

# MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (MSC)

1992 to 2006

Updated: 30 July 2025  
 Canada Gazettes: 18 April 1992 to 07 May 2005  
 Award Stopped for Review in 2006 – After Review, everything appears to be the same  
 Next award was Canada Gazette of 22 September 2012 (see 05b MSC (Cross) Civil)  
 Pages: 20  
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**To NON-CANADIANS**

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**CITATIONS TO THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil) (MSC)**

**BOWDEN, William**  
 Charge d'Affaires - Kuwait Embassy  
 Gulf War

MSC

CG: 18 April 1992  
 DOI: 02 August 1990 - 03 March 1991

"As the Charge d'Affaires at the Canadian Embassy in Kuwait, Mr. Bowden demonstrated exceptional leadership and selflessness during the Kuwait crisis. His overriding concern was for the safety of the Canadian staff and community. In the face of great uncertainty, Mr. Bowden courageously volunteered to remain in Kuwait beyond the Iraqi deadline to evacuate. Until the Embassy closed in October he ensured the organization and full functioning of the warden system. At risk to his own safety, he personally ventured into neighbourhoods under attack, searching for isolated Canadians. He facilitated the logistical support for the evacuation flight and, while he and his staff were confined to the Chancery by hostile troops, sheltered in his own home Canadians requiring care."

**MacDOUGALD, Eoin**  
 Calgary born Architect - Kuwait  
 Aid to Foreign Nationals caught in Kuwait during the Gulf War

MSC  
 Kuwait

CG: 18 April 1992  
 DOI: 02 August 1990 - 03 March 1991

"When Embassy operations became more restricted after it was sequestered by the Iraqi military, Mr. MacDougald, a Canadian businessman and consular warden, assumed effective control of the Canadian warden system. Although he faced questioning at the Iraqi checkpoints on numerous occasions, Mr. MacDougald courageously and selflessly continued to come to the aid of civilians in the international community. Working closely with foreign nationals in hiding, he organized daily distribution of food, money and medical aid to those in need. He helped organize a mail system for those held in Kuwait. He also organized assistance for the Canadian and American evacuation flights."



**DUSSAULT, Bernard**  
 His Excellency  
 Canadian Ambassador to Haiti

MSC

CG: 12 June 1993  
 GH: 23 November 1992  
 DOI: 1991

"Canadian Ambassador to Haiti, Mr. Dussault provided exceptional leadership during the 1991 coup d'état in that country. Despite limited communications, rationing of all energy sources and the constant threat of violence, he ensured the continued operation of the Canadian Embassy in Port-au-Prince. He also maintained contact with a variety of groups involved in the crisis, including the different diplomatic missions."

Bernard spent his career at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa with several different appointments, notably as Canadian ambassador to Gabon, Haiti, Rwanda, and Somalia, as well as High Commissioner to Kenya and Uganda. Born in 1942, he died in 2011:



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**BÉDARD, Myriam**

Miss  
Bronze Biathlon Medal 1992 Olympics

MSC  
Loretteville, PQ

CG: 12 June 1993  
GH: 06 May 1993  
DOI: 1992

"Miss Bédard won the Bronze Medal in the 15-km biathlon event at the 1992 Winter Olympic Games in Albertville, France. This feat is all the more remarkable because it was her first Olympic competition and only her second year on the Canadian senior team. She advanced faster than any other athlete in this sport."

**NOTE:** CG entry and GH entry note this as a Meritorious Service Medal. However, it was changed to a MSC and presented to her as an MSC but the CG / GH entry was never updated. I have confirmed this is an MSC with Government House in Ottawa.



**FRÉCHETTE, Sylvie**

Ms  
Gold Medal in Synchronized Swimming 1992 Summer Olympics

MSC  
Laval, Quebec

CG: 12 June 1993  
GH: 06 May 1993  
DOI: 05 August 1992

"Ms. Fréchette won the Silver Medal in synchronized swimming at the 1992 Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona. She had not only recently suffered a terrible personal tragedy\*, but was also the victim of an unfortunate error on the part of one of the judges which cost her the Gold Medal. The dignity, self-mastery and remarkable determination she displayed gave her victory brilliance and meaning which go far beyond athletic success."

