

**Date and Time:** 1845 (6:45 PM), Tuesday, May 1, 2012

*(Guest are asked to be seated by 6:30)*

**Location:** Louis Riel Arts & Tech Centre, 5 DeBoumont Ave., Winnipeg

**Contact:** Vern Toews, Chairperson - Squadron Sponsor Committee

176 Boeing of Canada RCACS  
**Air Cadet League of Canada (Manitoba) Inc**  
*Serving the youth of Manitoba since 1941*

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*Canadian Astronaut visits  
Manitoba Air Cadet Squadron*  
Major Jeremy R. Hansen,  
Canadian Space Agency

From air cadet to astronaut, all in 15 years! Major Jeremy Hansen will be visiting No. 176 (Boeing of Canada) Air Cadet Squadron on May 1, 2012, giving the cadets a chance to learn first hand what it takes to get into space.

Canadian Space Agency Astronaut Jeremy Hansen will speak to young people and their parents during his visit to 176 Air Cadet Squadron. In a career that started out in Air Cadets and has progressed from CF-18 fighter pilot and test pilot in the RCAF to Astronaut, Major Hansen brings a compelling story to our next generation of Canadian citizens.

The Air Cadet League of Canada (Manitoba) Inc. is a civilian volunteer non-profit organization partnered with the Canadian Forces since 1941, to implement the Air Cadet Program in Manitoba. Over 1,200 young people in eight Winnipeg-based and 16 squadrons throughout Manitoba participate in a wide variety of activities that include leadership, athletics, music, summer camps, international exchanges and the chance to earn their wings as either a glider or private pilot through a scholarship program.

# Backgrounder: Major Jeremy R. Hansen

**Personal Data:** Born January 27, 1976 in London, Ontario, and raised on a farm near Ailsa Craig, Ontario, until moving to Ingersoll for his high school years. Major Hansen is married with three children. He enjoys sailboat cruising and racing, rock climbing and mountain biking.

**Education:** Major Hansen holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Space Science (First Class Honours) from Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario (1999). He earned a Master of Science in Physics from the same institution in 2000, with a research focus on Wide Field of View Satellite Tracking.

**Organizations:** Canadian Armed Forces, 1994 to present

**Special Honors:** Canadian Forces Decoration - 12 Years of Good Service (October 2006), Canadian Air Force Pilot Wings (May 2002), Clancy Scheldrup Memorial Trophy - Outstanding Graduate on the Basic Flying Course (2001), Air Cadet League of Canada Award - Top Air Force Graduate from the Royal Military College of Canada (May 1999).

**Experience:** Prior to joining the Canadian Space Program, Major Hansen served as a CF-18 fighter pilot and held the position of Combat Operations Officer at Four Wing Operations in Cold Lake, Alberta. His responsibilities included ensuring the effectiveness of NORAD Air Defense Operations and the operability of Deployed and Forward Operating Locations (Bases).

From 2006 to 2007, Major Hansen served as a CF-18 fighter pilot in 409 Tactical Fighter Squadron, where his responsibilities included leading tactical formations and serving as a Maintenance Test Pilot. From 2004 to 2006, he served as a CF-18 fighter pilot in 441 Tactical Fighter Squadron, where his responsibilities included NORAD Operations, Deployed Exercises and Arctic Flying Operations. He completed his CF-18 Fighter Pilot Training in 410 Fighter Training Squadron from 2003 to 2004. His experience also includes frequent deployments to the United States and Europe.

Major Hansen's flight career began at the age of 12, when he joined the Air Cadet Program. He obtained both glider and private pilot licenses through this program by the age of 17. This experience led to his acceptance to Collège militaire royal in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec.

**NASA Experience:** Major Hansen was selected in May 2009 as one of two members of the third Canadian Astronaut selection. He is one of 14 members of the 20th NASA astronaut class. In 2011, Major Hansen graduated from Astronaut Candidate Training that included scientific and technical briefings, intensive instruction in International Space Station systems, Extravehicular Activity (EVA), robotics, physiological training, T-38 flight training and water and wilderness survival training. Since his graduation, he is assigned as Crew Support Astronaut for Expedition 34/35.