



Canada

Rick Mercer Goes Gliding With The Royal Canadian Air Cadets!

Ottawa, ON - Rick Mercer, the well-known Canadian comedian and host of *The Rick Mercer Report*, took some time out of his busy schedule this summer to visit the Netook Gliding Centre of the Regional Gliding School (Prairie) in Netook, AB.

Mercer, who is himself a former Sea Cadet, met with cadets of 185 Olds Squadron and 903 Strathmore Squadron before going up for his flight. Needless to say, it wasn't like previous flights Mercer had taken. Not only was the aircraft lacking an engine, but Mercer's pilot had a very youthful air about him - he was only 18 years old!



Rick Mercer gives a thumbs up as he prepares for his inaugural flight in a Schweizer SGS 2-33 Glider.

"He enjoyed it immensely. I would say he was about 3,000 feet in the air," said Stan Monkman, director of public relations for the Alberta Provincial Committee of the Air Cadet League of Canada. "He was astounded by the age of the pilot."

"It was a great opportunity to have our cadets meet a former cadet (Mercer) who has gone on to be such a success," said Captain Joy Cavin, an officer with 185 Olds Squadron. "This was a practical demonstration of the leadership skills that are taught in this program. One of the many exciting opportunities available through the program is that you never know who you are going to meet."

Mercer's time at the Netook Gliding Centre will be featured in a segment on *The Rick Mercer Report* at 8:00 pm on Tuesday, October 2nd and again at 8:30pm on Friday, October 5th on CBC. Be sure to tune in!

The Air Cadet League of Canada is a charitable non-profit organization that operates in partnership with the Department of National Defence in support of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets. It is estimated that in one way or another, 500,000 Canadians are involved in the Air Cadet program.

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