

Office of Director RCEME
National Defense Headquarters
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2

3350-1 (RCEME Corps Coord)

March 2022

Distribution List



EXERCISE BLUEBELL 2022

References: A. [RCEME Intranet Page \(Home\)](#)

B. [RCEME Website \(Home\)](#)

SITUATION

1. The dispersion of RCEME expertise across all environments of the CAF in all geographic regions of Canada cause some unique challenges with respect to the application of consistent Land Equipment Management System (LEMS) policy and practises to sustain domestic and deployed operations. Exercise (Ex) BLUEBELL strongly reinforces LEMS consistency through the sharing of ideas from all environments and from the holistic LEMS family in order to empower LEMS effectiveness.

2. The COVID-19 pandemic has imposed restrictions on travelling and gathering in large groups, which greatly limit the traditional delivery of this exercise. Although Ex BLUEBELL was run successfully virtually, it cannot replicate the effectiveness of in-person interactions and discussions. The Corps will endeavour to host an in-person Ex BLUEBELL but will continuously review the emerging regional, inter-provincial, and national regulations and directives to execute a safe and effective Ex BLUEBELL.

MISSION

3. The Corps of RCEME will conduct a decentralized hybrid Ex BLUEBELL 2022 from 10 May to 23 June 2022 addressing RCEME audiences employed across Canada to provide operational guidance and technical updates.

EXECUTION

4. Concept of Operations

- a. Intent. The aim of Ex BLUEBELL 2022 is to provide officers, technicians, and non-commissioned members (NCM) of the Corps relevant, timely and synchronized operational guidance and technical updates. Communicating with RCEME personnel in Army Reserve (A Res) units and Light Aid Detachments (LADs) is also essential with a view to creating an all-informed net across the entire Corps family.
- b. Scheme of Manoeuvre. Ex BLUEBELL 2022 will see subject matter experts travel to Edmonton, Wainwright, Borden, Petawawa, the National Capital Region (NCR), Valcartier, and Gagetown to provide information and presentations on key LEMS matters. The Corps will also leverage this opportunity to visit RCEME organizations in

other locations, in coordination with regional representatives. The Corps will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and in the event that restrictions prevent an in-person gathering from occurring, Ex BLUEBELL will be conducted via virtual means. In the event that Ex BLUEBELL 2022 goes virtual, a frag O will be distributed. Ex BLUEBELL 2022 will be conducted in three phases:

- (1) Phase One (now – 10 May 2022) – Planning and Preparation. This phase will include venue and travel booking, agenda finalization, presentation preparation;
 - (2) Phase Two (10 May – 23 June 2022) – Execution. All decentralized regional BLUEBELL activities will be conducted (either physically or virtually). Virtual BLUEBELLS will be hosted for the LADs, retirees, the RCME reserves, and for Reg F RCME personnel posted at all others locations, e.g, with the RCN, RCAF, other CA locations; and
 - (3) Phase Three (24 June – 15 July 2022) – Feedback. Feedback, after-action review points will be consolidated and sent to the SO RCME.
- c. Main Effort. The safe conduct of all Ex BLUEBELL activities through the application of COVID 19 protocols and preventative health measures to ensure that these activities do not become spreader events.
- d. End State. Improved understanding of LEMS policies and practices delivered through regional activities and an increased Esprit de Corps.

5. Groupings and Tasks

a. Corps Secretariat

(1) Tasks

- (a) Conduct D RCME awards boards and coordinate awards presentations;
- (b) Collect presentations (English and French) from presenters;
- (c) Ensure presentations are published on ref A and B No Later Than (NLT) 29 April 2022;
- (d) Provide MS Teams meeting information and IT instructions to Senior Regional Reps (Sr Reg Reps) and the A Res;
- (e) Assist local moderators with the conduct of Questions & Answers (Q&A); and
- (f) Gather and consolidate feedback.

b. Senior Regional Representatives

(1) Tasks common to all

- (a) Provide names of regional Ex BLUEBELL OPIs to SO RCME NLT 25

March 2022;

- (b) Prepare and distribute regional BLUEBELL instructions;
- (c) Coordinate local activities and event details with attendees and participants; and
- (d) Communicate regional BLUEBELL information to local Reserve units and members of the LADs.