**Note:** The judge's error was changed and she was finally awarded the Gold Medal on 06 December 1993.

(\* Her boyfriend had committed suicide just before the Olympic Games.)



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**LAUMANN, Silken**

Ms

Bronze Single Sculls 1992 Olympics

MSC

Mississauga, Ontario

CG: 12 June 1993

GH: 06 May 1993

DOI: August 1992

"At the 1992 Summer Olympic Games, Ms. Laumann triumphed over an extremely serious leg injury to win the Bronze Medal in the women's single rowing competition. Thanks to her tremendous courage and determination, she was able to defy the odds and continue a brilliant athletic career that had already been marked in 1991 by the World Championship title and a first place in the World Cup."



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**SPRACKLEN, Mike (Michael Alexander)**  
 Mr  
 Canadian Rowing Coach 1992 Olympics

MSC OBE  
 Victoria, B.C.

CG: 12 June 1993  
 GH: 06 May 1993  
 DOI: August 1992



"Mr. Spracklen, an inspiration to amateur athletes, was the driving force behind the Canadian rowing team's outstanding performance at the 1992 Olympic Games. His coaching and motivation were paramount in assisting Silken Laumann to overcome her serious injury and bring home the Bronze Medal. His efforts also enabled the men's eight to win the Gold."

Awarded **Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)** as per the **London Gazette** of 31 December 1988, "For Services to Rowing".



**KOOTOOK, David**  
 14 Years Old - NWT Airplane Crash

MSC  
**Posthumous**

CG: 30 July 1994  
 DOI: 08 November to 01 December 1972



"Fourteen-year old David Kootook survived for twenty-three days after a plane crashed 415 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife. Suffering from appendicitis, he was being flown to hospital accompanied by his pregnant aunt and a nurse. He gave comfort to his aunt, who died shortly after impact, and cared for the injured pilot, the remaining and sole survivor. Although unaccustomed to the deep snow and conditions below the tree line, David built a temporary shelter, chopped wood for the fire and, when there were no more emergency rations, collected caribou moss and set snares. He tried to reach a lake to catch fish and, on another occasion, tried to walk to Yellowknife. At one point, he was away from the crash site for fifty-one hours. David Kootook died from hunger and exhaustion on December 1, 1972."

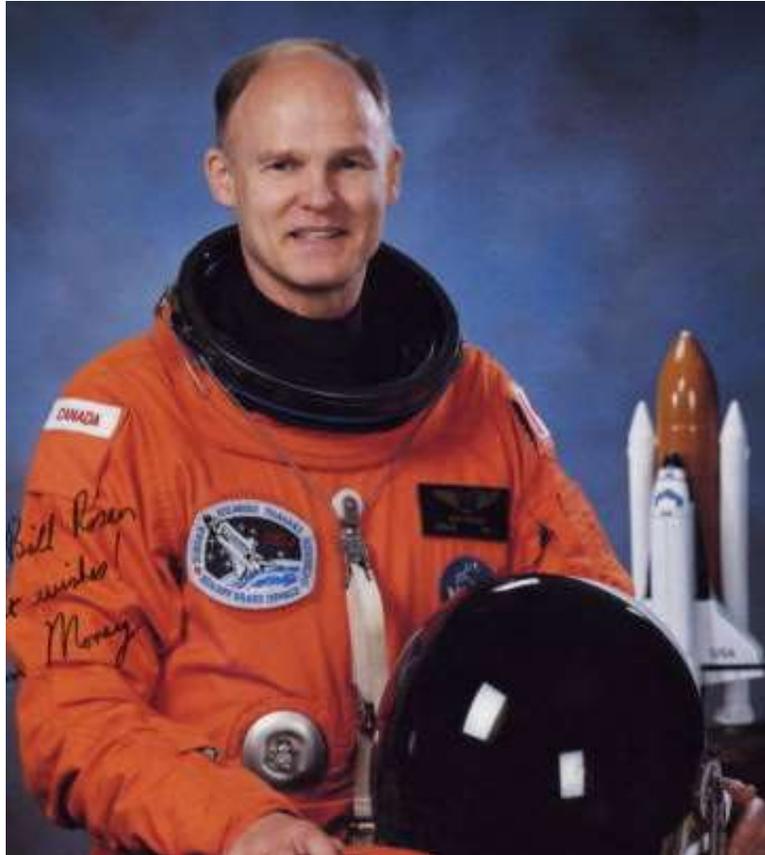
**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**MONEY, Kenneth**  
Major - Canadian Forces  
Canadian Astronaut

