

Leopard 2 Gunnery, Crew Commander, and Troop Leader Course

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Every year, a select amount of students are put through the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps School (RCACS) to develop and learn the skills required to command an Armoured Tank Troop. The RCACS was able to successfully conduct this three month course, (21 April – 24 July 14), immediately following the ARTL 1.2 Armoured Reconnaissance Troop Leader course. The Tank Crew and Troop Commander courses are a fundamental step which a junior officer of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps must take to become a useful member of the CAF. The aim of the course is to assess the candidates in their ability to plan, coordinate, and execute up to Troop level operations. This course provides the skills needed for those candidates to learn the tactics they will need for their future careers.



The two courses maximized training opportunity in a short period of time, as it incorporated 14 students, 13 staff, 17 drivers, and 19 armoured vehicles to support the three different courses consecutively. By covering all three courses students were able to expand their knowledge parameters into Combat Team-level operations. By holding this course, it undoubtedly demonstrated to all candidates how the role of armour fits into the grand scheme, and not just in the reconnaissance role. It tested the skills of several candidates whether it be refreshing on basic gunnery skills or the challenges of crew commanding a fully stabilised platform with the capability to manoeuvre almost anywhere on the battle space. The courses allowed the candidates to see more of the picture in ever-changing modern military tactics.



The courses utilised the new Leopard 2 platform and put it through its paces operating in a Canadian environment. Special thanks must be given to the RCME maintainers out at the Worthington Tank Park, who were integral to keeping the vehicles operational in the field.



The role of tanks in both the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps and the Canadian Army remains integral to a well-balanced modern army. Every year, the RCACS strives to achieve an optimal level of training in order to contribute to the development of the combat capability of the Canadian Armed Forces.

