

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

CITATIONS 13 August 2011 to 11 February 2012

UPDATED: 25 January 2022
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CORRECT TO: 11 February 2012 CG
Prepared by: John Blatherwick

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

HOLMES, Walter Matheson
Honorary Colonel - Royal Canadian Regiment
Royal Canadian Regiment

MBE MSM CD

CG: Not Gazetted
GH: 04 March 2011
DOI: 2006 to 2011

“Since June 2006, Colonel of the Regiment Holmes has been providing leadership and has been dedicated to The Royal Canadian Regiment. He championed the development of the Regimental Veterans’ Care Cell, as well as the sourcing of private funds to support both wounded soldiers and the post-secondary education of the children of fallen soldiers. These initiatives have enhanced the quality of life for both serving and retired members of the regiment. His service has brought great credit to The Royal Canadian Regiment and to the Canadian Forces.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 August 1986 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Awarded **Serving Brother, Order of St. John (MStJ)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 22 May 1999 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

Awarded **Grand Officer of the Order of Merit** of Luxembourg as per **Canada Gazette** of 24 January 2004 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Merit (USA)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 September 1996 in the rank of Colonel.

Medals: MBE – MSM (military) – OSTJ – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UNEF II - EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and two bars – Officer, Legion of Merit (USA) – Grand Officer of the Order of Merit (Luxembourg)

Retired in 2003 in the rank of Major-General.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

THREE

MSM

CG: Not Gazetted

No ranks given

GH: 11 March 2011

Canadian Special Operations Forces Command

DOI: 2010

“His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, announces the awarding of **three Stars of Military Valour and two Medals of Military Valour**, as well as **one Meritorious Service Cross, three Meritorious Service Medals and one Mention in Dispatches**, to members of the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (CANSOFCOM).

These members received their decorations today during a ceremony at Rideau Hall in the presence of the Chief of the Defence Staff. They were recognized for devotion and acts of valour in the presence of the enemy and for military deeds performed in a highly professional manner. For security and operational reasons, recipients’ names and citations are not released.”

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BONVIE, John Andrew Andres (“Andy”)

MMM MSM CD

CG: Not Gazetted

Master Warrant Officer

GH: 11 March 2011

Canadian Special Operations Command

DOI: April to October 2010

“From April to October 2010, Master Warrant Officer Bonvie was the Sergeant-Major of a Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan. His efforts and leadership were critical in enabling the task force to implement new capabilities that greatly enhanced the effectiveness of their counter-insurgency operations. Master Warrant Officer Bonvie’s work ethic and soldiering skill ensured the tactical and operational success of the task force, thereby bringing great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 03 June 2017 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

Medals: MMM – MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – General Campaign Star with Expedition ribbon – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar



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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

ORR, Jeffrey Russell

MSM CD

Awarded: 02 February 2011

Major – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 02 February 2011

Development of Canada's first deployed Special Operations Aviation Detachment

DOI: 2009



Canada's first deployed Special Operations Aviation Detachment "Major Orr demonstrated leadership and commitment to mission success in the development of Canada's first deployed Special Operations Aviation Detachment. Prior to his unit's arrival in Afghanistan, there had been minimal airlift options available to the Special Operations Task Force and Joint Task Force Afghanistan. Under Major Orr's leadership, the Special Operations Aviation Detachment became an integral part of these task forces and, as a result, greatly enhanced them. His actions were instrumental in Canada's participation as an equal partner in gaining peace and security for the people of Afghanistan.

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Golden Jubilee – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and bar

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ADAMS, Darryl Gordon

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Major

GH: 02 June 2011

Chinook Flight Commander Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009



"For outstanding leadership, initiative and unwavering dedication as Chinook Flight Commander in Afghanistan from April to October 2009."

"As a Chinook flight commander from April to October 2009, Major Adams was instrumental in establishing a reliable helicopter capability to support counter-insurgency operations in Afghanistan. Regularly flying missions under fire, he helped to ensure the success of numerous multinational air assault operations, while his aviation expertise was essential in the mentorship of inexperienced helicopter crews. His leadership, initiative and unwavering dedication were critical to the success and safety of all Chinook operations, enhancing the reputation of Canadian aviation forces in the eyes of the international community."

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

ASHFIELD, Anthony ('Tony') Joseph Mark Hilaire MSM CD
Colonel
Deputy Chief of Staff Support for Canada Command and Op Podium

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: 2009 to April 2010

"As the deputy chief of Staff Support for Canada Command, Colonel Ashfield provided exceptional leadership in the planning and execution of Operation Podium, one of the Canadian Forces' most complex domestic missions to date: military support of the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games in Vancouver. Colonel Ashfield's professionalism and dedication ensured the efficient training, deployment and operational support of over 4 000 people. Of particular note were his efforts to establish and enhance cross-border relations with his counterparts at NORAD and the United States Northern Command, in the common security requirements of western North America at that time. His steady hand and personal involvement were instrumental in Operation Podium's success."



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

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BIBBY, Lee William Edward
Sergeant - Royal Canadian Air Force
SAR TECH

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: 09 August 2008

RICHARD, Stéphane Joseph Michel
Master Corporal – Royal Canadian Air Force
SAR TECH

MSM CD

"During the night of 09 August 2008, rescue team leader Sergeant Bibby and rescue team member Master Corporal Richard came to the aid of a woman with severe head injuries acquired while hiking along the ridge of a 400-foot rock face, in Ontario's Killarney Provincial Park. A rescue helicopter was unable to reach the victim due to poor weather conditions. Upon hearing that the victim's condition was worsening, the two search and rescue technicians travelled to the scene and ascended a steep and slippery rock face in heavy rain and darkness, while carrying full medical gear. They then stabilized the patient and remained with her until they were extracted by helicopter the following morning. Their perseverance through adversity brought great credit to the Canadian Forces."



Master-Corporal (now Sergeant) Richard

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BOULAY-PAILLÉ, Mathieu S.
Corporal
2-ic of a Mentoring Team in Afghanistan

MSM

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: April to October 2009

"As second-in-command of a mentoring team in Afghanistan from April to October 2009, Corporal Boulay-Paillé worked beyond his rank to bring significant improvements to the fighting capabilities of the Afghan National Army. With confidence, he mentored an Afghan sergeant-major and developed defence and sustainment plans; in the face of the enemy, he provided leadership to his troops. Corporal Boulay-Paillé's performance greatly enhanced the mentoring team's effectiveness and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces."

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

BURT, Gregory Dawson

OMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Colonel – former Royal 22e Regiment Officer

GH: 02 June 2011

Commanding Officer of the Operational Mentor & Liaison Team (OMLT) in Kandahar

DOI: April 2009 to October 2009

“Colonel Burt was the commanding officer of the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team, in Kandahar, from March to October 2009. His command presence and mentorship empowered the 1st Brigade, 205th Corps of the Afghan National Army to successfully conduct increasingly complex operations, disrupting enemy objectives and strengthening the Afghan government’s authority within the province. His leadership inspired his soldiers to persevere as they faced peril on a daily basis, all while mentoring soldiers at remote locations throughout the area of operations. Colonel Burt’s understanding of Afghanistan’s political situation ensured his unit’s success and reinforced Canada’s international reputation.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 25 March 2006 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with ribbon Southwest Asia - Somalia – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UN Haiti – NATO former Yugoslavia – CD and bar



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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

CADIEU, Trevor John (OMM MSC) MSM CD
Major – LSH(RC)
Commander 'B' Squadron Lord Strathcona's Horse (RC) in Afghanistan

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: 09 August 2008

“From October 2006 to February 2007, Major Cadieu commanded B Squadron of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), in Afghanistan. Leading the first tank squadron in combat in almost 60 years, Major Cadieu immediately forged a cohesive combat team that excelled during two major offensives and numerous other engagements. His leadership played a decisive role in battling insurgents, and contributed to the battle group's domination of the Arghandab River area. Major Cadieu's courage and performance contributed significantly to his squadron's operational success.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the Canada Gazette of 03 June 2016 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

Awarded the **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per CanforGen 27 May 2019 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

Medals: OMM – MSC - MSM – SWA with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Operational Service Medal with ribbon Humanitas - Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Afghanistan – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and Bar – Alberta Centennial

Ultimately promoted to Lieutenant-General.



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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

CARVALLO, Luis C.

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Major

GH: 02 June 2011

Deputy Commanding Office Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team

DOI: August 2008 to September 2009

“As deputy commanding officer of the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team from August 2008 to September 2009, Major Carvalho greatly contributed to enhancing development, governance and security in Afghanistan. Leading a diverse team of Canadian, Afghan and American military and civilian personnel in a gruelling counter-insurgency environment, he showed leadership that ensured the successful implementation of numerous projects that enhanced the quality of life for Afghani citizens. Major Carvalho’s leadership and unwavering dedication improved Canadian-Afghan relations and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

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CHARTRAND, Patrice Pascal

MMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Sergeant – Royal 22eR

GH: 02 June 2011

Second-in-Command Infantry Platoon R22eR Battle Group

DOI: April 2009 to October 2009



“While deployed to Afghanistan as second-in-command of an infantry platoon from April to October 2009, Sergeant Chartrand played a pivotal role in the battle group’s success. He helped to enhance security conditions in Kandahar province in a number of ways, whether by leading his platoon through high-intensity combat operations, developing a successful mentoring program for the Afghan uniformed police, or improving local police stations and schools. His leadership, expertise and dedicated efforts brought great credit to the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan.”

Awarded Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM) as per Canada Gazette of 09 February 2013 in the rank of Warrant Officer.

In 2019, a Chief Warrant Officer with the Royal 22eR.

Medals: MMM – MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon on extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UNPROFOR – UN Haiti with 2 bars – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD and bar

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

CLANCY, Scott Norman

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force
Initial deployments of Canadian Forces helicopters into Afghanistan

MSM* CD
BAR to MSM

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: Spring 2008 to Summer 2009

“From spring 2008 until summer 2009, Lieutenant-Colonel Clancy played a crucial role in the coordination, preparation and training of the initial deployments of Canadian Forces helicopters into Afghanistan. He oversaw the development of essential new aviation tactics and procedures, implemented standards for the newly acquired Chinook helicopters, and integrated aviation training with deploying land forces. His actions directly contributed to the success of Canada’s deployed aviation forces and reflected highly upon the Canadian Forces.”



Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 18 December 2010 as a Lieutenant-Colonel for the helicopter component in Haiti.

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** 22 March 2013 of in the rank of Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSM and Bar – Operational Service Medal Haiti – CD and Bar



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

DAUPHIN, Marc A.

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Captain – CF Health Services

GH: 02 June 2011

Officer Commanding the Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit in Afghanistan

DOI: April 2009 to October 2009



“As the officer commanding the Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit in Afghanistan from April to October 2009, Captain Dauphin showed unparalleled dedication and initiative that were pivotal to ensuring world-class care for all patients. In addition to effectively managing the constant influx of battlefield casualties, he carefully developed relationships with other medical facilities to enable the seamless transfer of patients. Captain Dauphin’s leadership and mentorship of the multinational team significantly increased the medical capacity of the unit, directly benefitting the Canadian mission and bringing distinction to the Canadian Forces.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star SWA ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and 2 bars

DELANEY, Roland Grant

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 02 June 2011

Planning Training requirements for the Chinook Helicopter Program

DOI: April 2008 to 2009



“Lieutenant-Colonel Delaney was instrumental in planning and coordinating the training requirements and personnel preparation for the Chinook helicopter program. His in-depth contract management skills allowed him to overcome complex and conflicting challenges, ensuring all tactical level requirements were properly integrated. This resulted in a new critical capability being made available in-theatre in record time, proving beneficial to Canadian and allied troops.”

Medals: MSM – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – MFO with numeral 2 – EIIR Golden Jubilee – CD and 2 bars.

