

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)
CANADIAN FORCES**

CITATIONS from 2020 to 2024

Updated:	06 September 2024
Pages:	30
Canada Gazettes:	04 January 2020 and CanForGens (cf) 10 November 2020, 31 February 2021, 30 March 2024
CF Message:	01 February 2023
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Index

PAGE	NAME	RANK	POSITION	DECORATIONS	/
03 30/03/24	ALLAIN, Ivan	Captain(N)	Canadian Defence Attaché to Poland	MSC CD	
04 30/03/24	APPOLLONI, Jeremy David	Captain	Cormorant Rescue of crew Atlantic Destiny	MSC CD	
03 30/03/24	ARSENAULT, Timothy Maurice	BGen	Cdr JTF IMPACT / TF Central Iraq	OMM MSC* MSM CD BAR	
04 30/03/24	BROWN, William Blair	Cdr	CO HMCS <i>Fredericton</i>	MSC CD	
05 30/03/24	BULLEN, Anthony Francis Samuel	M/Cpl	SAR Rescue 901 of 2 Nfld Fishermen	MSC CD	
06 30/03/24	CARIGNAN, Marie Annabelle <u>Jennie</u>	MGen	Commander NATO Mission Iraq	CMM MSC MSM CD	
05 30/03/24	COMEAU, John Marc	Captain	CF Intel All-Source Technical Analyst	MSC CD	
06 30/03/24	DOMONKOS, Daniel Janos	Corporal	FE Cormorant Rescue crew Atlantic Destiny	MSC CD	
07 30/03/24	FERLAND, Michaël Joseph Robert	Corporal	Signals Intelligence System for the RN	MSC	
07 30/03/24	FINN, Sean William Andrew	Captain	Pilot of Cormorant Rescue <i>Atlantic Destiny</i>	MSC CD	
08 30/03/24	FORESTIER, Coleen Ann	Colonel	COVID-19 Pandemic Leader CFHS	MSC CD	
09 30/03/24	FORTIN, Joseph Serge Steve <u>Dany</u>	MGen	Cdr NATO Training & Capacity Iraq	OMM MSC CD	
07 30/03/24	FOSTER, Robert Michael	Colonel	Canadian Defence Attaché Ukraine	MSC MSM CD	
10 04/01/20	GAGNÉ, Joseph Raymond Marc	BGen	Commander Task Force Jerusalem	OMM MSC MSM CD	
11 30/03/24	GARVIN, Thomas Joseph	Signaller	Signals Intelligence (SIGINT)	MSC	
12 30/03/24	GLEASON, Corey Lloyd Ellis	Cdr	CO HMCS Harry DeWolf/Arctic Patrol	MMM MSC CD	
11 30/03/24	GRATRIX, Marty Charles	WO	UNIFIER Engineer Element Poland	MMM MSC CD	
13 04/01/20	IRWIN, Robert Brian	Colonel	Defence Attaché Ukraine	MSC CD	
14 30/03/24	JOHNSON, Robert <u>James</u>	Captain	Air Evacuation from Afghanistan 2021	MSC CD	
15 30/03/24	KURTZ, Marie Thérèse Josée	Cmdre	Cdr Standing NATO Maritime Group 2	OMM MSC CD	
16 30/03/24	LAFOREST, Éric	Colonel	Cdr Task Force Latvia 06/2019-06/2021	MSC CD	
17 04/01/20	MacBETH, Steven Kelly	LCol	Commander Task Force Jerusalem	MSC MSM CD	
19 04/01/20	McKENNA, Christopher Alan	Colonel	Cdr Task Force Mali	OMM MSC MSM CD	
18 30/03/24	MALCOLM, Scott Francis	Colonel	RCHS – Lead on CF COVID-19	MSC CD	
20 30/03/24	MOREHEN, Travis Andrew	Colonel	Cdr Task Force Mali 2019	MSC CD	
21 04/01/20	MORRISON, Christopher Wayne	LCol	CO RCAF Helicopter Deployment Mali	MSC CD	
30 01/02/21	NOT GAZETTED – TWO (2)	No Rank	Canadian Special Operations Command	MSC	
30 31/12/21h	NOT GAZETTED – ONE (1)	No Rank	Canadian Special Operations Command	MSC	
30 2022h	NOT GAZETTED – THREE (3)	No Rank	Canadian Special Operations Command	MSC	
30 30/03/24	NOT GAZETTED – TWO (2)	No Rank	Canadian Special Operations Command	MSC	
30 03/07/24cf	NOT GAZETTED – THREE (3)	No Rank	Cdn Special Operations Forces	MSC	
22 30/03/24	OAKS, Thomas William	Corporal	Analytic Tool for CF Electronics Warfare	MSC CD	
23 30/03/24	OKIHIRO, Kevin Ritchie	Lt(N)	Ordnance Disposal Upton Cross UK	MSC CD	
24 30/03/24	OUELLET, Jean Stéphane (“ <u>Steph</u> ”)	Cdr	CO HMCS <i>Chicoutimi</i> (Submarine)	MSC CD	
29 03/07/24cf	PEATS, Bradley	Cmdre	Cdr Standing NATO Maritime Group 1	MSC CD	
25 30/03/24	ROBISON, Damien Lindsey	Sergeant	SAR Rescue 901 of 3 Nfld Fishermen	MSC CD	
26 30/03/24	ROCK, Forrest Glen	LCol	Commander of Air Task Force Romania	MSC CD	
27 30/03/24	ST-LOUIS, Michel-Henri	BGen	Cdr Task Force IMPACT Iraq	OMM MSC MSM CD	

gh – Government House

2022h - Honours and Recognition to the CAF 2022

31/12/21h - 2021 Annual report “Honours and Recognition for the Members of the Canadian Armed Forces”.

03/07/24cf – CANFORGEN 083/24 released on July 3, 2024.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

ARSENAULT, Timothy Maurice

Brigadier-General – ex Royal 22e Regiment
Commander of Task Force Central JTF IMPACT Kuwait

OMM MSC* MSM CD
Bar to MSC

CG: 30 March 2024
GH:
DOI: May 2021 to May 2022

“From May 2021 to May 2022, Brigadier-General Arsenault was deployed to Kuwait as commander of Joint Task Force IMPACT / Task Force Central. Responsible for the mission to fight Daesh in Iraq and Syria, he led 360 members with a degree of experience and aplomb that earned him praise from our coalition partners. He demonstrated extraordinary leadership during Operation AEGIS, the mission to evacuate Afghans with significant ties to Canada. Furthermore, he supported a change in culture and advanced Canada’s Women, Peace and Security initiative with our regional partners.”



