

New RCAF Mess Dress

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It is my pleasure to announce the new RCAF mess dress. The change was inspired by the intent to better connect our members with their rich heritage and strengthen the identity of the modern RCAF.

The newly designed mess dress preserves the current mess dress cut and pattern however the following modifications have been made to the fabric, braid, color and buttons for both male and female dress, as follows:

- The fabric is 100 per cent wool barathea.
- The fabric color is Air Force blue for jacket, pant and skirt.
- There are two V-shaped columns of buttons on the jacket.
- Females have the choice of long traditional skirt or pant.
- The female jacket matches the male jacket pattern.
- The full satin blue shawl collar will remain unchanged.
- A white waistcoat will be worn by CWOs and officers.
- The RCAF tartan cummerbund will be worn by MWOs and below.
- A gold braid on each side of pant has been added for CWOs and officers.
- The blue braid on each side of pant will remain for MWOs and below.
- General officers will no longer wear shoulder board as rank insignia. General officers will have their rank displayed on both sleeves in the traditional RCAF gold braid rank insignia pattern rank insignia for NCMs will remain unchanged.
- The white mess dress jacket pattern will remain unchanged; however, the button placement will match the Air Force blue



*LGen Blondin wears the new RCAF mess dress.
PHOTO: Cpl Darcy Lefebvre.*

jacket. The wearing of rank shoulder boards on the white mess dress jacket will remain unchanged for all officer ranks.

The RCAF mess dress will be available for purchase in September 2013. It is strongly recommended that those who require mess dress wait until that date to purchase their mess dress.

The new RCAF mess dress is authorized for wear effective as of 5 June 2013. Members who have purchased the old mess dress prior to this date may continue to wear this mess dress. No modifications will be made to the old mess dress.