Lieutenant-Colonel Grant Delaney, MSM, CD, RCAF

LCol Delaney died on 02 October 2016 in Mt. Sinai Hospital, Toronto after a courageous six year battle with cancer, at the age of 62. Much-loved spouse and best friend of Donna Perrin, he is survived by children Jeremy (Christina) and Taylor Perrin, sister Sue (Dave) from Alberta and brother Bob (Joanne) from B.C. He will be sadly missed by his entire extended family and many friends. A graduate of Royal Military College and the University of Toronto, Grant proudly served his country for 43 years with the Royal Canadian Air Force rising to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 2011 he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the Governor General for his involvement in a wide range of activities to support Canadian forces personnel in Afghanistan. Grant had a long association with the Tactical Aviation community and was instrumental in the development and delivery of the current combat Tactical Aviation capability. Grant was a

passionate sailor onboard “Paragon” and enjoyed spending his summer in the Thousand Islands. A long term member of Trident Yacht Club, he served in many roles including that of Commodore. The club will sorely miss his leadership, deep commitment, thoughtful contributions and focus on doing it right the first time. In addition, he served as President of the Curling Executive for Garrison Golf & Curling Club, being active in both golf and curling, and was a member of Fort Frontenac Officers’ Mess and the Air Force Association of Canada, 416 Wing.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

DÉZIEL, Jonathan D.J.

MSM

CG: 13 August 2011

Master Corporal

GH: 02 June 2011

Fire Effects Officer with Operational Mentor Liaison Team in Afghanistan

DOI: April 2009 to October 2009

“As part of the Operational Mentor Liaison Team in Afghanistan from April to October 2009, Master Corporal Déziel assumed the role of a fire effects officer whose responsibility it was to go forward into battle to observe and report on the situation, and to coordinate artillery support for the troops engaged. In doing so, he repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire. His experience, planning and calm composure ensured the delivery of precise artillery strikes that significantly disrupted insurgent activity and enhanced the combat effectiveness of Canadian soldiers and Afghan National Security Forces. His leadership and tactical acumen were vital to the battle group’s success.”

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DOMPIERRE, Joseph Richard Denis

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Chief Warrant Officer – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 02 June 2011

Reforms in the Meteorological Technician Training and Structure

DOI: July 2004 to July 2010

“Between July 2004 and July 2010, Chief Warrant Officer Dompierre demonstrated extraordinary professionalism and innovative leadership by spearheading major reforms within the meteorological technician occupation, specifically in its organizational structure, training and deployment readiness. As a senior member of the Joint Meteorological Centre, he ensured that all deployed technicians were thoroughly prepared and properly equipped. Chief Warrant Officer Dompierre’s efforts have yielded invaluable benefits for meteorological technicians who, in return, support Canadian Forces operations with strengthened abilities.”



Medals: MSM – SSM and two bars – CD and Bar

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FERLAND, Joseph Rosaire Mario

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Major – Royal 22e Régiment

GH: 02 June 2011

Deputy Commander - R22e Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

DOI: April 2009 to October 2009

“As deputy commander of the Royal 22e Régiment Battle Group from April to October 2009, Major Ferland significantly contributed to the success of the international counter-insurgency campaign in Afghanistan. His effective oversight of the planning, execution and coordination of major combat operations enabled the battle group to achieve significant gains against insurgents and contributed to strengthening the Afghan government’s authority within Kandahar province. Major Ferland’s leadership, planning capabilities and operational focus were key elements of the battle group’s success.”



Awarded **National Defence Medal, Bronze Echelon (France)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 25 December 2021 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

GERGELY, Gyula John Joseph
Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force
Establishment of the Air Wing in Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: 2005 to 2010



“From 2005 through 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Gergely’s resourcefulness and untiring efforts greatly contributed to all major Air Force infrastructure programs in support of the Canadian Forces’ domestic and international operations. His knowledge of airfield operations and his unmatched organizational skills were essential during the establishment of the Air Wing in Afghanistan, and when the Air Force introduced the Globemaster III aircraft to its home base in Trenton, Ontario. The positive impact of his contributions will be felt by the Air Force—and the Canadian Forces as a whole—for years to come.”



Medals: MSC – CD and bar

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HAMMOND, Lee John
Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Horse Artillery
Chief of Operational Plans with Joint Task Force Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: January to November 2009



“As chief of operational plans with Joint Task Force Afghanistan from January to November 2009, Lieutenant-Colonel Hammond was the key author of a ground-breaking document that transformed how the task force and its civilian partners conducted counter-insurgency operations. His political insight and his leadership of the military-civilian team enabled the development of a plan that helped to strengthen the Afghan government’s authority within Kandahar province. His professionalism and dedication greatly contributed to operational success in Afghanistan, and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – CD and Bar

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

HARGREAVES, Christopher John

OMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Commander – Royal Canadian Navy

GH: 02 June 2011

Commanding Officer of the CF Fleet School in Esquimalt

DOI: 2008 to 2011

“Since his appointment in 2008 as commanding officer of Canadian Forces Fleet School Esquimalt, Commander Hargreaves’ inspirational leadership, detailed analytical skills, dedication and infectious motivation have been the driving force behind initiatives to improve naval courses. His actions were instrumental in enhancing the sailors’ quality of life and reducing time away from home and units. His commitment and professionalism have had a significant impact on the individual training requirements for naval force employment, generation and development.”



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 25 June 2005 in the rank of Lieutenant-Commander.

Medals: OMM – MSM – CD and bar



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LABROSSE, Joseph Jean-Paul Christian

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal 22e Regiment

GH: 02 June 2011

Deputy Commander of 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group

DOI: July 2008 to April 2010

“From July 2008 to April 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Labrosse distinguished himself as deputy commander of 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group. Through his exceptional leadership and dedication, he enabled the group to achieve its operational mandate, both in Canada and abroad, at a particularly tumultuous time, notably in Afghanistan and Haiti. Achieving this mandate allowed the Canadian Forces and Canada to remain respected and trusted global leaders in carrying out operations within international coalitions.”



In October 2011, he became the Managing Director of the Jean Lesage Airport in Quebec City and in October 2015 the Director of Security and the Operational Control Center of the same airport.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

LACROIX, Grégoire Raymond
Chief Warrant Officer
Canadian Forces Chief Warrant Officer

MMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: July 2007 to July 2010



“Between July 2007 and July 2010, Chief Warrant Officer Lacroix demonstrated outstanding leadership as the Canadian Forces Chief Warrant Officer by promoting excellence, professionalism and teamwork among the non-commissioned leaders. He played a critical role in the development and implementation of effective non-commissioned member training, both nationally and internationally. His performance and dedication significantly improved the effectiveness of our soldiers, sailors and air personnel, and brought great benefit to the Canadian Forces.”

Medals: MMM – MSM – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and two bars

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per Canada Gazette of 13 July 2001 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

LACROIX, Joseph Conrad Roch
Colonel
Deputy Commander of Joint Task Force Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: February to November 2009



“As deputy commander of Joint Task Force Afghanistan from February to November 2009, Colonel Lacroix was heavily involved in every aspect of the task force’s operations and ensured the commander’s intent was understood and implemented. His clear tactical direction ensured that the enemy was prevented from gaining ground, while friendly forces were able to keep their momentum and push ahead. Colonel Lacroix’s outstanding command presence and determination advanced the mandate of the International Security Assistance Force and strengthened the Afghan government’s authority within Kandahar province.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with ribbon Afghanistan - SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UN Haiti – East Timor Interfet – CD and bar



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

MALLET, Francis Joseph Michel

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 02 June 2011

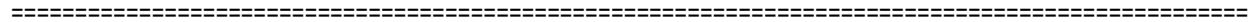
Deployment of 430 Tactical Helicopter Squadron to Afghanistan

DOI: 2008 and 2009

“In 2008 and 2009, Captain Mallet demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication, which contributed to 430 Tactical Helicopter Squadron achieving a high state of readiness for its deployment to Afghanistan. He developed a training plan for the unit that became the cornerstone for individual training, and which transformed a group of inexperienced individuals into an effective team. His initiative, as well as his exceptional ability to analyze and prioritize, allowed the unit to deliver an important operational capability in Afghanistan.”



Medals: MSC – General Campaign Star with southwest Asia ribbon and 2 tours bar - CD



McLEAN, Charles Andrew

MMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Sergeant – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 02 June 2011

Co-founded ‘Soldier On’ program for ill or injured Canadian Forces Members

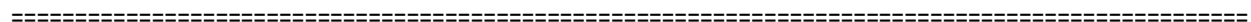
DOI: 2007 to 2011

“Since 2007, Sergeant McLean’s dedication to Soldier On, a program which he co-founded, has ensured the continued success of this initiative to optimize the functional independence of Canadian Forces members or former members who have become ill or who have been injured. His passion and commitment have provided opportunities for these individuals to reach beyond their physical limitations and find a better quality of life on their road to recovery and reintegration. Over the years, he has successfully promoted and created awareness of the needs of injured and ill Canadian Forces members and their families, as well as the programs available to them.”



Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 22 November 2008 in the rank of Sergeant.

Medals: MMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR - CD



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

RICHARDSON, James Joseph Raoul Normand MSM CD
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commander of the Personnel Support Service of 5 Area Support Group

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: 2006 to 2009

“Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson is recognized for his extraordinary leadership and professionalism as commander of the Personnel Support Service of 5 Area Support Group, from 2006 to 2009. Among other things, he encouraged the integration of the Valcartier Family Centre and the Deployment Support Group, and oversaw the creation of the Regional Casualty Support Cell. This initiative became a national reference for military personnel support and has brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

BOUCHER, Emanuel Jeannot OMM MSM CD
Major – Royal Canadian Air Force
Deputy Commanding Officer of the Canadian Helicopter Force in Afghanistan

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 27 July 2011
DOI: April to November 2009



“As deputy commanding officer of Canadian Helicopter Force (Afghanistan) from April to November 2009, Major Boucher demonstrated leadership, foresight and initiative, ensuring the successful deployment of Canada’s first fully-trained aviation battalion in Afghanistan. In addition to forging a cohesive team from a diverse group of individuals and successfully implementing new equipment in a combat zone, he worked with coalition partners to improve their night-flying capabilities. Major Boucher’s remarkable achievements were instrumental to the operational success of coalition forces in Afghanistan, and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Government House of 13 December 2016** in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD and bar

Colonel Jeannot BOUCHER, OMM, MSM, CD
Commander – 1 Wing RCAF (Kingston, Ontario)

Colonel Jeannot Boucher joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1992. In 1997 he completed his studies at the Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC) in Kingston and obtained his pilot wings the following year. His first posting was with 439 Combat Support Squadron in Bagotville. In 2002 he was posted to 403 Helicopter Operational Training Squadron in Galetown as an instructor. Promoted to the rank of Major in 2005, Colonel Boucher was posted to NDHQ as an analyst in the Vice Chief of Defence Staff organization. In July 2008, he was posted to 430 Escadron Tactique d’Hélicoptères (ETAH) in Valcartier, as the Operations Officer as they prepared for their first deployment to Afghanistan. He eventually deployed as the Operations Officer and Deputy Commanding Officer for CHF(A) to Afghanistan in 2009 and received the MSM “For outstanding leadership, foresight and initiative as Deputy Commanding Officer of the Canadian Helicopter Force in Afghanistan from April to November 2009.”



Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in 2010, he furthered his education at the United States Air Force Air Command and Staff College in Alabama and then remained for an additional two years on faculty as a member of the Department of International Security Studies. In 2013, he was appointed as Commanding Officer of 430 ETAH. In summer 2015, he was once again posted to NDHQ as Executive-Assistant to the Commander of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Promoted to Colonel in June 2016, he took over as the 1 Wing Commander in July 2016. Colonel Boucher has accumulated over 2800 flying hours in his career. He has a bachelor degree in Politics and Economics and a Masters in Warfare Studies, both from RMCC and a Masters in Operational Art and Science from USAF Air University; he is also a graduate of the Air War College Distance Learning Program.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

STEELE, Cedric
Honorary Captain (N)
Honorary Captain for Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt

MStJ MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 02 June 2011
DOI: 1997 to 2010

“In the 13 years since 1997, Honorary Captain (N) Steele’s unflagging service to Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, Maritime Forces Pacific and to the Canadian Forces in general, has inspired and connected the Navy with prominent Canadians and various business groups, as well as the local community. Through Captain (N) Steele’s extraordinary energy, vision and tireless efforts, the Esquimalt-based Navy has become linked to the identity of Greater Victoria, as further demonstrated by his commitment to create the Naval Centennial Homecoming statue on the Victoria waterfront. “



Medals: SBStJ – MSM – EIIR Golden Jubilee - EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD
(plus US Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal with star)

Awarded **Member of the Order of St. John (MBStJ)** in 2002.