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **CanForGen** 11 December 2020 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 August 2011 in the rank of Major.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 17 June 2017 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSC and Bar – MSM – General Campaign Star ribbon SW Asia with one extra tour bar – SSM with bar NATO – General Service with Expedition ribbon - Peacekeeping – NATO ribbon and bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and 1 bar



Receiving the General Service Medal with Expedition ribbon from Major-General Darcy Edward Molstad, RCAF



ALLAIN, Ivan

Captain(N) – Royal Canadian Navy
Canadian Defence Attaché to Poland

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024
GH:
DOI: December 2021 to October 2022

“As Canadian defence attaché to Poland from December 2021 to October 2022, Captain(N) Allain demonstrated exemplary professionalism. His knowledge contributed enormously to the achievement of the Canadian government’s strategic objective of using military and political means to support Ukraine in the face of the Russian invasion. His insight and leadership provided the Canadian Armed Forces with opportunities to assist refugees and the Ukrainian Armed Forces. Through his actions and vision for the strategic plan, Captain(N) Allain brought great honour to Canada.”

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

APPOLLONI, Jeremy David

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Captain – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH:

CH-149 Cormorant aircraft Commander rescue mission of fishing vessel *Atlantic Destiny*

DOI: 02 March 2021

“On 2 March 2021, Captain Appolloni, a CH-149 Cormorant aircraft commander, displayed outstanding professionalism during the search and rescue mission of fishing vessel *Atlantic Destiny*, 240 kilometres off the coast of Nova Scotia. His perseverance and exceptional piloting skills in extreme weather conditions, coupled with his response to a critical in-flight emergency, ensured mission success. Captain Appolloni’s extraordinary leadership and actions contributed to the rescue of all 31 sailors from the sinking vessel.”



BROWN, William Blair

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Commander - RCN

GH: 08 November 2021

Commanding Officer, HMCS *Fredericton* in the Mediterranean, Black and Baltic Seas

DOI: January to July 2020



“From January to July 2020, Commander Brown displayed exceptional leadership, professionalism and compassion while deployed to the Mediterranean, Black and Baltic seas as commanding officer of Her Majesty’s Canadian Ship *Fredericton*. Throughout the seven-month deployment, he ensured his crew remained operationally focused and resilient despite unprecedented hardships imposed by the COVID-19 global pandemic and by the tragic loss of the ship’s helicopter and its six crew members. Commander Brown’s remarkable efforts directly contributed to Canada’s impressive standing among its allies.”

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

BULLEN, Anthony Francis Samuel

MSC CD

Canfor Gen: 31 February 2021

Master-Corporal – RCAF SAR TECH

GH: 08 November 2021

SAR Team Leader Rescue 901 from 103 SAR Squadron rescue *MV Northern Provider*

DOI: 05 March 2017

“For exceptional professionalism, determination and courage in perilous circumstances when rescuing two fishermen in a fierce North Atlantic storm 280 Kilometers Northeast of St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador as a Search and Rescue Team member on Rescue 901 on 05 March 2017.”

“On March 5, 2017, as the search and rescue team leader on Rescue 901 from 103 Search and Rescue Squadron, Master Corporal Bullen responded to a mayday call from the fishing vessel *Northern Provider*, caught in a fierce North Atlantic storm 280 kilometres northeast of St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador. Demonstrating exceptional professionalism and determination in perilous circumstances, Master Corporal Bullen was lowered into the frigid water twice—once with a compromised immersion suit—to rescue two fishers who had abandoned ship in extremely hazardous sea conditions.”



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COMEAU, John Marc

MSC CD

CanforGen: 10 November 2020

Captain

GH: 07 November 2023

Canadian Forces Intelligence all-source technical analyst

DOI: 15 August 2011 to 30 October 2019

“For constant vigilance and insightfulness as a Canadian Forces Intelligence all-source technical analyst from 15 August to 30 October 2019.”

“As a Canadian Forces Intelligence Command all-source technical analyst from August 2011 to October 2019, Captain Comeau’s constant vigilance and insightfulness enabled the Government of Canada to curtail illicit foreign activities. His exemplary dedication safeguarded Canadian and allied technological and economic interests. His expertise and influence far exceeded his rank level, as he diligently collected evidence to effectively inform ministerial level decisions. Captain Comeau’s professionalism and persistence impacted major foreign military capability development and has brought great honour to the Canadian Armed Forces.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

CARIGNAN, Marie Annabelle Jennie
Major-General (now Lieutenant-General)
Commander of NATO Mission Iraq

CMM MSC MSM CD

CG: 30 March 2024
GH: 08 November 2021
DOI: November 2029 to November 2020



"As commander of NATO Mission Iraq from November 2019 to November 2020, Major-General Carignan provided inspired leadership during a turbulent and dangerous period, working tirelessly to maintain the political and military viability of the mission. She provided key advice to the Alliance's civilian and military leadership to help them develop future options for NATO in Iraq, while serving as their trusted agent in interactions with senior Iraqi government and defence officials. Major-General Carignan's extraordinary leadership and foresight reinforced the credibility of both NATO and Canada."

Appointed **Officer of the Legion of Merit (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 26 June 2021 in the rank of Major-General.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 11 February 2012 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel for service with the Kandahar Engineer Régiment.

Medals: CMM – MSC – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA and one extra tour bar – General Campaign Star with ribbon Expedition and one extra tour bar -

Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Golden Jubilee – CD and 2 bars – Officer Legion of Merit (USA)

DOMONKOS, Daniel Janos

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Corporal – Royal Canadian Air Force Flight Engineer

GH:

CH-149 Cormorant aircraft Commander rescue mission of fishing vessel *Atlantic Destiny*

DOI: 02 March 2021

"On 2 March 2021, Corporal Domonkos, a CH-149 Cormorant flight engineer, performed brilliantly while participating in a search and rescue mission of the fishing vessel *Atlantic Destiny*, 240 kilometres off the coast of Nova Scotia. He demonstrated extraordinary commitment and professionalism during the precision lowering of two search and rescue technicians onto the *Destiny*, the subsequent successful hoisting of six sailors, and a critical emergency on his helicopter. Corporal Domonkos' remarkable actions contributed to the rescue of all 31 sailors from the sinking vessel."



