



RACT POLICY STATEMENT

**Office of the Deputy Head of Corps
Royal Australian Corps of Transport
Headquarters Distribution Division
Army Logistic Training Centre
BANDIANA VIC 3694**

24 May 2011

STATEMENT NO 12

THE REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT AND THE COLONELS COMMANDANT

This Policy Statement will expire on:

November 2016

Issued by the Head of Corps Royal Australian Corps of Transport for application within the Royal Australian Corps of Transport.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. T. Muhlall'.

**D. T. MUXHALL, AM
Brigadier
Head of Corps
Royal Australian Corps of Transport**

RACT POLICY STATEMENT NO 12
THE REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT AND THE COLONELS
COMMANDANT

INTRODUCTION

Reference:

- A. Defence Instruction (Army) Personnel 99-1
1. Historically, a senior retired officer in each geographic region fills the role of 'elder statesman' of the Corps. These officers are titled 'Colonel Commandant' regardless of the officer's retirement rank.
 2. Colonels Commandant provides a link between serving and former members of the Corps. They have no role in the chain of command but are a valuable source of advice and counsel for all ranks.
 3. One Colonel Commandant is appointed as the Representative Colonel Commandant by HOC to represent the Colonel-in-Chief in Australia. In addition, this officer may, if requested, put the collective views of all Colonel Commandants on appropriate Corps matters to the serving hierarchy of the Corps.

AIM

4. To specify the selection and appointment procedures and the duties of the Colonels Commandant and the Representative Colonel Commandant.

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

5. The Corps Manager is to maintain a list of current Colonels Commandant for use by the Corps Executive and the RACT Regional Representatives. A complete list is also to be promulgated on the Corps Website.

REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT

Selection and Appointment

6. The detailed procedures for the selection and appointment of the Representative Colonel Commandant are contained in reference A. In essence, the HOC recommends the appointment of one Colonel Commandant to CA through the RSM Ceremonial. The CA, if he agrees, then makes the formal appointment.
7. The Representative Colonel Commandant is appointed for an initial period of two years. Further extensions, each not exceeding 12 months, may be requested by the HOC.

Duties

8. The Representative Colonel Commandant's duties in addition to those detailed in reference A are to:
 - a. represent the Colonel-in-Chief in Australia, including the performance of national-level ceremonial and other duties as requested by the HOC,
 - b. be a member of the RACT Corps Committee at which they will, when requested, put the collective viewpoint of all Colonels Commandant, and
 - c. perform Colonel Commandant duties within they Region.

COLONELS COMMANDANT

Selection and Appointment

9. Detailed procedures for selecting and appointing Colonels Commandant are in reference A.
10. Colonels Commandant are appointed for an initial period of up to four years and may be granted an extension normally not exceeding an additional two years.
11. In order to maximise effectiveness and minimise costs, one Colonel Commandant is normally appointed within each geographic region. Assistance for clothing will be sort from a sponsor within the region IAW the block scale for the appointment. For this purpose, geographic regions are as follows:
 - a. **Northern Region.** Queensland.
 - b. **Eastern Region.** New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.
 - c. **Southern Region.** Victoria.
 - d. **Central Region.** South Australia and the Northern Territory.
 - e. **Western Region.** Western Australia.
 - f. **Tasmania Region.** Tasmania.

Duties

12. The Colonel Commandant duties in addition to those detailed in reference A are:
 - a. participate in Corps activities as requested by unit and sub unit commanders;
 - b. where applicable, foster the RACT Association(s) with emphasis on encouraging the participation of serving members and other retired members;
 - c. actively support RACT Corps Committee initiatives, decisions and directives;
 - d. provide advice to the Representative Colonel Commandant, on matters within his purview, for consideration/discussion at a Corps Committee meeting;
 - e. represent the HOC at official military duties in their appointed region when the HOC is unavailable; and
 - f. should be prepared to submit an annual report to the Corps Committee at the Corps Conference on the activities and issues within their region of responsibility IAW Annex A. At quarterly meetings the Colonel Commandant should submit a report to the Representative COL COMDT when not attending a Corps Committee meeting.
13. Colonel Commandant's are to be presented with a Colonel Commandant parchment at the beginning of their tenure as Colonel Commandant

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

14. Neither the Representative Colonel Commandant nor Colonels Commandant are to communicate directly with the Colonel-in-Chief unless such communication has been cleared by the HOC. The HOC will ensure the necessary approvals are obtained prior to any communications with the Colonel-in-Chief.

Annex:

- A. Colonel Commandant Report Format

**ANNEX A TO
RACT POLICY STATEMENT NO 12
DATED 14 SEPT 09**

COLONEL COMMANDANT _____ REGION REPORT AS AT _____

1. **Report Period.** This report is written to provide an update to HOC on the activities of the COL COMDT _____ Region during the period _____ to _____.
2. **Activities.** The following activities with units, associations, or other approved organisations have been attended during the reporting period:
 - a. Insert details;
 - b. Insert details; and
 - c. Insert details.
3. **Corps Issues.** The following issues or observations have been made of the RACT during the reporting period:
 - a. Insert details;
 - b. Insert details; and
 - c. Insert details.
4. **Recommendations.** The following recommendations are made:
 - a. Insert recommendation; and
 - b. Insert recommendation.

NAME
COL
COL COMDT _____ Region
Tel: _____

Date