Honorary Captain(N) Cedric STEELE, MStJ, MSM, CD

Cedric Steele was appointed Honorary Captain in May 1997. He is President of Cedric Steele Realty Ltd., a commercial real estate company, which he founded in 1972. He was licensed as a realtor in Vancouver in 1968. H Capt(N) Steele has owned and operates Prospect Lake Golf Course in Victoria, since 1974.

Active in the community H Capt(N) Steele has been President of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Board of Governors of Glenlyon-Norfolk School, Chairman of Corporate Fund Raising for Timmy’s Telethon, Board member of the Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health and he served six years as a member of the Victoria Police Board. H Capt(N) Steele also served on the Executive of Tourism Victoria and was Chairman of the Environment Committee. H Capt(N) Steele served on the Executive of the Advisory Board to the Faculty of Business at the University of Victoria for five years. During 1998 he was appointed as a member of Revenue Canada’s Pacific Region Small Business Advisory Committee of Canada Customs and Revenue Agency.

H Capt(N) Steele has been involved with the Canadian Forces Liaison Council since 1994 and has been promoting a closer relationship between the business community and the Armed Forces.

H Capt(N) Steele was awarded the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal in 1999 and then a Gold Star in Lieu of second award in 2000 for his work with the aircraft carriers USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN72) and USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN74). During 2002 he was awarded the Golden Jubilee Medal. Also in 2002, he was appointed as a serving member of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. H Capt(N) Steele was the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Latvia with an office in Victoria, B.C. from 2002 to 2010. In 2005, he was appointed to the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army in Victoria. During March 2009 he was appointed as a Fellow of Royal Roads University. He was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration in May 2009 for 12 years of service to the Canadian Navy. Cedric was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) in 2011.



The Homecoming Statue Project in Victoria’s Inner Harbour was Co-Chaired by HCaptain(N) Steele.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

DUVAL, Jean-François

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Major – Royal Canadian Horse Artillery

GH: 27 July 2011

Battery Commander of the 22^e Régiment Battle Group in Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009



“As battery commander of the Royal 22^e Régiment Battle Group from April to October 2009, Major Duval showed impressive tactical acumen that resulted in outstanding artillery support during numerous combat operations in Afghanistan. He provided his commander with detailed, yet concise reports on the battery’s capabilities, allowing for the optimal employment of artillery. As a result, his battery detachments were able to operate with surgical precision, thereby minimizing collateral damage. Major Duval’s leadership and dedicated efforts were vital to the battle group’s success and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UNDOF – UNPROFOR - UN Haiti – UN Lebanon – CD

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HÉBERT, François-Jonathan Gilles Michel

MSM

CG: 13 August 2011

Corporal

GH: 27 July 2011

Mentor to Numerous Senior Members of the Afghan National Army (ANA) Afghanistan DOI: April to October 2009

“As a mentor to numerous senior members of the Afghan National Army from April to October 2009, Corporal Hébert worked well above his rank to improve their operational capacity. His leadership was vital to the planning and execution of numerous joint combat operations, and greatly influenced the level of professionalism in the soldiers he mentored. Corporal Hébert’s exemplary performance, tactical acumen and fighting abilities enabled the Afghan National Army to maximize its disruption of insurgent activities.”

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MORIN, Joseph Serge Raynald

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Major

GH: 27 July 2011

Senior Mentor to the Commander of the Afghan National Army Battalion, Afghanistan DOI: April to October 2009

“As the senior mentor to the commander of an Afghan National Army battalion from April to October 2009, Major Morin was instrumental in improving the battalion’s operational success. Applying his vast experience and knowledge, his mentorship of Afghan soldiers on vital issues, such as the occupation of a forward operating base, resulted in effective partnered combat operations with the Canadian battle group. Major Morin’s outstanding leadership and dedication allowed the Afghan National Army to greatly improve its combat capabilities and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

MURPHY, David Christopher
Lieutenant-Colonel - RCAF
Interim Commanding Officer - 8 Wing CFB Trenton

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 16 December 2011
DOI: February 2010

“For outstanding leadership as Interim 8 Wing Commander (following the arrest of the incumbent Commander on murder charges) during its most tiring conditions and additional workload imposed by numerous co-current activities related to domestic and international operations in February 2010

Medals: MSM – Gulf War with bar – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo – CD and Bar



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PÉPIN, Yannick

Major – Commander 51st Field Engineers (5 CER)
Operational Commander of a Combat Engineer Squadron supporting the R22e R

MSM CD
Posthumous

CG: 13 August 2011
GH: 27 July 2011
DOI: April to September 2009

“For excellent leadership and professionalism as the Operational Commander of the Battle Group Field Squadron in Afghanistan from April to September 2009.”

“Major Pépin deployed to Afghanistan in April 2009 (to September 2009) as commander of a squadron of combat engineers supporting the Royal 22^e Régiment Battle Group. His leadership and technical expertise enabled those under his command to successfully clear roadways that were vital to the movement of Canadian, Afghan and coalition soldiers. Tragically, he was killed in action by an improvised explosive device while commanding a mounted patrol on September 6, 2009. Major Pépin’s unwavering dedication to Canada’s mission in Afghanistan saved lives and brought great credit to the Canada.”



Major Yannick PÉPIN, MSM, CD
Commander 51st Field Engineers (5 CER)

Maj. Yannick Pépin, 36, commander of the Valcartier, Quebec, based 51st Field Engineers Squadron of the 5th Combat Engineers Regiment, was the highest ranking Canadian to die in combat in Afghanistan. Major Yannick Pépin was killed (along with Corporal Jean-François Drouin, 31) and four other Canadians were injured when their armoured vehicle struck an improvised explosive device while travelling in Dand District southwest of Kandahar City in Afghanistan on Sunday 06 September 2009. Major Pépin is survived by his partner, Annie, and their two children, Alexandra and Charles.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

KELLAND, William Joseph Sergeant – SAR TECH Rescue of Injured Sailor from the MV <i>Maersk Dunedin</i>	MSM	CG: 13 August 2011 GH: 27 July 2011 DOI: 09 June 2008
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MERCER, Andrew John Captain Captain of Cormorant Helicopter rescuing Injured Sailer from the MV <i>Maersk Dunedin</i>	MSM CD
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MITCHELL, Keith Paul Warrant Officer – SAR TECH Rescue of Injured Sailor from the MV <i>Maersk Dunedin</i> (photo right)	CV MMM MSM CD
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PAWULSKI, David Michael Sergeant – SAR TECH Rescue of Injured Sailor from the MV <i>Maersk Dunedin</i>	SC MSM CD
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“On the morning of June 9, 2008, the aircrew of Cormorant Helicopter Rescue 913 successfully evacuated a critically injured sailor from the MV *Maersk Dunedin*, near Halifax. Aircraft Commander Lieutenant-Colonel Thibault made critical command decisions as he piloted the aircraft under exceptionally demanding circumstances. He was assisted by First Officer Captain Mercer, who helped fly the aircraft for nearly 10 hours, twice landing on Sable Island for fuel as the aircraft’s endurance was pushed to its limits. In conditions where visibility was so poor that they could not even see the vessel in distress, flight engineer Sergeant Pawulski was instrumental in providing advice to help guide the aircraft into position over the deck in order to facilitate the hoist operation. Search and rescue technicians Warrant Officer Mitchell and Sergeant Kelland were then lowered onto the heaving deck, where they rendered life-saving medical aid to the injured sailor and coordinated his removal to the rescue helicopter. The team’s conduct, dedication and professionalism in the planning and execution of this daring rescue brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”



Lieutenant-Colonel Gilbert Clement Thibault received the **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)**

Warrant Officer Keith Mitchell (shown) was awarded the **Cross of Valour (CV)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 09 May in the rank of Master Corporal as a SAR TECH.

Master Warrant Officer Keith Mitchell was awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 22 March 2014 as an RCAF SAR TECH.

Sergeant David Pawulski was awarded the **Star of Courage (SC)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 September 2003 in the rank of Master Corporal again as a SAR TECH.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

1

Medals of Sergeant William Joseph KELLAND

MSM - Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia
– NATO bar Kosovo

Medals of Sergeant Andrew John MERCER

MSM – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia –
CD

Medals of Warrant Officer Keith Paul MITCHELL

CV MSM General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon
– Diamond Jubilee Medal – CD and Bar

Medals of Sergeant David Michael PAWULSKI

SC - MSM – CD and bar



1 Bottom photo left to right:
Lieutenant-Colonel Gilbert Clement Thibault, MSC, CD
Sergeant William Joseph Kelland, MSM
Captain Andrew John Mercer, MSM, CD
Warrant Officer Keith Paul Mitchell, CV, MSM, CD
Sergeant David Michael Pawulski, SC, MSM, CD

Top Photo left to right:
Captain Andrew John Mercer, MSM, CD
Sergeant (now Warrant Officer) David Michael Pawulski, SC, MSM, CD

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

PICHE, Joseph François Colin

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Sergeant

GH: 27 July 2011

Mentor to an Afghan National Army Infantry Company in Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009

“As a mentor to an Afghan National Army infantry company from April to October 2009, Sergeant Piché demonstrated frontline leadership that led the unit to excel during numerous joint operations. Often under fire and facing fierce resistance, he inspired the Afghans to persevere and consistently defeat the enemy. His exceptional awareness and tactical acumen prevented an imminent friendly fire incident on one occasion, when his company was being attacked from multiple directions. His soldiering abilities and mentorship skills greatly improved the capacity of the company and ensured its operational success.”

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PLOUGHMAN, John Bruce

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Colonel

GH: 27 July 2011

Commander of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing in Afghanistan

DOI: May to November 2009



“As commander of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing from May to November 2009, Colonel Ploughman ensured the flawless conduct of Canadian air operations in Afghanistan. Whether transporting critical equipment and VIPs, executing air assault operations, or supporting counter-improvised explosive device efforts, his direction enabled his team to perform all tasks to perfection and provide exceptional support to ground forces. Colonel Ploughman’s leadership and tactical insight contributed to operational success in Afghanistan and brought great credit to Canada.”

Medals: MSM – Somalia – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and bar



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

POIRIER, Joseph Gerard Gilbert

MMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Chief Warrant Officer – Canadian Air Force

GH: 27 July 2011

Regimental Sergeant-Major of the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team

DOI: February 2009 to February 2010

“As regimental sergeant-major of the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Afghanistan from February 2009 to February 2010, Chief Warrant Officer Poirier fulfilled his duties with the utmost professionalism. He played a pivotal role in implementing a new policy for interaction with the local population, which greatly enhanced the perception of Canadian soldiers in the community. He also worked tirelessly to reinforce a spirit of co-operation between the military and civilian elements of the unit, and sought to enhance everyone’s quality of life through the advancement of morale-building projects. His advice to senior leadership, coupled with his outstanding mentorship of all members of the unit, were critical to its operational success and brought great credit to Canada.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 01 March 2008 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

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SAVARD, Marie Céline Danielle

OMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Colonel – Canadian Forces Health Services

GH: 27 July 2011

Commanding Officer of the Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit in Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009

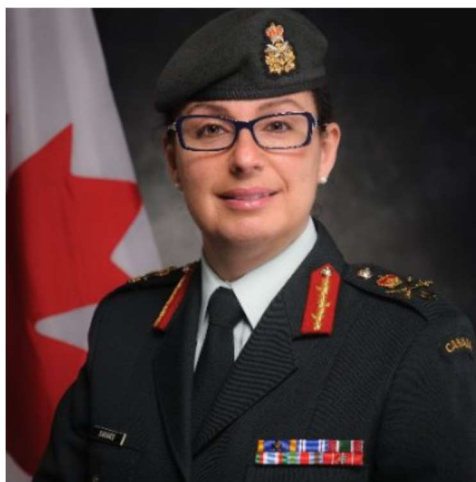
“As commanding officer of the Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit in Afghanistan from April to October 2009, Colonel Savard’s notable leadership ensured the provision of world-class care to Canadian, coalition and Afghan personnel. In addition to ensuring her multinational team had the necessary equipment and training to treat patients under any circumstance, she helped develop mentoring programs that improved the capacity and capability of the Afghan National Army Medical Corps. Colonel Savard’s outstanding professionalism and medical skills were critical to preserving the fighting strength of coalition forces in Afghanistan and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canadian Forces List** of 15 January 2015 in the rank of Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – CD and bar

