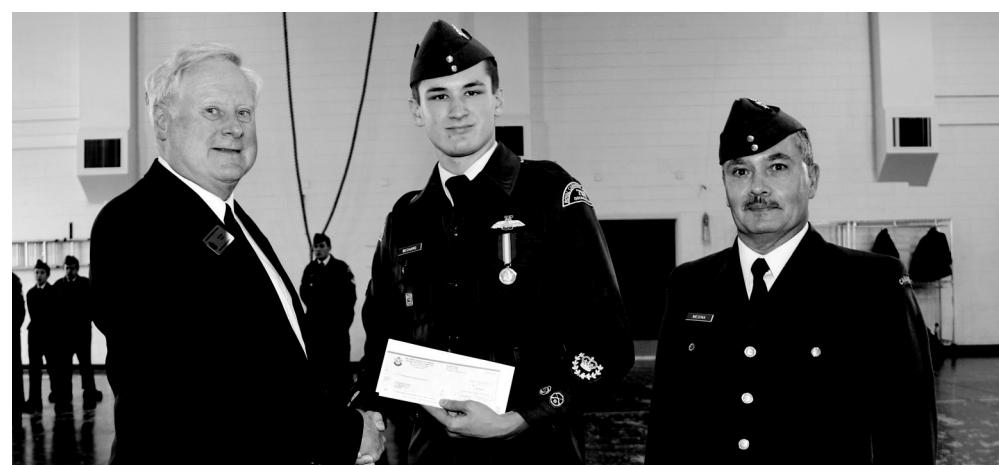


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Independent & Free Press, Tuesday, May 17, 2011



Warrant Officer 2 Christopher Bechard (centre) accepts congratulations, and a cheque for \$39,000, from LCol (ret'd) Jim Gale, regional director of the Air Cadet League of Canada and CO Capt. Reg Medina at the Todd Road Armoury last week. Bechard was the winner of the Cadets' province-wide draw for a new Mustang convertible but opted instead to take the cash payout. He intends to buy a laptop and put the rest towards his tuition at Niagara College.

Photo by Ron Stiel

Cadet's first lottery ticket a BIG winner

A Georgetown Air Cadet who bought his first lottery ticket to celebrate his 18th birthday, was the grand prize winner in the Air Cadet League of Canada Ontario Provincial Committee's fundraising lottery.

Warrant Officer 2 Chris Bechard of 756 Squadron decided to not only sell tickets, but bought one to celebrate his birthday.

His winning ticket— from 238,000 sold— made him the first cadet to win the grand prize— a new Mustang convertible.

However, Bechard opted instead to take the \$39,000 cash equivalent.

"While the vehicle may be particularly appealing to many young people, it was

great to see that Cadet Bechard was going to take the cash prize," said League Governor Jim Gale.

"We're very proud and excited to have one of our own, active cadets win such a great lottery prize as there is only a short window of time when a cadet is old enough to purchase a ticket and still be in cadets as they age out the year of their 18th birthday. We're confident that Cadet Bechard will be able to accomplish some wonderful things through his winnings."

All winners can be viewed through the Air Cadet League website, www.aircadetleague.on.ca.

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