R907, RCAF CH-149 helicopter (Canada)

Capt Jeremy Appolloni, Aircraft Captain

Capt Sean Finn, First Officer

Sgt Bradley Nisbet, SAR Tech Team Leader

Sgt Fernando Bianco, SAR Tech Team Member

MCpl Danie Domonkos, Flight Engineer

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

FERLAND, Michaël Joseph Robert

MSC

CG: 30 March 2024

Corporal – attached the Royal Navy

GH:

Reconfigured and restructured files and network connections for signals intelligence systems DOI: May 2020 to December 2021

“While transferred to Lincolnshire, United Kingdom, from May 2020 to December 2021, Corporal Ferland was deployed twice with the Royal Navy. Demonstrating outstanding initiative and exceptional expertise, he reconfigured and restructured files and network connections for signals intelligence systems, increasing the efficiency and accuracy of signal analysis processing. Corporal Ferland’s valiant contribution resulted in near real time continuous improvement of Task Force Protection, and these changes have been instituted throughout the Royal Navy fleet.”

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FINN, Sean William Andrew

MSC CD

CF HB: 2023

Captain – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH:

CH-149 Cormorant Helicopter Pilot rescue mission of fishing vessel Atlantic *Destiny* DOI: 02 March 2021

“On 2 March 2021, Captain Finn, a CH-149 Cormorant pilot, participated in the search and rescue mission of the fishing vessel Atlantic Destiny, 240 kilometres off the coast of Nova Scotia. Flying at night and in extreme weather conditions, he demonstrated extraordinary skill throughout the mission and during a subsequent in-flight emergency on board his own helicopter. As a result of his actions, all 31 sailors on board the sinking vessel were rescued. Captain Finn’s steadfastness and professionalism contributed to the rescue of all 31 sailors from the sinking vessel.”

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FOSTER, Robert Michael

MSC MSM CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Colonel – Canadian Army

GH:

Canadian Defence Attaché Ukraine

DOI: August 2019 to August 2023

“Since arriving in Ukraine in August 2019, Colonel Foster rose to every challenge and earned a reputation as an extraordinarily effective, influential and trusted defence attaché. With an international impact spanning from tactical to strategic, he demonstrated absolute calm, clarity of mission and purpose, personal leadership and consummate teamwork in the thick of several crises, including the outbreak of war in 2022. Colonel Foster has made a vital contribution to the success of Canada’s mission and objectives in Ukraine.”



Robb served as the Director Army Reserve as a Colonel from August 2014 to August 2017. He then retired from the Canadian Armed Forces to travel the world with his family. He then returned to the RCAF in August 2019 and took up the position of Canadian Defence Attaché to the Ukraine just as the war was breaking out.

Awarded the **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **CanForGen** of 24 June 2015 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel

Medals: MSC – MSM – General Service Star with SWA ribbon – CD and bar

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

FORESTIER, Coleen Ann

Colonel – Royal Canadian Forces Health Services
COVID-19 Pandemic Lead for RCFHS

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

GH: 07 November 2023

DOI: July 2020 to September 2021



"From July 2020 to September 2021, Colonel Forestier demonstrated unwavering dedication and leadership in helping to plan, implement and lead the Canadian Armed Forces response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the director of Health Services Operation in Ottawa, Ontario, she played a vital role in the nation's efforts to protect Canadians. Colonel Forestier's professionalism, commitment to duty and collaboration enabled quick responses to pandemic-related incidents across the globe and facilitated a comprehensive immunization campaign both at home and abroad."

Awarded **British Ebola Virus Medal for service in West Africa** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 30 January 2016 in the rank of Colonel.

Medals: MSC – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Service Star with SWA ribbon – CD – Ebola Virus Medal for service in West Africa (United Kingdom)



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

FORTIN, Joseph Serge Steve Dany

Major-General

Commander of the NATO Training and Capacity Training Mission in Iraq

OMM MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

CanforGen: 10 November 2020

DOI: October 2018 to November 2019

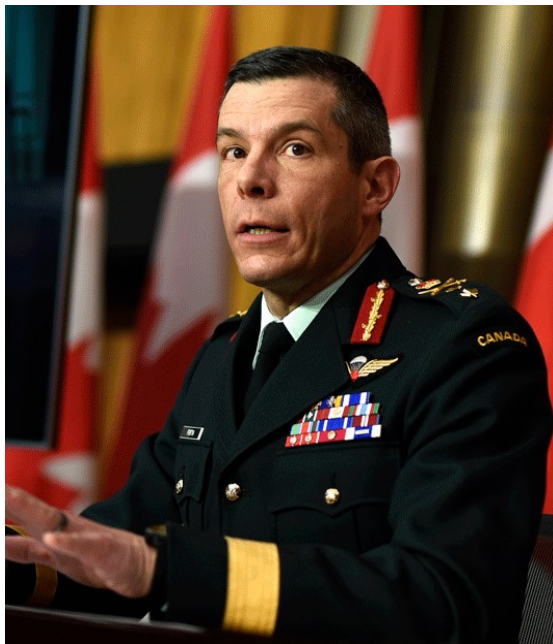
“Commander of the NATO Training and Capacity Training Mission in Iraq from October 2018 to November 2019”.

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 06 June 2015 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Officer the Legion of Merit (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 31 March 2018 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

Awarded the NATO Meritorious Service Medal (NATO0 as per the Canada Gazette of 01 August 2020 in the rank of Major-General.

Medals: OMM – MSC – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – General Campaign Star with EXPEDITION ribbon and one extra tour bar - Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar NTM-IRAQ - EIIR Diamond Jubilee non-article 5 ribbon – CD and 2 Bars – Officer, Legion of Merit (USA) – NATO Meritorious Service Medal (NATO)



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

GAGNÉ, Joseph Raymond Marc
Brigadier-General
Commander of Task Force Jerusalem

OMM MSC MSM CD

CG: 04 January 2020
GH: 08 January 2020
DOI: July 2018 to July 2019



"Brigadier-General Gagné served as commander of Task Force Jerusalem from July 2018 to July 2019. Notably, he successfully oversaw the implementation of technological and operational initiatives that improved the capabilities of the Palestinian Authority Security Forces. Furthermore, within the Office of the United States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority, he provided security coordination in the region. In a complex environment, he demonstrated diplomacy by promoting Canada's interests in the region while maintaining good relations with key allies."

"For extraordinary leadership and professionalism as the Commander of Task Force Jerusalem and Deputy Coordinator of support in the office of the US Security coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian authority from July 2018 to July 2019."

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 11 February 2012 in the rank of Colonel as the Chief of Staff to the Afghanistan National Police Development.