MSC CD

CG: 30 July 1994  
DOI: 1992

"One of the six Canadian astronauts chosen to work with the 1992 Spacelab Mission, Dr. Money worked on experiments with the International Microgravity Laboratory as backup astronaut and Spacelab operations radio communicator. His earlier research contributed to advances in alleviating the problems of motion sickness and pilot disorientation in flight, providing valuable information for later investigations into space adaptation."



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**FISHER, Nigel**

Mr  
UNICEF Special Representative Rwanda

OC OOnt MSC

CG: 21 February 1998  
GH: 02 February 1998  
DOI: 1994



"Mr. Fisher was appointed UNICEF's Special Representative to Rwanda at the end of the Civil War in 1994. Tasked to re-establish UNICEF's mandate in a lawless environment, he displayed outstanding leadership and professionalism throughout his assignment. Working in intolerable conditions, Mr. Fisher and his team devoted countless hours towards numerous endeavours that included family reunification, the establishment of an orphanage network, the reopening of health clinics, schools and key ministries of social services. In addition, they were instrumental in the reintegration of 'boy soldiers', children as young as nine or ten, into normal life.

Appointed **Officer of the Order of Canada (OC)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 06 July 2013.

Appointed **Member of the Order of Ontario (OOnt)** in 2010.

**Medals:** OC – OOnt - MSC (civil) – EIRR Diamond Jubilee.



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**ORBINSKY, James**

Dr  
Chief of Mission to Rwanda Doctors Without Borders

OC OOnt MSC

CG: 21 February 1998  
GH: 02 February 1998  
DOI: April 1994 to July 1994



"Chief of Mission to Rwanda with Doctors Without Borders during the Civil War from April to July 1994, Dr. Orbinsky provided an extraordinary service by delivering medical assistance and alleviating the suffering of victims on both sides of the front line. Unwavering in his efforts, Dr. Orbinsky opened the Agha Kan (Kin Fayed) Hospital in Kigali, in the middle of a contested area that often became the target of mortar and machine gun fire. Through example, he provided inspirational leadership to a multinational team of medical staff and managed to spur their flagging spirits through the bleakest days of the genocide."

Appointed **Officer of the Order of Canada (OC)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 20 March 2010.

Appointed **Member of the Order of Ontario (OOnt)** in 2009.

**Medals:** OC – OOnt - MSC (civil) – EIRR Diamond Jubilee.



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**RISK, Ian**  
Lieutenant  
Calgary Fire Department

MSC  
Calgary, Alberta

CG: 21 February 1998  
GH: 02 February 1998  
DOI: 13 July 1992

"On July 13, 1992, in Calgary, Alberta, Firefighter Risk demonstrated the highest form of professionalism when he entered a burning building in search of a missing colleague. Although disoriented and hampered by intense heat and zero visibility, Lieutenant Risk drew upon his training, skills and experience, and persevered in his attempts until he stumbled upon his unconscious comrade. Although his oxygen reserve was nearly exhausted, he remained by his colleague's side, radioed for assistance and attempted to revive him by sharing his own air supply. Regrettably, the man (Firefighter John Morley JAMES) could not be saved."

**Note:** See Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) to Firefighter John Morley JAMES.

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**STOJKO, Elvis**  
Mr  
Three Time World Figure Skating Champion

MSC MSM

CG: 29 August 1998  
GH: 12 August 1998  
DOI: 1998

"Despite a painful groin injury, Elvis Stojko, a three-time world champion, displayed an extremely high level of professionalism while competing in the Men's Figure Skating Singles at the Nagano Olympic Winter Games in 1998. His tremendous courage under such adversity won him a Silver Medal and demonstrated his indomitable spirit and dedication to the pursuit of excellence. This is the second award of a Meritorious Decoration to Mr. Stojko; he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in April 1995."



**Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** awarded as per the **Canada Gazette** of 07 October 1995 (announced April 1995).



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**BERNARD, Louise**  
Mrs  
Palliative Care in the Monteregie Region

MSC  
Beloeil, Quebec

CG: 28 August 1999  
GH: 11 August 1999  
DOI: Founded 1984

**LEDOUX-VAILLANCOURT, Pierrette**  
Mrs

"Pioneers in palliative care in the Monteregie region, Mrs. Bernard and Mrs. Ledoux-Vaillancourt founded, in 1984, 'Presence Amie de la Monteregie'. This non-profit organization is composed of hundreds of volunteers who provide home care to terminally-ill cancer and AIDS patients. They were also among the founding members, in 1992, of Maison Victor-Gadbois, a residence which provides free accommodation to terminally-ill cancer patients. Women of action, Mrs. Bernard and Mrs. Ledoux-Vaillancourt are highly regarded for their loyal commitment to their patients."

**GULLEN, Joan Diane**  
Ms  
End Violence Against Women

MSC  
Gloucester, Ontario

CG: 28 August 1999  
GH: 11 August 1999  
DOI: Founded in 1986



"A motivating force behind numerous community organizations, Ms. Gullen founded, in 1986, the Regional Coordinating Committee to *End Violence Against Women*. Since its inception, she has devoted countless hours and energy towards reducing violence against women and children. She forged new partnerships among local police forces, hospital workers and grassroots organizations representing women. As a result of her leadership, the organization has provided a model and structure for other social action groups across Canada. Ms. Gullen's humanitarian efforts have had a great impact on the communities of the entire Ottawa-Carleton region."

**HOSKINS, Eric William**  
Dr  
Food and Medicine for Iraqi People after the Gulf War

OC MSC  
Simcoe, Ontario

CG: 28 August 1999  
GH: 11 August 1999  
DOI: Since 1991



"After the Persian Gulf War, Dr. Hoskins coordinated the release and administration of two million dollars for the purchase of food and medicine for Iraqi people. Thanks to his efforts and determination, the lives of many Iraqis, including thousands of children, were saved. The following year, Dr. Hoskins co-founded the Health Reach program at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. This collaborative program is committed to investigating and promoting the health and well-being of populations in zones of armed conflict, and to working towards the steady diminution of war. Dr. Hoskins' devoted humanitarian efforts have touched the lives of many and have brought great honour to Canada."

**Officer of the Order of Canada (OC)** awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2007.

Dr. Hoskins was the Minister of Health and Long Term Care in 2014 in Ontario – MPP.



Eric with Dr. Samantha Nutt.

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**LEONARD, Brian C.**  
Dr  
Project ORBIS Canada

MSC  
Ottawa, Ontario

CG: 28 August 1999  
GH: 11 August 1999  
DOI: Since 1984

"As Vice-President and Director of Medical Services, Dr. Leonard has been actively involved with Project ORBIS Canada Ltd. - an international, non-profit organization that combats world blindness through education and hands-on training. Their mode of transportation is a DC-8 jetliner converted into a well-equipped ophthalmic surgical teaching hospital. Since 1984, Dr. Leonard has volunteered his expertise in numerous missions throughout the Middle East, Asia, Africa and Central and South America. Through his guidance, the University of Ottawa Medical School has participated in Project ORBIS on many occasions. Dr. Leonard's leadership has contributed to the evolution of the ophthalmology program at the University of Ottawa and the University's Medical School has gained a reputation as a major contributor to this worthwhile international cause."