Promoted to Brigadier-General in November 2016

With Governor General Jean in Afghanistan at right.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

POITRAS, Ernest Gérard Joseph

MMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Chief Warrant Officer – Loadmaster RCAF

GH: 27 July 2011

Chief Warrant Officer of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing in Afghanistan

DOI: May to November 2009



“Chief Warrant Officer Poitras was part of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing from May to November 2009. He was faced with a number of challenges, including the introduction of a new aircraft to the mission and limited operational experience within the air wing. Nevertheless, his leadership was instrumental in forging a cohesive and operationally focused team. His devotion and professionalism ensured his team was equipped to face the challenges associated with providing the best possible aviation support to ground forces in Afghanistan. His unwavering mission focus contributed to the operational success of the air wing and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 2012 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

Medals: MMM - MSM – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UNDOF – NATO – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD and bar



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

STAPLEFORD, Andrew Peter

MMM MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Chief Warrant Officer - PPCLI

GH: 27 July 2011

Regimental Sergeant-Major Joint Task Force Afghanistan in Afghanistan

DOI: February to November 2009

“As Joint Task Force Afghanistan regimental sergeant-major from February to November 2009, Chief Warrant Officer Stapleford drew on his vast experience and in-depth understanding of the mission to lead a diverse team engaged in operations across the country. The example he set encouraged all soldiers in the task force to conform to the protection measures in place, thus helping to save lives and prevent serious injury. His unwavering dedication ensured the task force’s operational success and enhanced Canada’s reputation within the international community.”

Medals: MMM - MSM – General Campaign Star with Southeast Asia ribbon and two tour bars – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIRR Diamond Jubilee Medal - CD and two bars

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



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

TARDIF, Ann-Marie Brigitte

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 27 July 2011

Commanding Officer of the National Support Element in Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009

“As commanding officer of the National Support Element from April to October 2009, Lieutenant-Colonel Tardif’s understanding of Afghanistan’s complex operational environment ensured the delivery of necessary logistical support for the success of Canadian and coalition counter-insurgency operations. Under her leadership, the unit provided the commander with the operational flexibility required to address the ever-changing battle conditions. Her professionalism greatly contributed to the Canadian Forces’ efforts in Afghanistan.”

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VERRET, Joseph Richard Marc

MSM CD

CG: 13 August 2011

Major

GH: 27 July 2011

Commander of Stabilization Company ‘B’ in Afghanistan

DOI: March to October 2009



“As commander of Stabilization Company B, in Afghanistan from March to October 2009, Major Verret led several widely dispersed teams with his flawless application of counter-insurgency doctrine, contributing to stabilization efforts in three districts of Afghanistan. After completing a survey of population centers, he instituted numerous infrastructure projects that were tailored to the specific needs of Afghan communities and which provided employment opportunities for the local population. Major Verret’s remarkable efforts contributed to the undermining of insurgents and brought great credit to Canada.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

TWO No ranks given Canadian Special Operations Forces Command	MSM	CG: Not Gazetted GH: 27 July 2011 DOI: 2009 to 2011
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“His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, announced today the awarding of **31 Meritorious Service Decorations (Military Division), namely seven Crosses and 24 Medals**, to individuals whose specific achievements have brought honour to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.

These members received their decorations along with the named recipients at a ceremony at Rideau Hall in the presence of the Chief of the Defence Staff. They were recognized for devotion and acts of valour in the presence of the enemy and for military deeds performed in a highly professional manner. For security and operational reasons, recipients’ names and citations are not released.”

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FERLAND, J.R. Mario Major Canadian Special Operations Forces Command	MSM CD	CG: Not Gazetted GH: 18 September 2011 DOI: 2009 to 2011
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“Major Fleming deployed as the commander of a Special Operations Task Force. Under his innovative leadership, the Task Force evolved to meet ever-changing operational requirements and was critical to many successes achieved in the region. He improved his Task Force's ability to operate over a larger area of operations, which added a vital element to the fight. Major Fleming's efforts brought great credit to his unit, to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

This is likely one of the two MSMs not named at the time. His citation now appears in the Governor General's recipients list.

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BRODEUR, Raymond Joseph Master Warrant Officer Sergeant Major Charlie Combat Team in Afghanistan	MSM CD	CG: 11 February 2012 GH: 07 December 2011 DOI: September 2009 to April 2010
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“As the sergeant-major of the Charlie Company Combat Team, in Afghanistan from September 2009 to April 2010, Master Warrant Officer Brodeur set high standards for his soldiers, which contributed to their success during counter-insurgency operations. His advice and tactical acumen contributed to the team's successful conduct of operations that increased stability within the highly volatile Panjwayi district. Master Warrant Officer Brodeur distinguished himself as an experienced and exceptional leader who was critical to the success of his battle group's operations.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

CARIGNAN, Marie Annabelle Jennie

Lieutenant-Colonel – Canadian Engineers
Command Task Force Kandahar Engineer Regiment

CMM (OMM) MSM CD

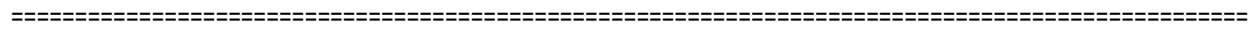
CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: November 2009 to Sept 2010

“From November 2009 to September 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Carignan demonstrated outstanding command of the Task Force Kandahar Engineer Regiment, ensuring that the necessary support was provided to Canadian and coalition forces in Afghanistan. With superb leadership abilities, she oversaw the completion of infrastructure and development projects, and effectively synchronized the efforts of military and civilian agencies. In addition, she provided support to newly arrived American forces without compromising support to Canadians. Lieutenant-Colonel Carignan’s remarkable efforts were critical to operational success.”

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

Medals: CMM – MSC - MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and extra tour bar – General Campaign Star ribbon Expedition with one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UNDOF (Golan Heights) – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - KCIII Coronation - CD and 2 bars

Promoted to Brigadier-General in 2016. Lieutenant-General in 2021. General in 2024 and made Chief of the Defence Staff.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

CARSON, Breen

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012

Captain – 3 Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 07 December 2011

Member OMLT Afghanistan

DOI: October 2009 to February 2010

“From October 2009 to February 2010, Captain Carson's exceptional mentorship of multiple companies of the Afghan National Army enhanced their capabilities and contributed to the success of Canadian efforts in Afghanistan. In addition to providing front line leadership during multiple enemy contacts and improvised explosive device finds, Captain Carson established a comprehensive training plan that furthered the partnering concept between the Afghan National Army and the battle group. Captain Carson's superb professionalism and unwavering dedication has brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”



Awarded **Mentioned in Despatches (MID)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 11 February 2012 in the rank of Captain for Afghanistan.

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 1 extra tour bar plus MID

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COCHRANE, David Bruce

MSM (*) CD

CG: 11 February 2012 / 08 Dec. 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel - RCAF

GH: 07 December 2011

Commanding Officer Air Wing at Camp Mirage

DOI: June to December 2009

“Lieutenant-Colonel Cochrane served as commanding officer of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing Theatre Support Element, at Camp Mirage, from June to December 2009. His leadership was critical to maintaining airlift support for operations in Afghanistan and his diplomatic skills enabled him to establish relationships with the host nation that benefitted Canadian and coalition operations, both at Camp Mirage and in Afghanistan. Lieutenant-Colonel Cochrane's exemplary dedication, tact and operational focus contributed to the success of the Afghan mission, and enhanced Canada's international reputation.”



Awarded **Bar to the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM*)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2013 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel as CO of CFB Trenton.

Medals: MSM – Gulf – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN SSM – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar

UN SSM for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Operation Airbridge in Sarajevo.

Note: The same citation appeared in the 08 December 2012 **Canada Gazette**.

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

DIONNE, Eric Daniel

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012

Corporal (Now 2nd Lieutenant RMC)

GH: 07 December 2011

Member of an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009



“For exceptional leadership and tactical acumen as a member of an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team in Afghanistan from April to October 2009.”

“While deployed to Afghanistan from April to October 2009, Corporal Dionne was instrumental in successful operations and the mentorship of Afghan soldiers. During repeated engagements, his courage under fire inspired both his Canadian and Afghan comrades to persevere. He also took it upon himself to mentor his protégés in reconnaissance tactics, English-language skills and mathematics. His leadership, tactical acumen and commitment led to the success of the mission and contributed to significant improvements within the Afghan National Army, all of which reflected well on the Canadian Army and Canada.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 3 extra tour bars – Operational Service Medal with ribbon Humanitas

FRIOLET, Joseph Jacques

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Warrant Officer

GH: 07 December 2011

Freedom Maintenance Flight Afghanistan

DOI: November 2009 to August 2010



“While deployed to Afghanistan from November 2009 to August 2010, Warrant Officer Friolet was instrumental in the establishment and operational employment of the Task Force Freedom Maintenance Flight, in Afghanistan. Under his skilled leadership, the flight maximized its support capability, doubling the amount of aircraft available for operations. On numerous occasions, his skilful and diplomatic engagements with coalition allies ensured the successful coordination of critical support requirements. Warrant Officer Friolet’s outstanding leadership and professionalism ensured the effective employment of Canadian aviation assets.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon and multiple tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti – NATO bar Kosovo – CD and Bar

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

GAGNÉ, Raymond Marc

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Colonel

GH: 07 December 2011

Chief of Staff to Afghan National Police Development

DOI: March to October 2010

“As the first chief of staff to the Deputy Commander for Afghan National Police Development from March to October 2010, Colonel Gagné helped lay the foundation to strengthen the Afghan National Police. Assuming leadership of a diverse multinational staff, he was able to consistently raise the profile of police issues and was instrumental in developing effective NATO training programs. Colonel Gagné’s dedicated efforts to improving policing capabilities in Afghanistan brought great credit to Canada.”

Awarded **Bronze Star (USA)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 28 May 2011 in the rank of Colonel.

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM with bar NATO - Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – EIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and bar – Bronze Star



INDEWEY, Jay Lyman

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Major

GH: 07 December 2011

National Support Element Afghanistan

DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“Major Indewey demonstrated leadership and professionalism as the operations officer of the Joint Task Force National Support Element from October 2009 to May 2010. He ensured the provision of exceptional combat service support to Canadian and coalition forces in Afghanistan. In addition, he enabled the mentoring of and partnering with the combat service support *kandak* of the Afghan National Army. Major Indewey’s remarkable efforts improved the capabilities of the Afghan National Army and contributed directly to operational success in Afghanistan.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon with one extra bar – Peacekeeping – UN – UN Cyrus - CD



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

KAISER, Michael

Major

Deputy Commanding Officer Health Services Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

GH: 07 December 2011

DOI: September 2009 to April 2010



“As deputy commanding officer of the Health Services Unit from September 2009 to April 2010, Major Kaiser ensured the implementation of numerous partnership and capacity-building projects. His efforts increased the number of coalition medical technicians available to mentor their Afghan counterparts, raised the standard of Afghan dental care, and significantly improved the Afghans’ ability to provide treatment on the battlefield. Major Kaiser’s efforts greatly improved the capabilities of Afghan medical institutions and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD

LCol Mike Kaiser promoted Cpl Marie-Josée Savard to Master-Corporal
Major Isabelle Quennville (wife), GG of Canada and LCol Mike Kaiser, MSM, CD



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

KERCKHOFF, Enno Alexander
Captain – Royal Canadian Dragons
Dand District Operations Officer - Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: September 2009 to April 2010

“While deployed to Afghanistan from September 2009 to April 2010, Captain Kerckhoff was instrumental in the successful establishment of the Dand District Operational Coordination Centre. His ability to synchronize activities throughout the district contributed to building Afghan National Security Force capacity, fostering more effective Afghan governance and setting the conditions for further stabilization throughout the region. Captain Kerckhoff’s leadership and professionalism were critical to operational success and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”



Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon
– Peacekeeping – NATO with non-article 5 ribbon Balkans
– CD & Bar

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KIENS, René Francis
Master Warrant Officer - PPCLI
Casualty Administration Processing - Afghanistan

MMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: September 2009 to April 2010

“While deployed in Afghanistan from September 2009 to April 2010, Master Warrant Officer Kiens played a key role in the delivery of effective combat service support to Canadian ground forces. He was intimately involved in the casualty administration process, where his leadership and compassion ensured soldiers wounded or killed in action were treated with the utmost respect and dignity. Master Warrant Officer Kiens’ exceptional dedication contributed significantly to the success of operations in Afghanistan, and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”



Awarded **Mentioned in Despatches (MID)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 03 July 2010 in the rank of MWO.