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 03 June 2017 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Legionnaire of the Legion of Merit (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** 28 May 2011 of in the rank of Colonel for service in Afghanistan

Awarded **Bronze Star (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** 06 December 2014 of in the rank of Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSC – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar – Legionnaire of the Legion of Merit (USA) – Bronze Star (USA)



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

GARVIN, Thomas Joseph

MSC

CG: 30 March 2024

Signaller

GH:

Analyzing and disseminating a groundbreaking Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) discovery

DOI: May 2022

“Signaller Garvin’s outstanding work ethic, remarkable tradecraft and exemplary dedication directly contributed to identifying, analyzing and disseminating a groundbreaking Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) discovery in Ottawa, Ontario, in May 2022. His tremendous efforts provided indications and warnings to allies and international partners on high-priority targets of interest. Signaller Garvin represents the highest standard of leadership, and technical SIGINT acumen and innovation, which has brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces, Canada and the broader SIGINT community.”

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GRATRIX, Marty Charles

MMM MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Warrant Officer – 39 Combat Engineers Regiment

GH:

Setting up UNIFIER’s Engineer Training Element in Poland

DOI: 2023

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **CanForGen** of 11 December 2020 in the rank of Warrant Officer.

Medals: MMM – MSC – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – SSM – Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar



MWO Marty Gratrix has served 24 years (as of 2024) in the Royal Canadian Engineers, primarily with 1 CER. He has served in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia and Afghanistan. More recently, he has been involved with setting up Op UNIFIER's Engineer Training Element in Poland. MWO Gratrix is currently serving as the Training Coordinator with the Joint Counter explosive Threat Cell in Army Headquarters.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

GLEASON, Corey Lloyd Ellis

MMM MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Commander – Royal Canadian Navy

GH:

Commanding Officer of *Her Majesty's Canadian Ship Harry DeWolf*

DOI: January 2017 to January 2022

"As commanding officer of *Her Majesty's Canadian Ship Harry DeWolf*, Canada's first Arctic offshore patrol vessel, Commander Gleason displayed extraordinary leadership, devotion and expertise towards the re-introduction and operationalization of naval competencies in Canada's North, from January 2017 to January 2022. With polished professionalism, he turned a national strategic vision into Royal Canadian Navy preparedness for Arctic operations. His success directly underpinned Canada's resolve in safeguarding the North and ensuring its northern and Arctic residents are safe, secure and well-defended."

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 26 March 2011 in the rank of Lieutenant(N).

Medals: MMM – MSC – SWA with bar Afghanistan – Operational Service Medal – SSM with bar NATO – CD and Bar

Commander Corey Lloyd Ellis Gleason MMM, MSC, CD



Hailing from Welland, Ontario, Canada, Cdr Corey Gleason enlisted the Royal Canadian Navy on 8 August 1985. He trained as a Naval Signalman in Esquimalt, BC, and was posted to *HMCS Protecteur* in Halifax NS. While in Halifax he served in multiple ships, participated in many NATO exercises and was support staff to Standing Naval Force Atlantic.

In 1991 he moved to Maritime Forces Pacific to serve in the Training Squadron. While serving in Esquimalt BC he was crew to a series of classes of ships, highlighted by *HMCS Ottawa*, where he deployed for Operation APOLLO in support of the war against terrorism as ship's Senior Naval Communicator. Throughout his time in the ranks, he proudly supported the ships he served by volunteering for secondary duties such as Ship's Team Diver and Boarding Party 2 I/C, making a conscious effort to enhance the capabilities of the ships he served.

Gleason commissioned from the ranks in November 2003 and on completion of formal officer training in College militaire royal de Saint-Jean, NOTC Venture and *HMCS Whitehorse*, he served as Deck Officer in *HMCS Calgary*, Navigating Officer in *HMCS Brandon*, *HMCS Vancouver*, *HMCS Regina* and *HMCS Protecteur*, and Combat Officer in *HMCS Ottawa*. Cdr Gleason took up his first command appointment to command *HMCS Yellowknife*. He proudly served as a roving Ambassador to the City of Yellowknife and the peoples of the Northwest Territories and visited the City of Yellowknife multiple times.

Cdr Gleason took up his next appointment as Executive Officer in *HMCS Ottawa* and immediately deployed to join the fight against the illegal distribution of narcotics in South and North America supporting Joint Interagency Task Force South. Gleason's time in sea going units was interrupted twice by shore postings inland, but he generally remained on the wet list serving in Sea Training as Operations Officer and Executive Officer in between northern operations and studies with other government departments and allies.

After many years of sailing north in Canadian Coast Guard ships or with NATO allies, Gleason went north in the dead of winter as Captain of *HMCS Harry DeWolf*, executing cold weather trials and deploying again summer of 2021, circumnavigating North America via the North West Passage and the Panama Canal.

He and his spouse France Chalifour of Quebec City are tremendously proud to be part of naval history, following *HMCS Labrador's* historic journey in 1954. Cdr Gleason will continue his work and studies in the Arctic domain, as he accepts his next command appointment to Sea Training Patrol. Gleason and his spouse currently reside in Halifax NS where they have the honor and privilege to continue to serve the Royal Canadian Navy.

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

IRWIN, Robert Brian

Colonel – Royal Canadian Engineers
Defence Attaché Ukraine

MSC CD

CG: 04 January 2020

GH: 08 January 2020

DOI: August 2016 to July 2019

“As Canada’s defence attaché to Ukraine from August 2016 to July 2019, Colonel Irwin proved instrumental in realizing Canada’s foreign policy objectives. He rapidly became an influential and principal member of the mission, advising consecutive joint task force commanders, advancing security sector reform, and actively contributing to military co-operation between the two nations. Renowned for his professionalism and diplomacy, he has had an undeniable impact on Canadian Armed Forces operations in Ukraine.”

“For exceptional professionalism, political and strategic acumen as Canada’s Defence Attaché to Ukraine from August 2016 to July 2019.”

Medals: MSC – Peacekeeping – UN Iran and Iraq – NATO with UNPROFOR bar – CD and 2 bars.



