

## COMMON MILITARY TERMINOLOGY

## TERMINOLOGIE MILITAIRE COMMUNE

Brevity is a key element of military communications, and in order to achieve this military forces make extensive use of acronyms, abbreviations and unique military terminology. This can be very confusing initially but will become normal as you learn this new "language". To help you get started, the document below lists abbreviations, acronyms and military terms that might be encountered by candidates throughout the recruiting and selection processes associated with attending one of our Military Colleges.

This document gives some of the common abbreviations, acronyms and military terms that new entry personnel will likely encounter in the recruiting process and early in their service.

For clarity of understanding, the Oxford Dictionary gives the following definitions:

**abbreviation**    noun. A shortened form of a word or phrase

**acronym**        noun. An abbreviation formed from the initial letters of other words and pronounced as a word (e.g. NATO)

Abbreviations and acronyms are in common use in militaries as concise means of expressing terms that can be lengthy. Brevity in communications is particularly desirable during military operations. Military forces have also created special meanings for many commonly used words, creating a unique military jargon.

It is quite normal for new military personnel to adopt military abbreviations, acronyms and jargon into their everyday speech, and this can lead to significant confusion when talking with ordinary civilians. In addition, the militaries of different nations and the various branches of the Canadian Armed Forces can have different meanings for the same abbreviations and acronyms; raising significant potential for misunderstanding. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has created glossaries of terms and abbreviations in an order to provide a measure of standardization, e.g. *Allied Administrative Publication 06 (AAP-06) NATO Glossary of Terms and Definitions*

La brièveté est un élément clé des communications militaires et, pour y parvenir, les forces militaires utilisent abondamment les acronymes, les abréviations et la terminologie militaire unique. Cela peut être très déroutant au départ mais deviendra normal au fur et à mesure que vous apprendrez ce nouvelle " langue ". Pour vous aider à démarrer, le document ci-dessous énumère les abréviations, les acronymes et les termes militaires qui pourraient être utilisés par les candidats tout au long des processus de recrutement et de sélection associés à la participation à l'un de nos collèges militaires.

Ce document donne quelques-unes des abréviations, acronymes et termes militaires communs que le personnel de nouvelle entrée sera probablement rencontrer dans le processus de recrutement et au début de leur service.

Pour plus de clarté, le Oxford Dictionary donne les définitions suivantes:

**abréviation**    nom. Une forme abrégée d'un mot ou d'une expression

**acronyme**        nom. Une abréviation formée à partir des lettres initiales d'autres mots et prononcée comme un mot (OTAN par exemple)

Les abréviations et les acronymes sont couramment utilisés dans les armées comme moyen concis d'exprimer des termes qui peuvent être longs. La brièveté des communications est particulièrement souhaitable lors des opérations militaires. Les forces militaires ont également créé des significations spéciales pour de nombreux mots couramment utilisés, créant ainsi un jargon militaire unique.

Il est tout à fait normal que de nouveaux militaires adoptent des abréviations militaires, des acronymes et du jargon dans leur discours de tous les jours, ce qui peut entraîner une confusion importante lorsqu'ils parlent avec des civils ordinaires. En outre, les militaires des différentes nations et les diverses branches des forces armées canadiennes peuvent avoir des significations différentes pour les mêmes abréviations et acronymes; susciter un fort potentiel d'incompréhension. L'Organisation du Traité de l'Atlantique Nord (OTAN) a créé des glossaires de termes et d'abréviations dans le but de fournir une mesure de normalisation, par exemple Publication

