

THE 26TH ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

JUDGES

LGen (Ret'd) Guy R. Thibault, CMM, MSC, CD
President, CDA & Chair of the Board, CDA Institute
Former Vice Chief of the Defence Staff

Lieutenant-General Guy R. Thibault retired from the Canadian Forces (CF) in August 2016 after 38 years of service. As a General Officer, he served as Commander Land Force Central Area; Deputy Commander Canadian Army; as well as the Defence Deputy CIO/CF J6 and Communications and Electronics Branch Leader.

From 2011-2013 he served in as the first Canadian Chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board an entity of the Organization of American States. He concluded his military service as the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff serving three years as the second in command of the CF and was responsible and accountable to the Chief of the Defence Staff and the Deputy Minister to coordinate and direct strategic programs to ensure defence policy and strategic objectives were achieved.

Dr. Youri Cormier
Executive Director
CDA & CDA Institute

Youri Cormier is an Adjunct Professor with the Royal Military College of Canada and has taught at the Canadian Forces College, Johns Hopkins University, and King's College London in a variety of disciplines including political philosophy, war & strategy, international relations, land power theorists, operational concepts, and human rights & justice.

He holds diplomas from Concordia University (BComm/BA), the Royal Military College of Canada (MA) and King's College London (PhD) and has worked in various senior executive roles in the non-profit sector in professional theatre, environmentalism, and youth civic & electoral engagement.

He served as a human rights observer in Zapatista-controlled areas of Chiapas, Mexico, and later conducted research on Latin American indigenous insurgencies on behalf of the Canadian Department of National Defense. As a research & speechwriting fellow at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Brussels, he contributed to policy papers on climate change and food/water security, NATO-Russia relations, and the use of drones in countering improvised explosive devices.

In 2016, he published the book: “War as Paradox: Clausewitz and Hegel on Fighting Doctrines and Ethics (McGill Queens University Press), which traces the origin and current-day significance of dialectical war theory. It was awarded a prestigious publication grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, was nominated for the 2019 Canadian Philosophical Association Biennial Book Prize, and today lines the shelves of over 800 public and institutional libraries worldwide, having been integrated into university curriculum internationally.

VAdm (Ret’d) Bob Davidson, CMM, MSC, CD, MBA
Board Member, CDA Institute
Former Canadian Military Representative to NATO

Vice-Admiral Robert (Bob) Davidson joined the Canadian Armed Forces (Naval Reserve) in 1977 as an Ordinary Seaman while attending university. He was selected for officer training in 1978, and subsequently served in various training ships and establishments on the east and west coasts. He transferred to the Regular Force in 1982 in order to specialize in submarines. Submarine sea going appointments include three years on exchange with the Royal Navy serving in Her Majesty’s Submarine WALRUS, and 18 months commanding the Sea Training Group for the Australian Submarine Squadron. A graduate of the Royal Navy Submarine Commanding Officer Course (the “Perisher”) in 1989, his first Command was the submarine HMCS OJIBWA.

Since retirement, Bob has served on the Board of Directors for Ocean Networks Canada from 2017-2020 and as a Senior Mentor for the National Security Programme at Canadian Forces College Toronto 2019-2021. Bob is currently a Senior Associate for Hill and Knowlton Strategies.

LCol Dan Doran
Director, Public Sector Solutions & Client Lead – Defence and Security
KPMG Canada

Dan joined the Canadian Forces in 1998 as a Royal Canadian Engineer, attending the Royal Military College of Canada. He graduated in 2002 with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering.

Dan spent the next 8-years as a regular force officer, subsequently transferring to the Army Reserve. Over his career, Dan served with several regiments in addition to deployments to Afghanistan, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In his current reserve role Dan serves as the Secretariate to the External Advisory Council at Chief of Professional Conduct and Culture. Dan began his civilian career in 2010, working as a real property leader at McGill University. In 2019, Dan moved to WSP, a global engineering consulting firm, where he led their defence and security practice, its *Future Ready* team in addition to its thought leadership program.

In August 2023, Dan moved to KPMG, where he is currently the national lead for their defence and security practice and a Director in the Public Sector Solutions (Management Consulting) team. In addition to his bachelor’ degree, Dan holds master’s degrees in both Human Security and Peacebuilding (Royal Roads) and Business Administration (Concordia). He is also a professional engineer (eng.), project management professional (PMP) and human resource professional (CRHA).

Dan sits on several Boards including, Saint John Ambulance (Quebec), the Real Property Institute of Canada (RPIC) and the Vimy Foundation. He is also an Honorary Patron for the International Forum for Peace, Security and Prosperity (IFPSP) and a regular volunteer in various functions with the CDA Institute.

Col (Ret'd) Rick Fawcett, OMM, CD, BEng, MPA
Vice-President, Strategy & Business Development
ADGA Group Consultants Inc.