After over 36 years of dedicated service, Colonel Brian Irwin will retire from the Canadian armed forces on 26 June 2020. He began his military service in 1983 as a member of the primary reserve Field Engineer Squadron in his home town of Ottawa. The following year, he transferred to the regular force where he completed post-secondary studies at Royal Military College and the Royal Military College of Canada, graduating in 1988 with a degree in civil engineering. Commissioned as an army engineer, he served with both 2 Combat Engineer Regiment and 1 Combat Engineer Regiment where he had the privilege to: lead an airborne field troop, a Mechanized Field Squadron, a Support Squadron, and an Administrative Squadron; serve as a Deputy Commanding Officer (1CER) and Commanded a Regiment (2 CER). As a staff officer, Brian served in a Brigade Headquarters, was the Engineer Career Manager, and was the Joint Staff Engineer Operations Officer. As a Senior Officer, he was a Chief of Staff for a Joint Task Force, the Operational Headquarters’ team Lead for the Afghanistan Mission, the Operations Advisor at the Canadian delegation to NATO, the Director for NATO and European Security Policy, and was the Chief of Staff for the Policy Group in Defence. Most recently, Colonel Irwin served as Canada’s Defence Attaché to the Ukraine. His operational tours include a UN Peacekeeping Mission in Iraq and Kuwait (1991), a NATO Stability Operation in Bosnia (1996 to 1997), and the war in Afghanistan (2006 to 2007). Colonel Irwin has a Masters Degree in Defence Studies and was awarded the Meritorious Service Cross for his serve in the Ukraine.

Upon retirement, he and his wife of 30 years, Sharon, will remain in the National Capital Region to be near their sons Robert and Jonathan.

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

JOHNSON, Robert James

MSC

CG: 30 March 2024

Captain - RCAF

GH: 07 November 2023

Air Evacuation from Afghanistan 2021

DOI: 15 August 2021



"On 15 August 2021, Captain Johnson led a tactical evacuation mission into Hamid Karzai International Airport as part of the Canadian Armed Forces effort to evacuate Afghans who had a significant relationship with the Government of Canada. As the aircraft commander, he brilliantly overcame dynamic and deteriorating conditions at the airport. Despite degraded aircraft system challenges and extreme crew fatigue, Captain Johnson successfully extracted 69 personnel, including the Canadian Ambassador to Afghanistan, foreign diplomats from five coalition nations and 30 Canadian entitled personnel."

Medals: MSC – General Service Medal ribbon Expedition - SSM

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

KURTZ, Marie Thérèse Josée

OMM MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2023

Commodore - RCN

GH: 09 November 2023

commander of Standing NATO Maritime Group Two in the Black and Med. Seas

DOI: June to December 2020

"From June to December 2019, Commodore Kurtz was deployed to the Black and Mediterranean seas as commander of Standing NATO Maritime Group Two. In a complex multinational environment and despite the constant threat posed by foreign fleets operating nearby, she ensured the vigilance and tactical effectiveness of the ship's personnel under her command. Her exceptional analytical skills directly contributed to security and stability in Eastern Europe. Thanks to her strong leadership and persistence, Commodore Kurtz continuously furthered Canada's interests internationally."

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 03 June 2017 in the rank of Captain(N).

Awarded **NATO Meritorious Service Medal** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 27 February 2021 in the rank of Commodore.

Medals: OMM – MSC – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – Operational Service ribbon Humanitas – SSM with bar Expedition – NATO with ribbon Article 5 – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and 2 bars – NATO MSM



Promoted Commodore and made the Commandant of Royal Military College in 2021. Promoted to Rear-Admiral and made Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic in 2023.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

LAFORREST, Èric

Colonel – 2nd Battalion Royal 22^e Regiment
Commander Task Force Latvia

MSC CD

CF HONOURS Book: 2022

GH: 07 November 2023

DOI: June 2019 to June 2021



“From June 2019 to June 2021, Colonel Laforest served with confidence as commander of Task Force Latvia, where he was responsible for force generation and management of nearly 2,000 troops from nine countries. He successfully and continuously cultivated good relations with the host nation, sending countries and NATO headquarters, despite a series of tactical, operational, strategic, and political challenges. Colonel Laforest’s outstanding professionalism significantly enhance the operational effectiveness of the Task Force, bringing great credit to Canada.”

Medals: MSC – General Campaign Star with SW Asia ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM with bar NATO - Peacekeeping – UN Haiti– EIIR Gold Jubilee – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD

Promoted to Brigadier-General and appointed as the Director General of Operations, with the Strategic Joint Staff at Defence Headquarters on his return to Canada in July 2021.



Brigadier-General Èric Laforest, CD
Meritorious Service Cross

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

MacBETH, Steven Kelly

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Regiment
Commander Task Force Jerusalem

MSC MSM* CD

CG: 04 January 2020

GH:

DOI: July 2018 to January 2019

“While deployed to Latvia from July 2018 to January 2019 as commanding officer of NATO's enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group, Lieutenant-Colonel MacBeth developed an innovative and ambitious plan to assemble a coherent and highly effective multinational team in the field. His contribution to improving communications capabilities within the mission was significant and had a direct impact on the coordination and control of operations, as well as on the long-term success of the mission, earning him and Canada praise from the international community.”

“For exceptional professionalism and tireless dedication while deployed to Latvia as CO of NATO S Enhanced Forward Presence Brigade from July 2018 to January 2019.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 26 January 2008 in the rank of Captain with the 1RCR in Afghanistan.

Awarded a **Bar to the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM*)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 11 February 2012 in the rank of Major as the Officer Commanding Kandak Mentor Team in Afghanistan.



Medals: MSC – MSM* - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 3 extra tour bars - SSM bar NATO - Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

MALCOLM, Scott Francis

MSC CD

GH: 30 March 2024

Colonel - RCHS

GH: 08 November 2021

Director of Health Services Operations leading the CF COVID-19 Pandemic Response DOI: February to June 2020



"From February to June 2020, Colonel Malcolm's exceptional performance as director of Health Services Operations was critical to the success of the Canadian Armed Forces' COVID-19 pandemic response. Under challenging circumstances, he expertly guided the planning and execution of the many military health services contributions that were implemented to safeguard Canadian citizens from the virus. Colonel Malcolm's inspirational leadership, fortitude and strategic acumen provided comfort and hope to Canadians, and brought great credit to himself and the Canadian Armed Forces."

Colonel Scott Francis Malcolm, MSC, CD, MD, QHP

Hailing from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Col Scott Malcolm joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1999 through the Medical Officer Training Plan. Upon completion of his residency in Family Medicine he was posted to Canadian Forces Base Petawawa where he completed an operational tour to Bosnia and a mission with the Disaster Assistance Response Team to Sri Lanka. He completed two subsequent tours to Afghanistan, one to Kandahar as the Officer Commanding the Role 1 and the other to Kabul as physician team lead for the OPERATION ATTENTION training mission.

