

## Tony Battista

### Biography

Tony Battista served in the Canadian Armed Forces for 40 years, from the rank of Private (Military Police) to Colonel. He served in all regions of Canada and in 11 other countries, including one year in Afghanistan. He had the privilege to command at every rank, from Captain to Colonel, and served in many staff appointments, including in the office of the Chief of Defence Staff.

Tony attended collège militaire royal de Saint Jean, graduating with a degree in Business Administration, the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston with a Masters in War Studies, and taught Strategic Studies at Royal Roads Military College in Victoria.

Tony served as Canadian Defence Attaché to 10 countries and retired in 2014 after having served as Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander of the Canadian Defence Academy.

In 2014, he assumed the civilian position of Chief Executive Officer of the Conference of Defence Associations (CDA) – comprising more than 40 associations with over 350,000 members, and concurrently the CEO of the CDA Institute. In February 2019, Tony was hired full-time by IBM Canada, as Client Executive for National Defence and Public Safety.

Tony Battista served as Chair of the United Way Campaign for Greater Simcoe County; he is a lifetime member of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police; a member of the executive committee of the Royal Military College Club of Canada (2013-2015). Tony is a member and volunteer of numerous charitable organizations, many in support of Veterans and people in need.

Tony is fluent in English, French, and Italian, and has working ability in the German language.