Richard (Rick) Fawcett is a retired colonel who served 34 years in the Canadian Armed Forces and since retirement has worked in the defence C4ISR industry in a number of roles. He is currently the VP Strategy at ADGA. During his military career, Col (Ret'd) Fawcett served in a variety of command and staff appointments, serving in Canada and internationally with both NATO and the United Nations. A graduate of the Royal Military College with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master Degree in Public Administration. Prior to his current position, he was the Director of Strategy and Business Development (Land) at GDMS-C.

In December 2004, Col (Ret'd) Fawcett was awarded the NATO Meritorious Service Medal, in 2007, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Military Merit, in 2010 he was awarded the RCMP Award of Distinction and in 2012 he was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. Col (Ret'd) Fawcett's favorite pastimes include hockey, golf, camping, building stuff and spending as much time as possible at his cottage.

Dr. Mike Fejes
Assistant Professor
The Royal Military College of Canada

Mike Fejes is an Assistant Professor at The Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario. He holds a BA (Hons) and an MA from the University of Manitoba and recently completed his PhD from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University, where he studied International Conflict. An infantry officer with almost 30 years of military service in both the regular and reserve force (including five international deployments and one domestic response operation), his research interests include foreign policy analysis, comparative defence policy, civ-mil relations, and the contemporary use of armed force.

Alison Grant
Director General, International Security Policy
Global Affairs Canada

Alison Grant (BA, Queen's University, 1994; MA, Carleton University, 1997) joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 1999. From 2000 to 2003, she served in the political section of the Canadian Embassy to the Russian Federation in Moscow and from 2004-2006 at Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

In Ottawa, Alison has held positions in the North American defence and security relations and landmines divisions and was deputy director for Russia and Eastern Europe. In 2012, she was appointed Chief of Staff to the Associate Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. From 2015-2018 Alison

served abroad as MinisterCounsellor and Head of the Political Section at the Canadian Embassy to Brazil. From 2018-2021, Alison was Director for Eastern Europe and Eurasia, and from 2021-2023 was Executive Director, Security and Defence Relations.

In 2023 Alison was appointed Director General, International Security Policy.

Alison is married and has three children. She speaks English, French, Portuguese and Russian.

Daniel Jean

Board Member, CDA Institute

Former National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister of Canada

Daniel Jean had a stimulating career in the federal public service for more than 35 years when he retired from his position of National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister of Canada in May 2018 after several positions as Deputy Minister, in particular Foreign Affairs and Canadian Heritage. Earlier in his career, Daniel worked on international and migration-related issues, both in Canada and abroad, including 2 postings in Haiti, 2 separate assignments in the United States, and 1 in Hong Kong.

A Senior Fellow at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs of the University of Ottawa, a Distinguished Fellow at the Canadian School of Public Service and an Associate Fellow at the Multidimensional Conflicts Observatory of the UQAM/Chaire Raoul-Dandurand, Daniel graduated in 1988 with a Master of Business Administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a Bachelor of Arts in social sciences in international relations and economics from the University of Ottawa in 1982. He has a keen interest in international relations; Canada-U.S. relations; national security issues and how they interact with the economy; migration matters; and governance. Daniel currently serves on a number of advisory committees and non-profit boards.

MGen (Ret'd) Michel Lalumiere

Director, International Strategic Development – Canada

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc.

Michel Lalumiere manages International Strategic Development for Canada, at General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc. Lalumiere joined GA-ASI after 36 years of distinguished service in the Canadian Armed Forces. He led the Defence Space Program and Operations in the CAF, led the procurement efforts in the Royal Canadian Air Force, and served as the Chief Fighter Capability in RCAF, retiring at the rank of Major-General. Active in the Canadian Defence and Security community, Innovation and industrial sectors, Mr. Lalumiere is a committed advocate for innovation in institutions, as well as within professions. He is Vice-Chair (Air & Space) of the Conference of Defence Associations (CDA). Mr. Lalumiere served in numerous operations across Canada from east to west, south to the very far north, as well as in Europe and in Afghanistan. Mr. Lalumiere holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering, is a Graduate of the National Security Program in Toronto, as well as Capstone Program Warfare studies, Washington, D.C.

Eric Morse**Member, Defence and Security Studies Committee and Director of Publications
Royal Canadian Military Institute**

With a degree in Soviet and East European Studies, Eric joined the Canadian Department of External Affairs in 1973. Over the course of 13 years, and somewhat to his own bemusement, he found himself the resident Ottawa expert on the more politically-nuanced questions of international elite and Olympic sport. It was, by his own (and everyone else's) admission, the best job in Government.

Leaving government in 1986, he spent some years in consulting to public and private bodies in cultural and business relations with Russia.

Between 2007 and 2011 he served in three elections as Provincial Returning Officer for the riding of Toronto Centre, and in 2010 conducted a special assignment for Elections Ontario on application of and compliance with the then-new Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

Morse's association with RCMI began in 2003, when he was reintroduced to defence and strategic studies circles by RCMI's then-Executive Director, the late Col Brian MacDonald. He is currently serving as RCMI's Director of Publications and sits on the Defence and Security Studies Committee.