Trained as both a Flight Surgeon and Advanced Dive Medical Officer, he held positions as Base Surgeon at the clinics in both Kingston and Halifax. Following his role as Regional Surgeon (Atlantic) he was posted to Ottawa as medical advisor to the Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy. Upon promotion to his current rank in 2015, Col Malcolm became the Director of Force Health Protection and was subsequently posted to Canadian Forces College to complete the National Security Programme. In June 2018, he was posted to Edmonton as the Commander of 1 Health Services Group. He was appointed to his current position as the Director of Health Services Operations upon posting back to Ottawa in October 2019. In July 2020, he was appointed the **Deputy Surgeon General**. In June 2021 he became the Commander of the Health Services Division and promoted to Brigadier-General.

He was promoted to **Major-General** in January 2024 and appointed as the **Surgeon General**.

Medals: MSC - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM with bar Expedition – Peacekeeping – NATO with ribbon Bosnia - CD

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

McKENNA, Christopher Alan
Colonel - RCAF
Commander Canadian Task Force Mali

OMM MSC MSM CD

CG: 04 January 2020
GH: 08 January 2020
DOI: to 25 January 2019

“Colonel McKenna served as commander of Task Force Mali from July 2018 to January 2019. During his deployment, he assembled a robust and combat-ready team to conduct more than 30 aviation support operations in a violent and risk prone environment. Thanks to his dedication and mental agility, he was instrumental in addressing important coordination issues at United Nations Force Headquarters. His involvement and initiative shaped the deployment of military aviation in Mali while illustrating the impact of Canada’s contribution in the region.”

“For extraordinary leadership and professionalism as Commander of Task Force Mali.”

Awarded the **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 08 December 2012 in the rank of Major as the Officer Commanding the Chinook Flight in Afghanistan.

Awarded the **Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 01 June 2019 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded the **Dutch Medal of Merit in Bronze** on 25 January 2019 for services in Mali.

Medals: OMM – MSC – MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Service with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – NATO – CD – Dutch Medal of Merit in Bronze.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

MOREHEN, Travis Andrew

Colonel – RCAF (Commander 1 Wing Kingston)

Commander Task Force Mali

MSC CD

CanforGen: 31 February 2021

GH: 08 November 2021

DOI: January to September 2019



“For tremendous leadership and meticulously and discreetly coordinating tactical support for a sensitive national operation as Commander Task Force Mali from January to September 2019.”

“Colonel Morehen was deployed as commander of Task Force Mali from January to September 2019, where he built a resilient, combat-capable team able to effectively operate in an austere and violent operational environment. During his tenure, the task force achieved 3 800 hours of tactical aviation flying and executed more than 30 deliberate operations. In addition to aeromedical support, he meticulously and discreetly coordinated tactical support for a sensitive national operation. Colonel Morehen’s tremendous leadership within a complex UN mission brought considerable honour to Canada.”

Medals: MSC – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti with bar – UN Mali - NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar – Officer Legion of Merit (USA)



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

MORRISON, Christopher Wayne
Lieutenant-Colonel - RCAF
CO RCAF Helicopter Deployment in Mali

MSC CD

CG: 04 January 2020
GH: 08 January 2020
DOI: July 2018 to January 2019

"Lieutenant-Colonel Morrison served as commanding officer of the Task Force Mali Aviation Battalion from July 2018 to January 2019. Instrumental to the establishment of the new combat zone aeromedical evacuation capability, he led a unit involved in several complex airmobile operations under dangerous conditions, saving many lives and contributing to the success of the United Nations mission. Known for his positive and respectful approach, he conducted himself with diplomacy as a mentor and trainer of soldiers from other countries working in Mali."

"For exceptional professionalism as Commander of the Helicopter Deployment in Mali."

Medals: MSC – General Campaign Star SWA Ribbon with one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Mali - NATO former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD



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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

OAKS, Thomas William

Corporal - CF Electronic Warfare Centre
Analytic Tool for CF Electronics Warfare

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

GH: 07 November 2023

DOI: June 2018 to May 2020



“From June 2018 to May 2020, Corporal Oaks, an electronic intelligence analyst at Canadian Forces Electronic Warfare Centre (CFEWC) in Ottawa, Ontario, designed a new analytic tool that considerably increased the efficiency of the international operational electronic intelligence community. His singular sense of innovation has greatly enhanced the ability of the Canadian Armed Forces and key allies to correctly identify land-based electronic intelligence and validate new geo-locatable operational electronic intelligence. Corporal Oaks’ exceptional achievement established CFEWC as a significant contributor to the intelligence partnership.”

Medals: MSC – Operational Service Medal with Expedition ribbon – SSM with 2 bars - CD

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

OKIHIRO, Kevin Ritchie

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2023

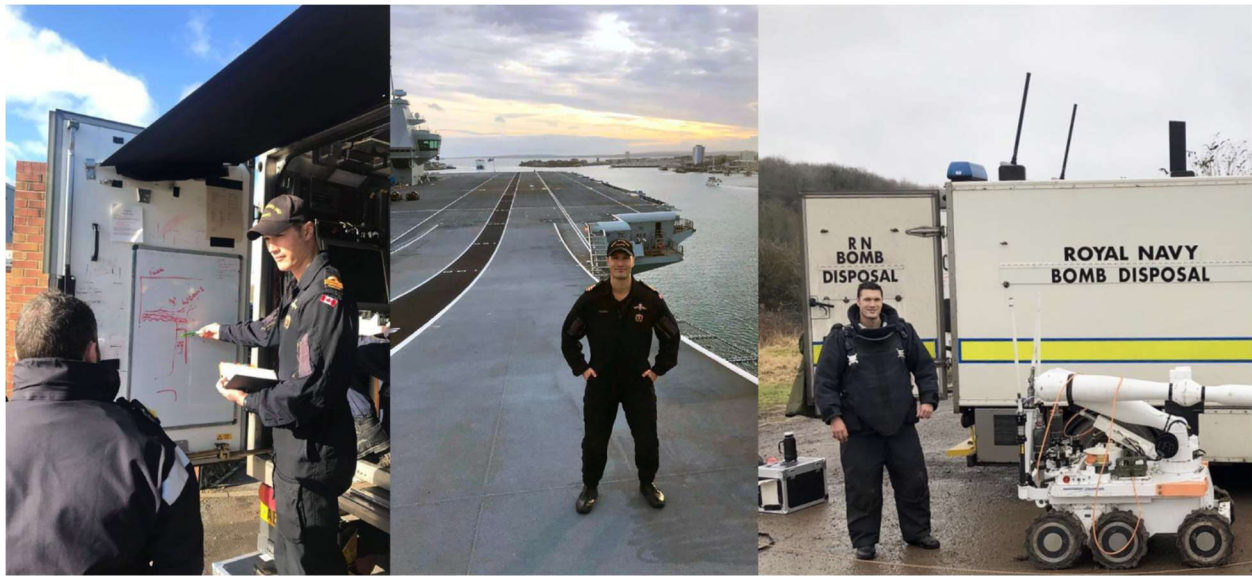
Lieutenant(N)

