

Legislative
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2 CHARLES III, 2023

Bill 31

An Act to provide for an award for exceptional cadets

Mr. Dave Smith

Private Member's Bill

1st Reading November 3, 2022

2nd Reading March 1, 2023

3rd Reading

Royal Assent

*(Reprinted as amended by the Standing Committee on Social Policy
and as reported to the Legislative Assembly September 25, 2023)*

(The provisions in this bill will be renumbered after 3rd Reading)



This reprint of the Bill is marked to indicate the changes that were made in Committee.
The changes are indicated by underlines for new text and a ~~striethrough~~ for deleted text.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The *Murray Whetung Community Service Award Act, 2023* is enacted. The Act provides that the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism shall provide for an award to be given each year to a cadet in each local Royal Canadian Air Cadet corps, Royal Canadian Army Cadet corps and Royal Canadian Sea Cadet corps who is selected by their corps for demonstrating exceptional citizenship and volunteerism within their community and their corps.

An Act to provide for an award for exceptional cadets

Preamble

~~Although First Nations persons were exempt from conscription, more than 4000 such persons enlisted in World War I and more than 3000 enlisted in World War II. Many lost their Indian status because they were away for more than four years. Despite this, many continued their community service and gave back to their communities their entire life. Murray Whetung was a Curve Lake First Nations veteran who continued to serve his community after returning from service overseas.~~

There is a long history of Indigenous communities voluntarily serving in the Canadian Armed Forces. During the First and Second world wars, more than 7,000 First Nations people as well as a similar number of Metis and Inuit people voluntarily enlisted to protect Canada. Many of the First Nations volunteers lost their Indian status upon returning from fighting overseas. Despite the mistreatment the Indigenous veterans received, many veterans continued to give back through volunteer service to their communities for their entire lives. Murray Whetung was one such Curve Lake First Nation veteran who continued to serve his community after returning from service overseas.

Therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

Award, Royal Canadian Air Cadet

1 The Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism shall provide for an award to be given each year to a cadet in each local Royal Canadian Air Cadet corps who is selected by their corps for demonstrating exceptional citizenship and volunteerism within their community and their corps.

Award, Royal Canadian Army Cadet

2 The Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism shall provide for an award to be given each year to a cadet in each local Royal Canadian Army Cadet corps who is selected by their corps for demonstrating exceptional citizenship and volunteerism within their community and their corps.

Award, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet

3 The Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism shall provide for an award to be given each year to a cadet in each local Royal Canadian Sea Cadet corps who is selected by their corps for demonstrating exceptional citizenship and volunteerism within their community and their corps.

Commencement

4 This Act comes into force on a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor.

Short title

5 The short title of this Act is the *Murray Whetung Community Service Award Act, 2023*.