Awarded the **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 09 February 2013 in the rank of CWO

Awarded the **Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 30 October 2021 in the rank of CWO

Medals: MMM - MSM – Somalia – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and two additional tour bars and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and bar – Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA)

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

LOWTHIAN, David William
Lieutenant-Colonel - RCAF
Deputy Commanding Officer Air Wing Afghanistan

OMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: November 2009 to September 2010

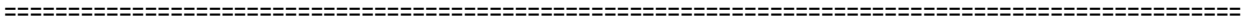


“Lieutenant-Colonel Lowthian was deputy commander of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing from November 2009 to September 2010. His leadership, dedication and tact contributed to the expansion of the air wing’s operational capability. As the architect behind numerous technical advancements, he had an immediate impact on the unit’s effectiveness, and improved relations with coalition partners with skilful diplomacy. Lieutenant-Colonel Lowthian’s efforts were critical to the operational success of the air wing and the entire task force.”

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

Medals: OMM - MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and multiple tour bar – SSM with bar NATO – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar

Promoted to Brigadier-General in 2016



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

MacBETH, Steven Kelly
Major - Royal Canadian Regiment
Officer Commanding Kandak Mentor Team Afghanistan

MSM* CD
BAR

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: September 2009 to May 2010

“As the officer commanding Kandak Mentor Team 2 in Afghanistan from September 2009 to May 2010, Major MacBeth demonstrated leadership and acute cultural awareness. His mentorship of the kandak commander enhanced his ability to plan, coordinate and execute operations. Major MacBeth’s profound influence on kandak soldiers was also exceptional and enhanced their capacity to seamlessly partner with coalition forces and conduct increasingly complicated operations independently. Major MacBeth’s exceptional efforts contributed significantly to the operational success of the Afghan National Army and brought great credit to the Canadian Army.”



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

Medals: MSM and Bar – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 3 extra bars (570 days) red rosette in undress – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

MAJOR, Joshua James

Major – Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians)
Chief Operations - Task Force Afghanistan

MSM CD
(Later awarded Bar to MSM)

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: November 2009 to September 2010



“As chief of current operations for Joint Task Force Afghanistan from November 2009 to September 2010, Major successfully synchronized the efforts of Canadian, coalition and Afghan personnel in Afghanistan’s demanding counter-insurgency environment. He was a key player in the development of the Kandahar City security plan, lending his instrumental expertise during its planning sessions. As a result, a cohesive approach to enhanced public security was developed. His leadership contributed directly to operational success and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”



Medals: MSM* – General Campaign Star with one extra tour
bar – SSM - Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar – MSM (USA)

Major-General Joshua James MAJOR, MSM*, CD, BA, MA

July 2024	-	MGen	
July 2022	- July 2024	Commander 4 th Canadian Division (BGen)	Toronto, Ontario
June 2014	- June 2016	Commanding Officer, Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians)	Edmonton, Alberta
June 2013	- May 2014	ATA Detachment, Ottawa Section (Canada Area Student)	Ottawa, Ontario
June 2012	- May 2013	US Army School of Advanced Military Studies (MA)	Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas
June 2011	- June 2012	US Army Command and General Staff College	Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas
Sept 2010	- June 2011	Regimental 2i/c, 12e Regiment blindé du Canada	Valcartier, Quebec
April 2009	- Sept 2010	J33 Task Force Kandahar, Afghanistan (18 months)	Kandahar, Afghanistan
June 1998	- April 2009	Regimental Duties	Including former Yugoslavia
Sept 1994	- May 1998	Royal Military College (BA English)	Kingston, Ontario

MOSSOP, Lee James

Major
Battle Group Operations Officer - Task Force Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: September 2009 to May 2010

“Major Mossop served as the battle group operations officer in Afghanistan from September 2009 to May 2010. His comprehensive understanding of counter-insurgency operations and battle group capabilities led to greater stability in the Panjwayi district. His dynamic and aggressive leadership forged a proficient tactical operations centre and planning cell, empowering his subordinates to excel beyond all expectations. Major Mossop ensured that critical guidance was provided to all battle group operations, which was essential to their success.”

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

MATHERS, Kevin James

Master Warrant Officer – Royal Canadian Dragoons
Sergeant-Major Battle Group - Task Force Afghanistan

MMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“As sergeant-major of the battle group reconnaissance squadron in Afghanistan from October 2009 to May 2010, Master Warrant Officer Mathers demonstrated leadership, professionalism and concern for his subordinates, which was critical to the Squadron’s success. A true combat leader, he exposed himself to the risks faced by his soldiers, leading missions to replenish forward positions throughout insurgent-laden areas. Master Warrant Officer Mathers was the heart and soul of the Squadron: his steadfast leadership inspired all ranks and brought considerable honour to the Canadian Forces.”



Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per Canada Gazette of 11 February 2012 in the rank of Master Warrant Officer.

Awarded **National Defence Medal (France) bronze echelon with bar Armée de Terre** as per Honours and Recognition 2024.

Medals: MMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 2 extra tour bars – SSM - Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UN Golan Heights - NATO Bosnia – CD and 2 Bars – National Defence Medal (France) bronze echelon with bar Armée de Terre

Chief Warrant Officer Kevin J. Mathers is the seventh Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL) for Allied Command Operations (ACO) at NATO's Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE). He serves as the Supreme Allied Commander Europe's (SACEUR) principal advisor on matters affecting troops throughout the Alliance.

Additionally, he provides the ACO Commands and SHAPE staff with professional development opportunities, recommendations and engagement. In addition, he provides mentorship to the Alliance's non-commissioned and junior officers. As CSEL, he ensures the NATO NCO Bi-Strategic Command Strategy and Guidelines are in harmony with the SACEUR's command priorities; scrutinizes existing policies, procedures, and responsibilities for all operational organizations within ACO. In collaboration with Allied Command Transformation and the NATO CSEL community he ensures Allied educational institution's courses are current, relevant and available to service members.



Chief Warrant Officer Kevin J. Mathers joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1985 and upon graduation from Crewman training was posted to the Lord Strathcona's Horse (RC) in Calgary. In 1988 he deployed to Cyprus and throughout the next 30 years he took part in missions in Golan Heights, Bosnia and twice in Afghanistan. In 2011 he was invested in the **Order of Military Merit** and later that same year he was awarded the **Meritorious Service Medal** for his contributions and performance of his duties as the Reconnaissance Squadron Sergeant Major for Task Force 3-09 in Afghanistan.

Over 35 years of service, he has been posted 16 times and has served in all three Canadian Armour regiments, Directorate of Military Careers as part of the Crewman Career Management team, LFCA (TC) Meaford, Canadian Forces Training Development Centre CSM Borden and the Armour School in Gagetown. Upon promotion to Chief Warrant Officer in 2013 he attended RMC Kingston for a full year of studies as part of the NCM Executive Professional Development Program before being appointed Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) of the Armour School the following summer. Post RSM he occupied Key appointments as the Senior Army Mentor at CMR St Jean and recently completed a tour as the Chief Instructor of the CWO Robert Osside Institute.

In his most recent role, he served as the CSEL of NATO's Allied Land Command (LANDCOM) based in Izmir, Turkey from 2019 until 2022. In preparation for his role at LANDCOM, Chief Warrant Officer Mathers completed the NATO Command Senior Enlisted Leader Course as well as the Keystone Joint Senior Enlisted Command course in Washington DC.

A proud father of 2 children, and grandfather to four grandsons and two granddaughters. His wife Chrissy is a retired 31 year veteran of the Canadian Navy.

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McKAY, James Hugh

Captain – Royal Canadian Air Force
Chaplain - Helicopter Force Afghanistan

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: November 2009 to August 2010



“While deployed as the chaplain for Canadian Helicopter Force (Afghanistan) from November 2009 to August 2010, Captain McKay voluntarily assumed the role of chaplain for the American Role 3 Health Services Unit as well. While there, he provided spiritual and emotional support to Canadian and coalition soldiers throughout their healing process. Surrounded by the chaos of a medical unit in a war zone, he also worked tirelessly to ensure the well-being of those providing care. In addition to this work, he found time to visit sick and wounded Afghans nearby. Captain McKay’s unwavering dedication to the spiritual health of soldiers from all nations, as well as the compassion he showed them, facilitated the success of the mission and brought great credit to Canada.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

NIVEN, Wayne Kenneth

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Major – Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 07 December 2011

Officer Commanding Delta Company - Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“As officer commanding Delta Company from October 2009 to May 2010, Major Niven distinguished himself as a first-rate combat leader. Tasked with securing the volatile Nakhonay village, he worked with his Afghan counterpart to clear and hold the area. His ability to work effectively with Afghan officials influenced village elders who were initially resistant to security initiatives. An astute and skilful officer who fully embraced counter-insurgency doctrine, Major Niven and his superb leadership were critical to the battle group’s operational success.”



Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with South-west Asia Ribbon and two extra bars – Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD

He became the **Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion PPCLI** on 11 June 2015 at CFB Shilo.

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NUTTAL, Andrew Richard

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012

Lieutenant – 1 PPCLI

Posthumous (KIA)

GH: December 2011

Platoon Commander - Task Force Afghanistan

Killed in Action 23 Dec. 2009 DOI: October to December 2009

“As a platoon commander from October 2009 until December 23, 2009, Lieutenant Nuttall moulded his soldiers into a cohesive team that excelled in Afghanistan’s demanding environment. His professionalism while working and living with his Afghan comrades created a common understanding and enabled seamless integration during counter-insurgency operations. While the loss of Lieutenant Nuttall was devastating, the culture and esprit de corps forged under his leadership were instrumental in enabling his soldiers to successfully continue their mission.”



He died along with an Afghan soldier when an improvised explosive device detonated in the town of Nakhoney on 23 December 2009 at the age of 30. An interpreter was also seriously injured.

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

O'NEILL, James Alan

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Captain - PPCLI

GH: 07 December 2011

Platoon Commander – Canadian Special Operations Force, Afghanistan

DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“As a platoon commander from October 2009 to May 2010, Captain O'Neill enhanced security in Haji Baba and Nakhonay, Afghanistan. Living within the local community and partnered with an Afghan platoon, Captain O'Neill established strong ties with local leaders, creating an atmosphere of trust within the community. He took great pride in mentoring his Afghan counterpart, providing leadership that enabled the platoons to synchronize operations and disrupt insurgent activities. Captain O'Neill's dedication brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA Ribbon - Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – NATO with Kosovo ribbon - CD

Retired from the Canadian Forces in 2016. Worked for the Arbour Memorial Group in Toronto starting as a Pre-planning Director and becoming a Regional Director of the Group.

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OUELLET, Steve

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Warrant Officer

GH: 07 December 2011

2nd In Command of an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team in Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009

“For outstanding leadership and tactical acumen as the 2-ic of an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan from April to October 2009.”