<i>(English and French)</i> . Military people need to be cognizant of their audience and adapt their language accordingly.	administrative alliée 06 (AAP-06) Glossaire de termes et définitions de l'OTAN (anglais et français). Les militaires doivent être conscients de leur auditoire et adapter la langue appropriée en conséquence.
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Term/Terme	Definition / Définition
<p><i>Some acronyms and abbreviations can be found on / Certains acronymes et abréviations sont disponibles sur :</i></p> <p>a. <i>National Defence Manual of Abbreviations/Manuel des Abréviations Défense National</i>  <a href="http://fscs.rampinteractive.com/12rcacs/files/association/A-AD-121-F01%20Manual%20of%20Abbreviations%20Sept%202010.pdf">http://fscs.rampinteractive.com/12rcacs/files/association/A-AD-121-F01%20Manual%20of%20Abbreviations%20Sept%202010.pdf</a></p> <p>b. <a href="https://army.ca/wiki/index.php/Canadian_Military_Acronyms">https://army.ca/wiki/index.php/Canadian_Military_Acronyms</a></p>	
<b>ASAP</b>	As soon as possible
<b>AV</b>	l'acuité visuelle. L'acuité visuelle est déterminée dans le cadre de l'évaluation de la catégorie médicale des Forces armées canadiennes
<b>BMOQ</b>	Basic Military Officer Qualifying Course. This is the basic training given to all new entries into the Canadian Armed Forces and provides the knowledge that is common to all trades and elements, and develops a military state of mind and behavior, the mental and physical endurance and the combat skills necessary for the profession of arms. The training is physically, mentally and morally demanding and lays its foundation on the fundamental values of the Canadian Armed Forces: Duty, Loyalty, Integrity and Courage. The course is composed of 62% classroom training with study and theoretical exams; 25% of field training with practical exams; and 13% is devoted to physical training.
<b>Cadet</b>	Rank given to the lowest level of officer prior to commissioning
<b>CAF</b>	Canadian Armed Forces. The official name applied to the totality of military forces in Canada and includes the Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Air Force, joint commands and headquarters and both regular and reserve forces.
<b>CF</b>	Canadian Forces. For the period from the 1980s through early 2000s, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) were known officially as the Canadian Forces (CF). While no longer official, this term and its acronym can be found in older documents which are still in effect. The terms Canadian Forces and Canadian Armed Forces and their associated acronyms are synonymous.
<b>CFLRS</b>	Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School located in Saint Jean, Quebec
<b>CMR</b>	Collège Militaire Royal. This is the name normally used when referring to the military college in Saint Jean, Quebec. It may also be used in French when referring to the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario
<b>Dates</b>	In military writing, dates are normally expressed in the order of date, month and year, e.g. 10 June 2017 and abbreviated as 10 Jun 17
<b>FYOP</b>	First Year Orientation Program. This physically active and intensive program starts immediately after completion of the Basic Military Officer Qualification Course and is designed to introduce cadets to life at the Colleges. The program culminates with the running of the obstacle course. All students are required to reside at the College for the duration of this program.
<b>gash</b>	slang for garbage
<b>heads</b>	nautical term for a room containing a toilet
<b>Integration</b>	A subset of the Unification of the Canadian armed services in 1968 that integrated the operations, logistics support, personnel, and administration elements of the separate branches
<b>Joint</b>	Referring to an organization or activity that integrates two or more separate military services, e.g. army + air force, for the conduct of operations.
<b>kye</b>	nautical slang for snack, particularly an evening snack
<b>MCC</b>	Military Career Counsellor (recruiting centres) Maritime Component Commander (joint headquarters)

<b>NATO</b>	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
<b>NDHQ</b>	National Defence Headquarters. The headquarters for the Canadian Armed Forces located in Ottawa. The Department of National Defence is integrated with NDHQ
<b>OTAN</b>	Organisation du Traité de l'Atlantique Nord
<b>purple</b>	adjective used to describe something or someone that is a joint or integrated service function, e.g. pay services are said to be purple as they are provided by one element for all branches of the Canadian Armed Forces
<b>QDGN</b>	Quartier-Général de la Défense Nationale. Le quartier général des forces armées canadiennes situé à Ottawa. Le ministère de la défense nationale est intégré au QDGN
<b>RCAF</b>	Royal Canadian Air Force. The official name of Canada's air force. This was a term that was dropped for some forty years from Unification in 1968 of the separate elements of Canada's armed forces until 2013.
<b>RCN</b>	Royal Canadian Navy. The official name of Canada's Navy. This was a term that was dropped for some forty years from Unification in 1968 of the separate elements of Canada's armed forces until 2013.
<b>Regular Force</b>	Members of the Regular Force serve full time under conditions of unlimited liability.
<b>Reserve Force</b>	Members of the Reserve Force serve part time and can volunteer to participate in Canadian Armed Forces operations under conditions of unlimited liability.
<b>RMC</b>	Royal Military College. While usually referring to the military college in Kingston, Ontario, it may also be applied to the Collège Militaire Royal in Saint Jean, Quebec when referring to it in English
<b>RMCC</b>	Royal Military College of Canada
<b>RMCCC</b>	Royal Military Colleges Club of Canada
<b>ROTP</b>	Regular Officer Training Plan. This is Department of National Defence program that provides undergraduate university education to selected individuals in return for a specified period of service in the Canadian Armed Forces. This program applies to cadets at military colleges as well as to individuals selected to go to civilian university.
<b>Service</b>	Generic name given to a specific branch of the military, e.g. naval service.
<b>Unification</b>	Under the <i>Canadian Forces Reorganization Act 1968</i> , the previously separate armed services of Canada were unified and reorganized.
<b>Unlimited liability</b>	Unlimited liability is a concept derived strictly from a professional understanding of the military function, is integral to the military ethos, and lies at the heart of the military professional's understanding of duty. While safety is always an important consideration in any military

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	activity, military members can legitimately be ordered to undertake actions that would reasonably place their lives and health at risk. Unlimited liability is what sets members of the Canadian Armed Forces apart from other Canadians.
<b>VA</b>	Visual Acuity = sharpness of vision. Visual acuity is tested as part of the Canadian Armed Forces Medical Category assessment