. Re-adopting the blue beret has reinvigorated the historical links to our past. To this end, members of the RCME Total Force, be they Regular or Reserve, Retirees or Cadets should proudly wear the blue beret to demonstrate the strong bonds of the greater RCME community. Retirees who are unable to immediately obtain a new beret through the CANEX are encouraged to wear it as soon as they can either on or after 15 May. Cadets shall follow their organizational dress regulations and seek guidance from their chain of command if adopting the beret. IAW Ref B, Religious headdress such as the Hijab and Turban shall be Rifle Green for CA pers and remain so until such a time as the policy can be reviewed.

CONCLUSION

9. The blue beret creates an identity and affiliation not just to the Corps of RCME but also to the other Corps who wear it. More importantly, by re-adopting the blue beret on 15 May, as part of our 75th Anniversary celebrations, we mark the beginning of a new chapter in the storied history of our great Corps. Wear it with pride!

Arte et Marte



N.P.M. Corriveau
Colonel
Director RCME



J.H. Saunders
Chief Warrant Officer
RCME Corps SM

Distribution List (Electronically Only)

Action

RCME Sr Regional Reps
RCME Corps Fund Chairman

Information

RCME Council