“As second-in-command of an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team from April to October 2009, Warrant Officer Ouellet was instrumental in improving the operational success of the Afghan National Army soldiers stationed at Strongpoint Lakokhel. His skilled coordination of artillery and air support during numerous insurgent attacks greatly enhanced the strongpoint's ability to repel insurgent actions. Warrant Officer Ouellet's leadership and tactical acumen enabled Afghan soldiers to improve their soldiering skills and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

PARROTT, George Nelson	MSM CD	CG: 11 February 2012
Warrant Officer		GH: 07 December 2011
Sergeant-Major Kandak Mentor Team 3 Afghanistan		DOI: September 2009 to April 2010

“As sergeant-major of Kandak Mentor Team 3 from September 2009 to April 2010, Warrant Officer Parrott provided exceptional mentorship to his Afghan counterpart and ensured that widely dispersed mentoring teams received the operational support they required. Leading from the front during joint combat operations, he set an example emulated by Afghan soldiers and created the conditions for successful interoperability between Canadian, coalition and Afghan units. Warrant Officer Parrott’s leadership contributed to enhancing the capabilities of the Afghan National Army and brought great credit to Canada.”

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POFFLEY, Dean Edward	MSM CD	CG: 11 February 2012
Master Warrant Officer		GH: 07 December 2011
Sergeant-Major Delta Company – Battle Group Afghanistan		DOI: September 2009 to May 2010

“As Sergeant-Major of Delta Company from September 2009 to May 2010, Master Warrant Officer Poffley provided steadfast leadership to all ranks during intense counter-insurgency operations in Afghanistan. With his company stationed within the local community, Master Warrant Officer Poffley maintained professional interactions with local leaders while simultaneously applying relentless pressure on insurgents to help secure key villages. He offered unwavering support and advice to the entire company, ensuring their operational success and that of the battle group.”

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ROBICHAUD, Joseph Camille	MSM CD	CG: 11 February 2012
Chief Warrant Officer		GH: 07 December 2011
Regimental Sergeant-Major of the National Support Element in Afghanistan		DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“As regimental sergeant-major of the National Support Element in Afghanistan from October 2009 to May 2010, Chief Warrant Officer Robichaud forged, into a single cohesive unit, soldiers and civilian contract personnel from across Canada. His focus on developing professionalism and strengthening the combat effectiveness of his soldiers increased their confidence and their ability to excel. When the unit began training its Afghan counterparts, he rose to the occasion and effectively coordinated the task. Chief Warrant Officer Robichaud’s efforts provided exceptional support to all members of Joint Task Force Afghanistan.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

PROHAR, Derek D.

Major – Royal Canadian Regiment

Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) Operations Officer

MMV MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

GH: 07 December 2011

DOI: September 2009 to May 2010



“As the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team operations officer and headquarters company commander in Afghanistan from September 2009 to May 2010, Major Prohar planned and influenced operations, guaranteeing the necessary support to mentor teams operating in isolated and high-threat locations. His coordination with Canadian, American and Afghan units, his detailed knowledge of unit capabilities, and his outstanding situational awareness reduced the level of risk and facilitated task force success. Major Prohar’s leadership and professionalism were critical to the success of operations and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

Awarded the **Medal of Military Valour (MMV)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 24 February 2007 in the rank of Captain.

It is the second military decoration for Prohar, who previously received the Medal of Military Valour in 2007, after working as a liaison officer with the United States Special Forces in Afghanistan during the battle at Sperwan Ghar, September 5-12, 2006.



Prohar was a defensive back with the McGill Redmen football team for one season, then joined the hockey Redmen, where he played at forward and patrolled the blueline from 1994 to 1998. He won the University’s Richard Pound Award in 1998 for proficiency and leadership in athletics before graduating with a bachelor’s degree, majoring in economics and political science

Prohar was an Operational Mentor and Liaison Team operations officer and headquarters company commander in Afghanistan. He planned and influenced operations, guaranteeing the necessary support to mentor teams operating in isolated and high-threat locations.

In 2006, he held the rank of captain and was working as the rear machine gunner on the battalion commander’s vehicle when wounded by an improvised explosive device during an intense enemy ambush and despite his injuries. He continued returning fire and assisted the commander with the control of the attack, which resulted in the successful seizing of key terrain.

Medals: MMV – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and multiple tour bar – CD

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

RUTLAND, Liam Wade

Major - PPCLI

Commanding Officer Charlie Company Combat Team

OMM MSC MSM CD

Ottawa

CG: 11 February 2012

GH: 07 December 2011

DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“As the commanding officer of the Charlie Company Combat Team from October 2009 to May 2010, Major Rutland forged a first-rate combat unit through his knowledge of combat operations, his understanding of counter-insurgency warfare and his firm grasp of the battle space. From complex air assaults to supporting operations, he inspired both Canadian and Afghan soldiers. Major Rutland’s leadership and remarkable efforts led to increased stability in the Panjwayi district, where he gained the respect of the population and brought great credit to the NATO 2 Enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group in Latvia Forces.”



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 03 June 2016 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per **CanForGen** of 27 May 2019 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel while Commanding the NATO 2 Enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group in Latvia.

Awarded **BAR to the Meritorious Service Meda (MSM*)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 08 February 2025 in the rank of Brigadier-General

Medals: OMM – MSC – MSM and bar – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – General Campaign Star with Expedition ribbon - General Service Medal with Expedition ribbon and one extra tour bar - Operational Service Medal – SSM - Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – CD and bar – EIRR Platinum Jubilee (Alberta) – 4th Class Order of Viesturs (Latvia)

**Brigadier-General Wade Rutland, OMM, MSC, MSM, CD
Commander of NATO’s enhanced Forward Presence Battlegroup in Latvia.**

Born and raised in Pembroke, Ontario, LCol Rutland joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1995. Following infantry officer training, he was posted to Second Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI) in 1999, where he served as a rifle platoon commander. In 2002, he was posted to the Second Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment (2R22ER), and spent the next two years as the unit’s Reconnaissance Platoon commander. Following the exchange posting, he served at the Infantry School in Gagetown; in 2006 he was posted within the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command.

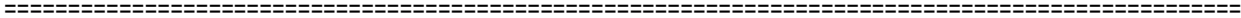
LCol Rutland became Officer Commanding Charlie Company, 1 PPCLI, in 2008. He stayed within the 1st Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group in 2010, taking on the role of the Brigade Operations Officer (G3). LCol Rutland attended the Joint Command and Staff Program in 2011, and in 2012 he became the first Executive Assistant to the Commander of the Canadian Joint Operations Command following the amalgamation of the operational commands.





LCol Rutland remained within the National Capital Region in 2013, moving to the Vice Chief of Defence Staff organisation. During this period he had the honour of serving on the PPCLI Regimental Executive Committee as a Regional Representative, which included assisting with the Ottawa 100th anniversary celebrations. He recently returned from the Middle East, having completed a tour as the Chief of Staff of Joint Task Force – Iraq. In 2017, he commanded the NATO enhanced Forward Presence Battlegroup in Latvia and was awarded the **4th Class of the Order of Viesturs** by the Government of **Latvia** and the **MSC** by the Canadian Government. Commander 3rd Cdn Division on 24 June 2024 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

International operations that he has participated in include Operations PALLADIUM, LION, ENDURING FREEDOM, ATHENA, and IMPACT. Within Canada, LCol Rutland took part in Operations GRIZZLY and LUSTRE. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering Degree from McMaster University, and a Master of Defence Studies from the Royal Military College of Canada. He is a qualified reconnaissance patrolman, parachutist, and a graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger School.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

SALOIS, John Tommy
Corporal
Persistent Surveillance System

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: November 2009 to April 2010

“While deployed to Afghanistan from November 2009 to April 2010, Corporal Salois was critical to the implementation and ongoing maintenance of the Persistent Surveillance System. He provided field commanders with enhanced situational awareness, and his exceptional repair work, troubleshooting of systems and development of standard operating procedures augmented protection for all soldiers. His dedication, intellect and technical ability were essential to operational success in Afghanistan and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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SCOTT, Robert
Captain
Chaplain OMLT & Military Police Company - Afghanistan

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: September 2009 to April 2010

“As unit chaplain of the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team, and of the Military Police Company in Afghanistan from September 2009 to April 2010, Captain Scott was a pillar of spiritual and moral strength. During the mission’s most difficult times, his compassion and sage advice helped soldiers cope with the realities of war. With a deep understanding of human nature and genuine concern for the well-being of his fellow Canadians, Captain Scott provided critical support to the units as they continued their mission.”



Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon

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UDESEN, Kristian
Captain
Counterattack in Panjwayi District – Battle Group Afghanistan

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: 20-23 November 2009

“From November 20 to 23, 2009, Captain Udesen displayed courage and front line leadership in the aftermath of two improvised explosive device attacks and ensuing enemy ambushes in the Panjwayi district of Afghanistan. Remaining calm, he organized and led two successful counterattacks, winning the firefights and clearing the enemy positions. Captain Udesen’s tactical acumen, composure under fire and remarkable abilities as a soldier were critical to the defeat of the enemy and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

SMYTH, Jeffrey Douglas

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 07 December 2011

Commanding Officer Canadian Helicopter Force - Afghanistan

DOI: September 2009 to August 2010



“With keen insight, Lieutenant-Colonel Smyth advanced Canadian tactical aviation as commanding officer of the Canadian Helicopter Force (Afghanistan) from September 2009 to August 2010. He was committed to taking troops off the dangerous Afghan road networks, and led the maintenance staff in their efforts to ensure aircraft serviceability was never a limiting factor. Mastering the employment of new equipment, he enhanced support being provided to ground forces. Lieutenant-Colonel Smyth’s remarkable efforts were critical to the success of operations, including the largest airborne operation in the history of Canada’s involvement in Afghanistan.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti – NATO with bar Africa - CD



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SOLAR, Gary Chris

OStJ MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Honorary Colonel

GH: 27 July 2011

Honorary Colonel - Fort Garry Horse

DOI: 2003 to 2011



“For exceptional dedication and Professionalism as the Honorary Colonel of the Fort Garry Horse since 2003.”

“Honorary Colonel Solar demonstrated exceptional dedication, professionalism and vision as the honorary colonel of the Fort Garry Horse from 2003 through 2009. His commitment to the military community and his civic leadership in a variety of public circles significantly enhanced public awareness of the Canadian Forces, particularly in Manitoba. His personal efforts in promoting public support for soldiers and their families have been of great benefit to all concerned.”

Medals: OStJ – MSM – Centennial Medal – Silver Jubilee Medal – Canada 125 Medal – Golden Jubilee Medal – CD – Service Medal St. John Ambulance

Awarded **Office of the Order of St. John (OStJ)** in 1993 (Serving Brother 1990).

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

WADDELL, Steven Michael
Commander – Royal Canadian Navy
Commanding Officer of the HMCS Fredericton

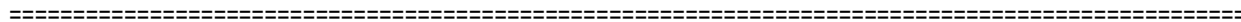
MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 07 December 2011
DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“For superb leadership and operational focus as the Commanding Officer of HMCS Fredericton and Task Force Commander while deployed to the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea in support of the International Counter-Piracy and Counter Terror Efforts from October 2009 to May 2010.”

“Commander Waddell served with distinction from October 2009 to May 2010, commanding officer of Her Majesty’s Canadian Ship *Fredericton* and commander of Task Force Saiph, deployed to the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea in support of international counter-piracy and counter-terror efforts. Commander Waddell demonstrated tactical awareness, leadership, operational focus and a humanitarian approach to operations, allowing him to successfully lead his team through challenging missions, which brought great credit to the Royal Canadian Navy and to Canada.”

Medals: MSM - Southwest Asia bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon – SSM with two bars – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Africa – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD and Bar



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

WYNNYK, Paul Francis

Brigadier-General

Assistant Commander General Afghan Army Development

CMM (OMM) MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

GH: 07 December 2011

DOI: March 2009 to March 2010



“Brigadier-General Wynnyk deployed to Afghanistan as the assistant commanding general for Afghan National Army Development within the NATO Training Mission, in Kabul, from March 2009 to March 2010. Working with and mentoring the country’s most senior leaders, he exerted strategic influence that shaped and developed the Afghan National Security Forces. Brigadier-General Wynnyk’s commanding presence and diplomacy furthered international efforts in Afghanistan and brought great credit to Canada.”

Lieutenant-General 2016 to Command the Canadian Army; VCDS 2018.