He has contributed opinion editorial on aspects of military and geopolitical affairs to the mainstream Canadian media. Morse delivers occasional lectures to RCMI's Military History Night on Roman Imperial themes, and in late 2014 published a book of essays, Roman Spaces, exploring facets of the Roman geopolitical experience.

Dom Spiers**Director, Canadian Defence and Public Sector
Dataminr**

Dom Spiers is a Defence and Public Safety Professional, with an acute interest in cyber, information operations, and mis/dis-information as it relates to the intersection of technology, policy, and capability development. Working with Dataminr in Ottawa, Ontario, Spiers' passion for Canadian National Security, public safety, and technology fosters his work to create a fact-based and rational approach to dialogue regarding Canadian Defence, security, and foreign policy.

Ray Townsend**Chief of Operations
Lockheed Martin Canada**

Ray Townsend has been the Chief of Operations for Lockheed Martin Canada since March 2020.

Ray joined Lockheed Martin Canada in 2020 following 23 years as a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). In addition to flying Anti-Submarine Warfare and Long-Range Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) missions on the CP-140 Aurora, he commanded deployed forces over Iraq and the domestic aircrew training squadron for the CP-140 in Canada. As a Senior Officer in the RCAF, he concluded his career as the Director responsible for the management of Air

Force readiness across all RCAF fleets as well as strategic programs relating to operational efficiencies and airworthiness.

As a central point of contact in the Lockheed Martin Canada executive team, Ray collaborates with the business areas throughout the broad portfolio of Lockheed Martin products and technologies to help Canada address its security and defence challenges. He works with his team to provide expertise and guidance supporting Lockheed Martin's business strategy in Canada, maintaining and strengthening strategic customer and partner relationships.

Ray graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada with an honours degree in Business and Economics. He subsequently completed a Master's in Security and Defence Management and Policy and a Masters in Defence Studies.

PANELISTS (WORKING LUNCH)

Lt(N) Emily Canning Military Career Counsellor, Canadian Forces Recruit Group Canadian Armed Forces

Lt(N) Emily Canning (she/her) joined the Royal Canadian Navy in August 2005 in the regular officer training program. She completed a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice with a concentration in Sociology from Carleton University. Joining the East Coast fleet in 2010, she sailed aboard *HMCS Fredericton* for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 2010 Fleet Review marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Canadian Navy, and a Great Lakes deployment. Then she joined *HMCS Charlottetown* in 2011 and deployed on anti-terrorism and anti-piracy Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR/ARTEMIS in 2012, sailing all over the Mediterranean Sea, through the Suez Canal and throughout the Red Sea and the Gulf of Oman. Choosing to specialize as a Deck Officer, she trained in replenishment at sea, small boats, small arms and explosives and joined *HMCS Preserver* in 2013. Here she participated in drug-trafficking interdiction on Operation CARRIBE where they recovered 432kg of cocaine jettisoned by a go fast they were pursuing. She was then posted to the NCR, where she worked on GBA+ and updating RCN policy, then moved into a much loved role as Platoon Commander for the ill and injured at both Transition Centre Halifax and Ottawa (five years total). She is now getting experience in recruiting but will be moving on this summer to the Chief Profession of Conduct and Culture.

Leah Carson Partner, Infrastructure and Sustainability KPMG Canada

Leah is a Partner and leads KPMG's Infrastructure and Sustainability Advisory groups based in Ottawa and Hamilton. She has over 15 years of experience in advising public and private sector clients in the construction and infrastructure industry, and has worked extensively on ESG, sustainability and climate change. Leah advises clients on their infrastructure strategy, on early project development, and in portfolio and asset management. Leah also works with client on achieving net zero, and enhancing the climate resilience of their operations.

Before joining KPMG, Leah spent six years working for an engineering firm focusing on providing urban planning and strategic advisory services with a focus on sustainability. Leah has also previously worked under contract for the Federal Government on contracts focussed on climate change detection and mitigation. Leah holds a Master's of Urban Planning, a Master's of Applied Science, and an MBA.

Chloe Dizon (Moderator)

MA Candidate in International Affairs (Security and Defence Policy)

Carleton University (NPSIA)

Chloe Dizon is a MA Candidate in Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA). Her research interests include topics such as Canadian defence policy, national security, the US/Canada relationship, and as of late, organizational cultures. Under the supervision of Dr. Stephen Saideman, Chloe's Master's Research Essay examines sexual violence scandals and prevention efforts in Canadian and Australian military colleges. Her research has been recognized by the Canadian Insider Risk Management Centre of Excellence and featured in iAffairs.

Chloe holds a Bachelor of Arts (Distinction) in Political Science and Anthropology from the University of Alberta, where she was involved in undergraduate research initiatives and student governance.