6. Coordinating Instructions

a. Timings

- (1) D-10: Regional BLUEBELL instructions distributed;
- (2) NLT 14 April 2022: D RCEME Awards nominations submitted by regions;
- (3) 8 April 2022: Presenters travel booked;
- (4) 22 April 2022: National D RCEME Awards Board;
- (5) 29 April 2022: BLUEBELL presentations published;
- (6) 10 May 2022: BLUEBELL – Quebec;
- (7) 12 May 2022: BLUEBELL – NCR;
- (8) 19 May 2022: BLUEBELL – Borden;
- (9) 21 May 2022: BLUEBELL – RCEME Reserves / LADs (Virtual);
- (10) 26 May 2022: BLUEBELL – RCN/RCAF/Other CA locations (Virtual);
- (11) 9 June 2022: BLUEBELL – Atlantic;
- (12) 16 June 2022: BLUEBELL – Central;
- (13) 22 June 2022: BLUEBELL – Wainwright; and
- (14) 23 June 2022: BLUEBELL – Edmonton.
- (15) NLT 15 July 2022: Feedback points, questions and photos submitted to Corps Secretariat.

b. Presenters. Presenters will include D RCEME, Corps SM, and Col Cmdt.

c. Agenda. Regions are responsible for preparing an agenda for these events; however, time for the presentations outlined in Annex A must be incorporated. Note, that agenda timelines and content for the NCR are adjusted and are in a separate table of Annex A.

d. Virtual Events

- (1) All persons will mute their microphones and turn off their out-going video when joining the event in order to minimize bandwidth;
- (2) The townhalls in MS Teams are accessible through DWAN, personal computers, and phone. All persons and groups logging into teams should trial their IT setup prior to their BLUEBELL event to work out any account or IT issues. For any questions related to MS Teams please direct them to the Corps Secretariat. For any more significant IT issues with MS Teams, please direct them to the O365 helpdesk at ref C. The helpdesk at ref C is available on personal internet;
- (3) When a member wishes to speak, they will be directed by a local moderator. This will occur as part of the OOM or in response to a raised hand through MS Teams. The member only at that time can unmute themselves and turn on their camera; and
- (4) Logins and follow-on IT instructions to be distributed by the Corps Secretariat.

e. D RCEME Award Presentations. These presentations will be delivered during each regions respective of Ex BLUEBELL. Should a winner be unable to attend, an alternate presentation will be arranged between the Corps Secretariat and Senior Regional rep. Regional reps should consider D RCEME coin of excellence nominations and them submitted to the Corps secretariat NLT 10 days prior to their respective BLUEBELL events. Nomination forms and eligibility criteria can be found at ref B.

f. Additional Activities. To maximize attendance and reduce unit downtime, regions are encouraged to organise additional activities such as mess dinners or RCEME day events around regional BLUEBELLS provided these activities respect local and provincial health guidelines. Coordinating details for such events should be included in the regional BLUEBELL instructions.

g. Venues. Regions are responsible for booking all venues. The main venue must facilitate powerpoint presentations to a large audience.

h. Local Guests. The attendance of any local guests must be communicated to the Corps Secretariat ahead of the event.

i. Feedback. Feedback is essential to ensuring the improvement of subsequent exercises. Each region is to send feedback to SO RCEME via email in a bullet format.

j. Photos. Pictures are a great to way to share and develop Esprit de Corps with all the RCEME community. Submitted photographs will be used in RCEME social media pages. OPIs from each region are to contact the Secretariat for instructions on uploading to Smugmug.

SERVICE SUPPORT

7. Dress. Combats or dress of the day.

8. Transport. DND vehicles are to be used wherever possible.

9. R&Q. To be used by all travelling participants and attendees wherever possible.

COMMAND AND SIGNALS

10. Command and Key Staff

- a. D RCEME. Col E.J.R.C. Gauthier;
- b. Corps SM. CWO K.S. Northorp;
- c. Col Cmdt. Col (ret'd) T. Temple;
- d. COS RCEME. LCol I. Miedema;
- e. DLEPS 3-4. Maj D.P. Burke;
- f. SO RCEME. Capt A.G. MacLean; and
- g. A/SO RCEME. Lt O. Hegazi.

Arte et Marte

E.J.R.C. Gauthier
Colonel
Director RCEME

K.S. Northorp
Chief Warrant Officer
RCEME Corps SM

Annex

Annex A – Draft agenda

Distribution List

Action

RCEME Sr Reg Reps
Corps Secretariat

Information

RCEME Council