Medals: CMM – MSM – Southwest Asia with Afghanistan Bar – General Campaign Star with two tour bars and Southwest Asia ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UNAMIC (Advance Mission Cambodia)– UNTAC (Transitional Authority Cambodia) – UN (Operation Kosovo) – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and Bar – Alberta Centennial Medal – Afghanistan Baryal Medal (First Class) – Officer Legion of Merit (USA)

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 01 March 2008 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Commander of the Order of Military Merit (CMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 22 March 2014 in the rank of Major-General.

Awarded **Officer of the Legion of Merit (USA)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 28 May 2011 as a Brigadier-General.

Awarded The Government of **Colombia Grand Cross of the “José Maria Córdoba” Order of Military Merit** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 29 September 2018.

Awarded by the Government of the **Islamic Republic of Afghanistan the Baryaal Darajaah UAK (Successful 1st Grade) Medal** in 2011 for his services in Afghanistan.

Awarded by the **Brazilian Government** the **Grand Officer of the Order of Military Merit** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 28 July 2018.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

WILLIAMS, Austin Kane

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012

Sergeant

GH: 07 December 2011

Counterattack in Panjwayi District – Battle Group Afghanistan

DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“From October 2009 to May 2010, Sergeant Williams ensured the best possible surveillance coverage was provided to ground forces in Afghanistan. He forged the Tactical Operations Centre into a cohesive team and implemented new capabilities to provide uninterrupted surveillance coverage, gaining the highest confidence of senior leadership. Sergeant Williams’ personal commitment in this regard contributed directly to operational success and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”



Medals: MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO - CD

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ONE Not Gazetted

MSM

CG: No Gazette -11 February 2012

No Rank Given

GH: 07 December 2011

No Citation

DOI: 2010

For security and operational reasons, the name and citation of one recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal (Military Division) is not being released.

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ALLISON, Ronald Allan

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 24 January 2012

Commanding Officer Task Force Jerusalem

DOI: July 2009 to October 2010

“As the deputy commanding officer of Task Force Jerusalem from July 2009 to October 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Allison demonstrated leadership and initiative while conducting security sector reform with Palestinian security forces. His mentorship of Palestinian battalion commanders, as well as the implementation of a modern, operational-level command and control capability, were crucial to expanding the capacity of Palestinian security forces. Lieutenant-Colonel Allison’s selfless dedication and exemplary leadership contributed directly to the task force’s success and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

BARR, David Edward

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Colonel - PPCLI

GH: 24 January 2012

Deputy Commander Joint Task Force Games Op Podium

DOI: 2007 to 2010



“From 2007 through 2010, Colonel Barr served as chief of staff and deputy commander of Joint Task Force Games. He played a significant role in the Canadian Forces’ provision of security support to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The success of this operation was largely due to his dedication and his adaptation, implementation and execution of the operational planning process in a multi-agency environment. Colonel Barr’s leadership, professionalism and distinctive accomplishments have brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

Medals: MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR - UN – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and 2 Bars – Bronze Star (USA)

His early military service included platoon command with the 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry in Victoria, British Columbia (1980–84), and subsequently with the Canadian Airborne Regiment in Petawawa, Ontario (1984–87).



From 2007 to 2010, he was the chief of staff and deputy commander of Joint Task Force Games (JTFG), which provided support to secure Vancouver during the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

He was the first commander of CSOFC. During his tenure as commander, Barr also deployed to Afghanistan as commander of the Canadian special operations task force in Operation Enduring Freedom.

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BOUCHARD, Annie

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Major – CF Health Services

GH: 24 January 2012

Commanded a Medical Platoon in Haiti after the Earthquake

DOI: January to February 2010



“Following the catastrophic earthquake that struck Haiti in 2010, Major Bouchard, as a first responder, commanded a medical platoon from January to February of that year. Despite the physical and mental challenges of administering medical treatment in such a horrifying environment, she provided critical care to countless wounded, while keeping watch over her team’s morale and well-being. Major Bouchard’s selfless actions alleviated the suffering of many victims of the earthquake, leaving a lasting impression of Canadian compassion in Léogâne, Haiti.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti – CD

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

BOYD, Danny Denis

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Master Corporal – Canadian Artillery

GH: 24 January 2012

Fire Support Coordination Centre within Joint Task Force Afghanistan HQ

DOI: November 2009 to Sept 2010

“Master Corporal Boyd’s leadership and technical skills greatly improved the efficiency of the Fire Support Coordination Centre within Joint Task Force Afghanistan Headquarters during his deployment from November 2009 to September 2010. In addition to developing a method that enhanced information management, he was selected to brief an American unit on the Centre’s procedures, helping them integrate seamlessly into the area of operations. Master Corporal Boyd’s dedicated efforts enhanced the Centre’s ability to ensure the effective delivery of fire support.”



Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD

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BROWN, Bobby

MSM

CG: 11 February 2012

Master Corporal

GH: 24 January 2012

Actions after and IED hit a Vehicle and Provided First Aid to the Injured

DOI: 26 December 2008

“On December 26, 2008, a massive improvised explosive device launched Corporal Brown’s vehicle into the air, killing the driver instantly and causing several other casualties. After being temporarily knocked unconscious, Corporal Brown moved to the burning vehicle to provide first aid. Despite the intense heat and smoke, his resolve never wavered as he helped those wounded by the blast. Throughout this tragic event, Corporal Brown demonstrated tremendous character, devotion to duty and true leadership with actions that inspired his fellow soldiers.”

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

BRENNAN, Shane Anthony

Colonel - PPCLI

Commander Operational Mentor and Liaison Team to Afghan National Army

MSM* CD

Bar to MSM

CG: 11 February 2012

GH: 24 January 2012

DOI: September 2009 to May 2010



“From September 2009 to May 2010, Colonel Brennan's performance as commander of the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team was essential to building Afghan National Army capacity. Whether interacting with senior Afghan leaders or sharing the risk with soldiers on the ground, he forged strong relationships among members of the multinational contingent. He was critical to transitioning the coalition's focus from mentoring the Afghans to conducting fully partnered operations. Colonel Brennan's remarkable efforts were crucial to mission success, bringing great credit to Canada. This is the second Meritorious Service Medal awarded to Colonel Brennan.”

Medals: MSM and Bar– General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon and multiple tour bar – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar Former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo - CD and Bar

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal** as per **Canada Gazette** of 26 January 2008 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

BUTTERWORTH, Kenneth Freeman **OMM MSM CD**
Lieutenant-Colonel - Royal Canadian Regiment
Canadian Liaison Officer at Task Force Tampa, USA

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 24 January 2012
DOI: May 2009 to June 2010

“As the chief of staff of Task Force Tampa from May 2007 to June 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Butterworth served as a critical information conduit between United States Central Command and the Canadian Forces. Lieutenant-Colonel Butterworth’s leadership and professionalism enabled the enhancement of the operational effectiveness of the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan. His efforts achieved support for troop increases and the loan of equipment while gaining considerable credit and recognition for Canada.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** 09 February 2013 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** 04 November 2017 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel serving with the West Nova Scotia Battalion.



Medals: OMM – MSM – Southwest Asia with Bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – General Service Medal with SWA ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and 2 bars – MSM (USA)

Lieutenant Colonel Ken Butterworth started in the army reserves in 1983 when he was 16 and just finishing high school. He spent three years in the Cape Breton Highlanders and went on to join the regular force, enjoyed a long career as an infantry officer, and retired in 2016. In 2017 he was back in the reserves as commanding officer of the West Nova Scotia Regiment. He joined the Royal Canadian Regiment and is a graduate of the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College in 1994, and the Australian Command and Staff College in 2004. And he has both bachelor and master level degrees. That career, that start as a job in the reserves, took him all over the world. He served in the British Army with the Gloucestershire Regiment as well as serving for three years as a liaison officer and strategic planner at United States Central Command, Tampa, Florida – deploying forward to Qatar and Afghanistan many times.

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FORESTELL, James Roy **MSM CD**
Colonel
Canadian Defence Attaché to the United Arab Emirates and then Syria

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 24 January 2012
DOI: 2004 to 2011

“As Canadian Defence attaché to the United Arab Emirates, and then Syria, from 2004 to 2011, Colonel Forestell was pivotal to furthering the interests of the Government of Canada and the Department of National Defence in that area. With sharp operational focus and effective diplomatic skills, he spearheaded key strategic issues with foreign governments throughout the region to guarantee operational success for the Canadian mission in Afghanistan. Colonel Forestell’s leadership and dedication helped to place Canada in a positive light internationally.”

Medals: MSM – Southwest Asia with far Afghanistan – SSM with bar NATO - Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus (2) – CD and two bars – Lebanese Armed Forces Meritorious service.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

HACHÉ, Louis Christian
Lieutenant-Commander – Royal Canadian Navy
Deputy Commander of Task Force Port-au-Prince
United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 24 January 2012
DOI: July 2009 to April 2010



“As deputy commander of Task Force Port-au-Prince, and chief of Plans and Strategic Measures within the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti from July 2009 to April 2010, Lieutenant-Commander Haché was instrumental to the success of international efforts in the country. In the aftermath of the January 2010 earthquake, he re-established command and control capabilities that were lost when the local United Nations Headquarters was destroyed. Lieutenant-Commander Haché’s leadership contributed significantly to the United Nations’ efforts in Haiti and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

Medals: MSM – Peacekeeping – Operational Service Medal ribbon Haiti - CD

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HARRISON, Richard Philip
Captain(N) – Ex Member HMCS Discovery
Canadian Naval Centennial in British Columbia

OMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012
GH: 24 January 2012
DOI: 2009 to 2010



“From 2009 to 2010, Captain(N) Harrison was instrumental in planning and executing a series of very high-profile and successful events in support of the Canadian Naval Centennial. These events, including the exercising of the freedom of the city of Victoria and an international fleet review, received national and international recognition, which enhanced the standing of the Canadian Forces both at home and abroad. In addition to these centennial activities, Captain(N) Harrison was involved in ground-breaking work on the charter of the Western Pacific Naval Symposium, which elevated Canada’s influence in the region and among the 24 participating nations.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 30 March 1996 in the rank of Commander.

Awarded **Legionnaire of the Order of Merit (USA)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 23 September 2006 in the rank of Captain(N).

Medals: OMM – MSM – EIRR Silver Jubilee – CD and 2 Bars – Legionnaire of the Order of Merit (USA)

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

KOCH, Patrick John

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Major - Royal Canadian Regiment

GH: 24 January 2012

Security Planning for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics & Paralympic Games

DOI: January to November 2009

"Major Koch played a key role in leading the integration of the Canadian Forces' support into security planning for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. He achieved exemplary results thanks to his leadership and the strong relationships he built throughout the Games' large and complex multi-agency Integrated Security Unit. Major Koch's accomplishments complement a distinguished career and brought great credit to himself and to the Canadian Forces."

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

McGRATH, Thomas Frederick

OMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel – Cadet Instruction List

GH: 24 January 2012

Branch Advisor for the Cadet Instructors Cadre (CIC)

DOI: 2006 to 2010



“As branch advisor for the Cadet Instructors Cadre from 2006 to 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel McGrath oversaw numerous high-profile events across Canada to celebrate the branch’s centenary, as well as the creation of several unifying symbols for the branch. Thanks to his visionary leadership, the successful events generated considerable public interest and brought great credit to the Cadet program and to the Canadian Forces. His dedicated personal efforts have had an enduring impact on the esprit de corps of the Cadet Instructors Cadre.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 July 2002 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Medals: OMM – MSM – Canada 125 – EIRR Golden – CD and 2 bars

McLEAN, Charles Andrew

MMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Sergeant – Royal Canadian Air Force SAR TECH

GH: 24 January 2012

Soldier On Program

DOI: January to November 2009

“Since 2007, Sergeant McLean’s dedication to Soldier On, a program which he co-founded, has ensured the continued success of this initiative to optimize the functional independence of Canadian Forces members or former members who have become ill or who have been injured. His passion and commitment have provided opportunities for these individuals to reach beyond their physical limitations and find a better quality of life on their road to recovery and reintegration. Over the years, he has successfully promoted and created awareness of the needs of injured and ill Canadian Forces members and their families, as well as the programs available to them.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 22 November 2008 in the rank of Sergeant.