GH: 08 November 2021

Ordnance Disposal Operator in Charge Upton Cross, England rendered safe 10 bombs

DOI: 26 August 2019

"On 26 August 2019, in Upton Cross, England, Lieutenant(N) Okihiro displayed exceptional leadership and courage representing the Canadian Armed Forces abroad as the primary explosive ordnance disposal operator in charge. En route to a domestic threat, he instinctively gave direction to establish a cordon for public safety. With the targeted building full of secondary flammable hazards and the ground soaked with unknown accelerants, he rendered safe 10 improvised explosive devices. His conspicuous actions saved lives and preserved critical infrastructure."



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

OUELLET, J. Stephane (“Steph”)

MSC CD

CF HONOURS BOOK: 2020

Commander – Royal Canadian Navy

CanforGen: 173/20 17 December 2020

Commanding Officer HMCS Chicoutimi – a Victoria Class Submarine

DOI: September 2017 to March 2018

“For strong leadership and dedication while deployed in the Asia-Pacific region as Commanding Officer of *Her Majesty's Canadian Ship Chicoutimi* from September 2017 to March 2018”.

Medals: MSC – CD and bar

HMCS Chicoutimi completed a 197-day deployment from September 2017 to March 2018, establishing a record for time at sea for the Victoria class of boats. That deployment also solidified diplomatic relationships in Pacific Asia, visiting nations that had not seen a Canadian submarine in decades. *Chicoutimi* visited Japan, for example, which had not hosted a Canadian sub since 1968. On the same deployment, *Chicoutimi* stopped in Hawaii and Guam. The sub also took part in exercises alongside the French and U.S. navies and the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

ROBISON, Damien Linsey

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

Sergeant – RCAF SAR TECH

GH: 07 November 2023

Rescuing three Fishermen in a fierce North Atlantic Storm from a helicopter

DOI: 05 March 2017

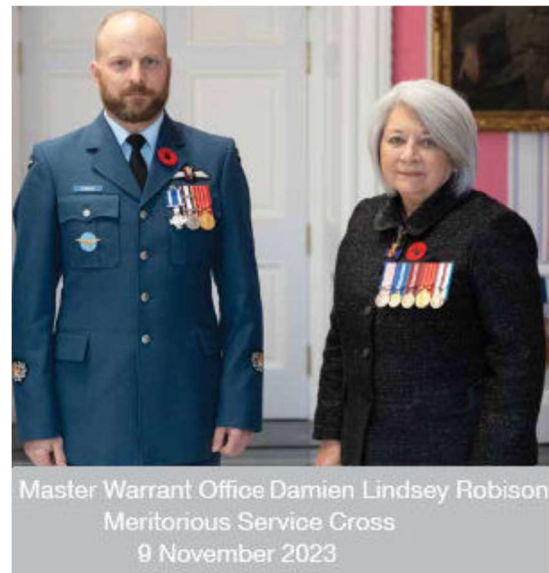
CanforGen: 31 February 2021

“For exceptional professionalism, determination and courage in perilous circumstances when rescuing three fishermen in a fierce North Atlantic storm 280 Kilometers Northeast of St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador as a Search and Rescue Team member on Rescue 901 on 05 March 2017.”



“On 5 March 2017, as the search and rescue team leader on Rescue 901 from 103 Search and Rescue Squadron, Sergeant Robison responded to a mayday call from the fishing vessel Northern Provider, caught in a fierce North Atlantic storm 280 kilometres northeast of St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador. Demonstrating exceptional professionalism and determination in perilous circumstances, Sergeant Robison was lowered into the frigid water to rescue three fishers after they had abandoned ship in extremely hazardous sea conditions.”

Medals: MSC – General Service Medal with bar - CD



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

ROCK, Forrest Glen

Lieutenant-Colonel

Commander of Air Task Force – Romania

MSC CD

CG: 30 March 2024

GH:

DOI: August 2019 to January 2020



“Deployed as the commander of Air Task Force – Romania from August 2019 to January 2020, Lieutenant-Colonel Rock exhibited outstanding leadership and tactical acumen while directing the training, deployment, and execution of NATO's enhanced air policing mission in support of Operation REASSURANCE. Overcoming significant logistical and communications challenges, his task force expertly conducted more than 300 sorties and achieved 438 flight hours with only five CF-188 aircraft. Lieutenant-Colonel Rock's exceptional professionalism was integral to mission success and enhanced Canada's reputation.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

ST-LOUIS, Michel-Henri

Brigadier-General – Canadian Army

Commander Joint Task Force Impact in Iraq and Syria

OMM MSC MSM CD

CanforGen: 31 February 20/21

GH: 08 November 2021

DOI: April 2019 to June 2020

“For demonstrating calm and courage under enemy fire and for his outstanding performance as Commander of Joint Task Force Impact, the Canadian Armed Forces mission in Iraq and Syria against DAESH from April 2019 to June 2020.”

“From April 2019 to June 2020, Brigadier-General St-Louis was deployed as commander of Joint Task Force – IMPACT, the Canadian Armed Forces mission in Iraq and Syria against Daesh. He worked tirelessly to strengthen relationships with key allies, advancing the Canadian government’s strategy in the Middle East. During increased tensions resulting from kinetic strikes, he demonstrated calm and courage under enemy fire while protecting his task force. Brigadier-General St-Louis’ outstanding performance in a complex multinational environment brought great honour to Canada.”



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 04 June 2016 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 08 December 2012 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel with the R22eR in Afghanistan.

Medals: OMM – MSC – MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM bar NATO - Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar – Officer Legion of Merit (USA)

Major-General Michel-Henri St-Louis, OMM, MSC, MSM, CD
Deputy Commanding General for Operations of
First Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McChord

Major-General Michel-Henri St-Louis was born in Managua, Nicaragua, where he lived until 1977, when his family moved to the south shore of Montreal, province of Quebec.

