



OTTAWA CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE
EST. 1932

MARCH 4-5, 2026

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL DARCY MOLSTAD

Commander Canadian Joint Forces Command

[Canadian Joint Forces Command \(CJFC\)](#)

Lieutenant-General Darcy Molstad was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta, and joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in December 1996 after completing a Bachelor of Science at the University of Alberta. He earned his pilot's wings in 1999 as a Golden Centenaire graduate and completed operational training on the CF-18 Hornet in 2000.

Following a tour with 433 Tactical Fighter Squadron in Bagotville, Québec, he was selected for an exchange with the United States Marine Corps (USMC) in Beaufort, South Carolina, serving with Marine Fighter Attack Squadrons 312 and 122. Subsequent



line and command appointments include Deputy Commanding Officer of 410 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) Squadron, Commanding Officer of 425 Tactical Fighter Squadron, Commanding Officer of 3 Wing/Canadian Forces Base Bagotville, and Deputy Commander of Canadian Joint Operations Command.

Lieutenant-General Molstad's operational experience includes extensive post-9/11 NORAD alert duties across Canada; a six-month Western Pacific deployment attached to the USMC (2007); deployments as Air Task Force Commander for NATO air policing missions in Iceland (2012) and Romania (2014); and command of Canada's largest expeditionary Air



OTTAWA CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE
EST. 1932

MARCH 4-5, 2026

Force contribution to a RIMPAC exercise in Hawaii (2016). Most recently, he served as Director of the U.S. Air Forces Central Command Combined Air and Space Operations Center in Al Udeid, Qatar, overseeing coalition air operations across the Middle East, Arabian Gulf, and Central Asia (2022).

His staff experience includes appointments as Officer Commanding the 1 Canadian Air Division Fighter Standards and Evaluation Team, Senior Staff Officer for Northern Employment and Western Hemisphere Engagement Strategy at Canada Command, Air Force Adviser to the United Kingdom in London, Defence Attaché to Iceland, Special Adviser to the Minister of National Defence, two Director General roles within the Strategic Joint Staff, and Chief of Force Development.

Lieutenant-General Molstad is a graduate of the Joint Command and Staff Programme at the Canadian Forces College, the U.S. Air Force Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and the Senior International Defense Management Course at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He holds a master's degree in Defence Studies, a master's degree in Strategic Studies (with distinction), and the Institute of Corporate Directors Rotman School of Management Director designation. A Fighter Weapons Instructor, he is a highly experienced pilot with more than 2,200 flying hours on the CF-18. He was promoted to his current rank and named the inaugural Commander of the Canadian Joint Forces Command in December 2025.

Prior to joining the CAF, he competed nationally in pole vault, winning two junior national titles and achieving multiple national university podium finishes. He remains active in sport as the CAF Triathlon Patron and an Honorary Coach of the Montréal Alouettes Football Club. He is married to an exceptional health professional and is the father of two extraordinary adult children.