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

NEWTON, John Frederick

OMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Captain(N) – Royal Canadian Navy

GH: 24 January 2012

Base Commander for Canadian Forces Base Halifax

DOI: July 2008 to July 2010

“Captain(N) Newton was the base commander for Canadian Forces Base Halifax from July 2008 to July 2010. During his tenure, he displayed exceptional leadership in guiding the planning and execution of two extremely high-profile ceremonial events: the consecration and presentation of a new Queen’s Colour to Maritime Command in 2009, and the international fleet review by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2010. Through his success, Canadians were inspired anew by their navy as a treasured national institution, and sailors were filled with pride in their naval service to Canada.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 01 March 2008 in the rank of Commander.

Medals: OMM - MSM – Gulf War with Bar – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – NATO bar Former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

PATRICK, Michael Brian

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel - PPCLI

GH: 24 January 2012

Chief of Operations of Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: February to November 2009



“Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick served as chief of operations of Joint Task Force Afghanistan from February to November 2009. He demonstrated outstanding leadership and tactical acumen, which were critical to the successful development and implementation of the summer campaign plan, aimed at denying insurgents the ability to gain momentum over the traditional fighting season. Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick’s excellence in the art of operational planning helped to disrupt Taliban objectives and to strengthen the Afghan government’s authority within Kandahar province.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SW Asia Ribbon and multiple tour bar – Peacekeeping – UNCRO – NATO with bar Former Yugoslavia – Canada 125 – CD and Bar

Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Brian PATRICK, MSM, CD, PPCLI



Lieutenant Colonel Michael Patrick joined the military in 1986. Since he was accepted into military college ahead of graduating from high school, he was sent to College Militaire Royal in St Jean, Quebec, to undertake a preparatory year. I changed my course of study after my second year to Applied Military Psychology and was transferred to Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, British Columbia, where I graduated in 1991. He served as the Cadet Wing Training Officer in his final year at RRMC. The Cadet Wing was part of the Training Wing which is commanded by the Director of Cadets (DCdts). The Training Wing Staff are responsible for the officer cadets’ military training including officership, physical fitness and drill.

Upon graduation in 1991 and the completion of basic infantry officer training, he joined the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry in Esquimalt, British Columbia. Herein, LCol Patrick undertook command at the platoon and specialist platoon level and was operationally deployed with the first Canadian-based rotation into the former Yugoslavia in 1992. Upon re-deployment and the move of the 3rd Battalion from Vancouver Island, LCol Patrick was posted to a staff position within the 1st Canadian Division Headquarters in Kingston Ontario. Recalled to the 2nd Battalion of his regiment in 1996, then Captain Patrick, was deployed as a specialist platoon commander (Anti-Armour) to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Promoted to the rank of major in 2001, he served in a number of positions both with his Regiment and the Infantry School and commanded at the company level. Following completion of the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College in 2007, LCol Patrick served as the G3 of the 1st Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group in Edmonton Alberta. Promoted to his present rank in 2008, LCol Patrick was deployed to Afghanistan as the Chief of Operations for Task Force Kandahar between February and November 2009. Upon redeployment, until the present time, he has served as the G3 of Land Force Western Area. In 2012 he is the Commanding Officer of the Army Atlantic Training Area located in Oromocto, New Brunswick at the Canadian Forces Base Gagetown.

LCol Patrick holds a bachelor’s degree in Applied Military Psychology and a master’s degree in Military Studies. He was the first Canadian Graduate of the Baltic Defence College (BDCOL) having completed the Joint Command and General Staff Course (JCGSC), a course for Senior Staff Officers, in 2002. The college is located in Tartu, Estonia, which is the country’s second largest city and is located in the South – Eastern part of the country. The International Society for Military Sciences (ISMS) was established in October 2008 by RMC and a number of other Defence Colleges to further research and academic education in military arts and sciences. He is also a graduate of the Land Force Command and Staff College and the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College. LCol Patrick is married and he and his wife Karen have two children.

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

PICKFORD, Kenneth John

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Captain(N) - RCN

GH: 24 January 2012

Canadian Naval Centennial Celebrations

DOI: 2005 to 2010

“From 2005 through 2010, Captain(N) Pickford displayed leadership and vision during the planning and execution of the Canadian Naval Centennial celebrations. With him at the helm, the centennial team drove a comprehensive program from coast to coast, with a mandate to bring the Navy to Canadians. In all respects, the celebrations were an unparalleled success and well-received by both national and international audiences, bringing considerable credit to the Navy and to the Canadian Forces.”



Medals: MSM – Gulf War with bar – SSM Bar NATO – Canada 125 – CD and Bar

Captain(N) Kenneth John PICKFORD, MSM, CD

Captain John Pickford, a native of Halifax and Dalhousie graduate, joined the Canadian Forces in 1974 as a naval officer. In 1976, upon completing qualification training, he was posted from Esquimalt, British Columbia, to the navy’s east coast base at Halifax. During his years in Halifax, he served as a Navigating Officer in *HMCS Annapolis* and *HMCS Iroquois*, as a Combat Officer in *HMCS Skeena* and *HMCS Algonquin*, and as an instructor at the Canadian Forces Fleet School. During this period, he also attended the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College in Toronto.



In July 1990, after a year as Executive Officer of *HMCS Protecteur*, Captain Pickford was appointed to the command of the destroyer, *HMCS Athabaskan*. Later that year, when the Gulf War began, he deployed with the ship to the Arabian Gulf-Arabian Sea region where, for more than seven months, *Athabaskan* was the flagship of the Canadian Naval Task Group conducting maritime interdiction operations in the region as part of Canada's contribution to the war against Iraq.

In 1991, upon his return to Canada, Captain Pickford was posted back to the Fleet School in Halifax, this time as the Combat Division Commander. In 1993, he assumed the position of Executive Assistant to the Commander Maritime Command and, in 1996, he moved to National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa as Director of Naval Personnel Production (Training) for the Chief of the Maritime Staff. In June 1999, Captain Pickford returned to Halifax to take command of the Fifth Maritime Operations Group. In August 2000, he returned to Ottawa as the Director of Maritime Major Capital Projects; in October 2001, he was appointed Director General, Maritime Force Development.

In July 2002, Captain Pickford was attached to the headquarters of the Canadian Joint Task Force South West Asia at Mac Dill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida as J3 and then as CO of the National Command Element and Task Force Chief of Staff. In May 2003, he re-assumed the appointment of Director General Maritime Force Development until January 2005 when he was appointed the Project Manager Canadian Naval Centennial 1910-2010 and remained in that position until 2011 when he retired.

In 2012, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his efforts with regard to the Centennial.

He is a member of the Order of St. George in the rank of Knight, affiliated with the Naval Association of Canada, a Board of Director with the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, honorary member of the Royal Military College Ex-Cadet Club (S129), member of Sigma Chi International Fraternity and the Crow’s Nest Club of St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador.

Hed died on 05 September 2024.

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CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

SCHEIDL, Andrew

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 24 January 2012

Work at Canadian Expeditionary Force Command HQ

DOI: July 2009 to March 2011

“While working within Canadian Expeditionary Force Command Headquarters from July 2008 to March 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel Scheidl provided exceptional support and leadership to Canada’s international security commitments. Whether working with American allies to understand the situation in Southwest Asia, supporting humanitarian relief in Haiti, or helping transition the Canadian combat mission in Afghanistan to a training mission, Lieutenant-Colonel Scheidl proved to be a dedicated officer. His efforts have brought considerable credit to the Command, the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

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SENF, Donald James

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Major

GH: 24 January 2012

Senior Liaison and Planner for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games

DOI: 2010

“Major Senft was a key participant in planning for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. He led the Joint Task Force Games and acted as the senior liaison with a multitude of inter-agency partners from both Canada and the United States. His exemplary leadership was essential to the successful contingency planning for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats. Major Senft’s impressive national and international achievements brought great credit to himself and to the Canadian Forces.”

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WALKINGTON, Craig

MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Captain(N) – HMCS Scotian and HMCS Brunswicker

GH: 24 January 2012

Canadian Naval Centennial Celebrations Halifax

DOI: 2008 - 2010



“In the two years leading up to the Canadian Naval Centennial, in 2010, Captain(N) Walkington provided commendable leadership in Atlantic Canada. This included bringing the Navy to Canadians, in order to honour its past, showcase its present and reinforce its future. Captain(N) Walkington’s actions had significant impact on the eastern component of the Royal Tour to Canada in 2010, which included an international fleet review by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. His meritorious contribution brought great credit to the Navy, to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

Medals: MSM – CD and Bar

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

YOUNG, Gregory Achilles

OMM MSM CD

CG: 11 February 2012

Brigadier-General

GH: 24 January 2012

Deputy Commanding General - Combined Security Transition Command–Afghanistan

DOI: November 2006 to May 2007

“As deputy commanding general of the Combined Security Transition Command–Afghanistan from November 2006 to May 2007, Brigadier-General Young worked with the President of Afghanistan and his Minister of the Interior to establish a legitimate and professional national police force. His dedicated efforts were instrumental in establishing the rule of law, extending the government’s legitimacy and transitioning the nation to democracy. Brigadier-General Young’s leadership tremendously increased the country’s policing capabilities, bringing great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 June 1998 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Awarded **Officer, Legion of Merit (USA)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 31 January 2009 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

Awarded **Bariyal Medal for Bravery 1st Class (Afghanistan)** effective 23 February 2009 in the rank of Brigadier-General.

Medals: OMM – MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – Canada 125 – EIIR Silver Jubilee - EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and two bars – Officer of the Legion of Merit (USA) - Bariyal Medal for Bravery, 1st Class (Afghanistan)



CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

LUFT, Alastair James Neil	MSM CD	CG: Not Gazetted
Major – Special Operations Advisor – 1 PPCLI		AWARDED: 23 February 2012
Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan Special Operations Advisor		DOI: 2001

“Major Luft deployed with the Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan. Under his stalwart leadership, the task force furthered Canadian and international efforts in both the Task Force Kandahar and Regional Command (South) areas of operations. An excellent combat leader and sage special operations advisor, Major Luft enabled the disruption of counter-insurgent networks and supported the development of the Afghan police. His leadership and perseverance brought international praise to the Canadian Forces.”

Lieutenant-Colonel Alastair James Neil LUFT, MSM, CD, PPCLI

August 2018 to Present	LCol	Co-Founder, Corporate Stoyteller Speranza Strategy Group Ltd.	Port Moody, BC
April 2019 to Present	LCol	Joint Research & Analysis Branch Head Cdn Joint Warfare Centre	Ottawa
April 2016 to March 2019	LCol	Joint Doctrine Branch Head, Canadian Forces Werfare Centre	Ottawa
May 2015 to April 2016	LCol	Director of Operations, CANSOFCOM	Ottawa
July 2013 to April 2015	LCol	Staff Officer, CF Chief of Force Development	Ottawa
Sept 2012 to June 2013	LCol	Student, Canadian Forces College (Toronto)	Toronto
2000 to 2012	Lt to Major	PPCLI	Various
1996 to 2000	Off Cadet	Royal Military College	Kingston



Alastair Luft is a writer, blogger, and veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces. His debut novel, *The Battle Within*, was published in June 2017. In his 20 years with the Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, Alastair has deployed 6 times to Afghanistan, gaining incredible experience which has formed the basis of his writing.

His citation was released to the public in the 2017 Honours and Awards book to members of the Canadian Forces.

CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

BURDEYNY, Shaun Gary

MMM MSM CD

CG: Not Gazetted

Sergeant

AWARDED: 22 August 2012

2nd in command & team leader of a village stability operations team Afghanistan

DOI: 02 April 2001

“Sergeant Burdeyny served as second in command and team leader of a village stability operations team, in Panjwayi, Afghanistan. He displayed skill and professionalism throughout his mentoring of Afghan security forces and brought stability to the area of operations. On April 2, 2011, despite having been injured by an improvised explosive device and under threat of insurgent attack, he successfully coordinated a medical evacuation of his fellow soldiers. Sergeant Burdeyny unwavering leadership and dedication have brought considerable honour to the Canadian Forces.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 03 June 2016 in the rank of Warrant Officer.

A Master Warrant Officer, Canadian Special Operations Regiment, in 2019.



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