Major-General St-Louis began his career at the Collège Militaire royal (CMR) de Saint-Jean in August 1987, graduating in May 1992 as an infantry officer with the Royal 22e Régiment (R22eR). He has been posted to Saint-Jean (Quebec), Quebec City (Quebec), Oromocto (New Brunswick), Ottawa (Ontario), Toronto (Ontario), Winnipeg (Manitoba) and Washington, D.C. He commanded at the tactical level within 2nd Battalion, R22eR, and then within 1st Battalion, R22eR. He was an instructor at the Infantry School and commanded the Richelieu Squadron at CMR. Brigadier-General St-Louis has taken part in five different overseas missions. He commanded a mechanized infantry platoon in Srebrenica, Bosnia, in the summer of 1993. He served as the intelligence officer of the Canadian Battalion Group in Rastevic, Croatia, in the summer of 1995.

In 2002, he was the second-in-command of the headquarters and S3 Plans Company in Zgon, Bosnia. He went on his first tour in Afghanistan in February 2006 as part of the Strategic Advisory Team – (SAT), which brought together a team of strategic advisors for Afghanistan. During his last deployment, from November 2010 to July 2011, he commanded the last battle group that conducted combat operations in the Panjwayi district of Kandahar Province. He is a graduate of the National War College (Washington, D.C., U.S.A.), the Canadian Forces College, the Collège Militaire royal de Saint-Jean, the Royal Military College in Kingston, and the Canadian Army Command and Staff College. His three masters have focused on war studies, military history, strategy and defence.

He served at the operational level as the first Army officer to hold the position of 1st Canadian Air Division Chief of Staff. He also served as a staff officer at the strategic level with the Director General, Strategic Planning, of the Canadian Armed Forces, within the Army Staff and, recently, with the Strategic Joint Staff at National Defence Headquarters. From 2015-2017 he was the 28th Commander of the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group

Brigadier-General Michel-Henri St-Louis, OMM, MSC, MSM, CD

Brigadier-General Michel-Henri St-Louis was appointed in 2018 as the Deputy Commanding General for Operations of First Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. As a globally responsive and regionally aligned force under the US Pacific Command, First Corps is prepared to deploy as a Joint Task Force and provide mission command over combined, joint, and Army forces in order to achieve national objectives and win decisively in any environment.

He was placed in command of Canadian Army Doctrine and Training Centre Headquarters In August 2020. He was promoted to Major-General in 2021 and served as the Acting Commander of the Canadian Army in that April 2021. In June 2022, he was appointed at the Director of the Military Staff in Washington D.C., USA, and as the Canadian Attaché to the USA.



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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

PEATS, Bradley

Commodore - RCN

Commander of Standing NATO Maritime Group One

MSC CD

CANFORGEN: 03 July 2024

GH:

DOI: January to December 2021

"For extraordinary leadership, professionalism and remarkable abilities" while serving as Commander of Standing NATO Maritime Group One from Jan to Dec. 2021."

Medals: MSM – SSM – Peacekeeping – NATO with Non-Article 5 NATO ribbon and Bar OUP-LIBYA/LIBYE for NATO Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR – NATO – CD and Bar

Commodore Bradley A. PEATS, MSM, CD, RCN

Commodore Bradley Peats was born in Duluth, Minnesota, in 1971. The son of an Air Force officer, he was raised on Air Force bases across Canada. He began his own career in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1989 enrolling in the Regular Officer Training Program at the Royal Military College of Canada (RMC) Kingston, Ontario, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1994.

Commodore Peats commenced his seagoing career with the Royal Australian Navy where he obtained his bridge watch-keeping certificate. Upon his return from Australia, he joined *HMCS Regina* deploying immediately to the Persian (Arabian) Gulf as part of Operation Prevention in 1997. This deployment was followed closely by a second to the same region, this time as part of Operation Augmentation in 1999, in which he held the duties of Navigating Officer. Additional sea tours included two years as an Operations Room Officer in *HMCS Calgary* and appointment as Executive Officer in *HMCS St. John's*, where he deployed to Haiti as part of Operation Horatio in 2008. His final operational period at sea was as Commanding Officer of *HMCS Vancouver*, deploying as part of Operation Mobile, the Canadian contribution to Operation Unified protector, the 2011 NATO-led international response to the crisis in Libya.



Shore tours included instructor and Commandant of the Naval Officers Training Centre, the year-long Operations Room Officer Course, and career manager at Director General Military Careers in National Defence Headquarters. In addition, Commodore Peats attended the year-long Joint Command and Staff Programme and the National Security Programme, both at the Canadian Forces College in Toronto. Recent tours include Commander of the Fourth Maritime Operations Group in Victoria, BC, Deputy Commander of Joint Task Force North in Yellowknife, NT, Director of Programmes at the Canadian Forces College. In July 2019, he was appointed Director General Plans within the Strategic Joint Staff and his promotion to Commodore made substantive.

He served as the Commander of Standing NATO Maritime Group One from Jan to Dec. 2021

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military) (MSC)

TWO (2) NOT GAZETTED

MSC

CF MESSAGE: 01 February 2021

No Rank Given

GH: Nil

Members of the Canadian Special Operations Force Command

DOI: around 2020

"Two members of the Canadian Special Operations Force Command were awarded the Meritorious Service Cross but no information was provided due to security reasons."

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ONE (1) NOT GAZETTED

MSC

HONOURS BOOK: 2021

No Rank

GH:

Canadian Special Operations Forces

DOI: 2020 or 2021

"One member of the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command. For security and operational reasons, the name and citation of the recipient was not released."

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THREE (3) NOT GAZETTED

MSC

CF HONOURS BOOK: 2022

No Rank Given

GH: Nil

Members of the Canadian Special Operations Force Command

DOI:

"Two members of the Canadian Special Operations Force Command were awarded the Meritorious Service Cross but no information was provided due to security reasons."

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TWO (2) NOT GAZETTED

MSC

CG: 30 March 2024

No Rank Given

GH:

Canadian Special Operations Force Command

DOI: Unknown

"Two members of the CANADIAN SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES COMMAND.
For security and operational reasons, the names and citations of the recipients are not released."

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THREE (3) NOT GAZETTED

MSC

CANFORGEN: 03 July 2024

No Rank Given

GH: Nil

Members of the Canadian Special Operations Force Command

DOI: Nil Given

"Three members of the Canadian Special Operations Force Command were awarded the Meritorious Service Cross.
For operational security, names and operation have been kept hidden."

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