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**ANDREWS, Clarence Hayward**  
Mr  
Newfoundland Agape School in Racecourse, Zambia

MSC  
Gander, Newfoundland

CG: 02 September 2000  
GH: 16 August 2000  
DOI: 1997

"Clarence Andrews has worked tirelessly to improve educational opportunities for Zambian children. After visiting a poverty-stricken village in 1997, Mr. Andrews returned to Canada and produced a 15-minute public awareness video, which he presented to numerous schools, churches and businesses. This dedicated individual successfully raised enough money to establish, later that year, the Newfoundland Agape School in Racecourse, Zambia. Thanks to his continued devotion and his fund-raising abilities, a second schoolhouse was built in 1999. The schools now offer grades one through nine and employ eight teachers for the 230 students."

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**CUKIER, Wendy**  
Coalition for Gun Control

MSC  
Toronto, Ontario

CG: 02 September 2000  
GH: 16 August 2000  
DOI: 1990 - 2000

**RATHJEN, Heidi**  
Coalition for Gun Control

MSC  
Montréal, Quebec

"In 1990, Wendy Cukier and Heidi Rathjen founded the Coalition for Gun Control and became the driving force in the crusade to have Bill C-68 become law. Operating with limited financial resources, they provided the necessary focal point for research, strategy and fund-raising to deal with this significant public issue. Thanks to Ms. Cukier and Ms. Rathjen's energy, determination and commitment to reduce violence, the controversial proposal was kept on the legislative agenda until stricter gun control guidelines were implemented. They continue to be leaders in the gun control movement in Canada."



Wendy Cukier

Heidi Rathjen

Wendy Cukier is the Associate Dean (Academic) at Ryerson University in Toronto.

Heidi Rathjen is the Director of the Quebec Coalition against Tobacco and the Co-founder and Executive Director (1991-1996) of the Coalition for Gun Control.

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**BOURNE, Shae-Lynn**  
Pairs Figure Skating

MSC  
Chatham, Ontario

CG: 02 September 2000  
GH: 16 August 2000  
DOI: 1991 to March 1999

**KRAATZ, Victor J.**  
Pairs Figure Skating

MSC  
West Vancouver, B.C.

"Since pairing up in 1991, Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz have graced Canadian ice dancing with their innovative programs and on-ice charisma. Their meteoric rise attests to their great technical and creative skills. In March 1999, they won, for the fourth consecutive year, the Bronze medal at the World Championships. Their courageous public stand against unfair judging practices has focussed attention on the skating association rules and, as a result, changes have been made to dance rules to make them more fair and equitable for all competitors."



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**RANKIN, Laird Forbes**

Mr

Executive Director of Canada's National History Society (CNHS)

MSC

Winnipeg, Manitoba

CG: 02 September 2000

GH: 16 August 2000

DOI: 1996 to 2000



"Executive Director of Canada's National History Society (CNHS), Laird Rankin was deeply involved in the 1996 creation and implementation of The Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History. In addition to rewarding individual teachers for their outstanding contribution to history, the award recognizes the important role history plays in the education context. Through this endeavour, Mr. Rankin has had a dramatic influence on the preservation of our rich Canadian heritage for present and future generations."

Recipient of the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History. (below)

**Laird Forbes Rankin, MSC**



Laird Rankin passed away suddenly on June 19, 2017. He was born December 5, 1940 in Winnipeg. He is survived by his former wife, Lynn; sons, Scott (Toni Wu) of Austin, TX and Matthew of Montreal; and his sister, Elizabeth (Buff) Mills of Dundas, Ontario. He was predeceased by his father Forbes, in 1965, and mother, Eyleen, in 2000. Laird was educated in Winnipeg schools and graduated from the University of Manitoba with two Bachelor's degrees; Arts, in 1962; Commerce, in 1964. At university, he was active in the Arts Student Body Council and Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Following graduation, he joined the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and worked for that organization for two and one half years. In October, 1967, he joined the Hudson's Bay Company to help implement events to commemorate the Company's 300th anniversary. His chief responsibility was organizing and managing the summer tours of the Nonsuch - a replica of the sailing ship whose voyage in 1668 led to the Company's founding in 1670 - and bringing the vessel to Winnipeg for installation in the Manitoba

Museum. In 1975, he became Executive Director of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba and Editor of the Alumni Journal (now On Manitoba), dual positions he held for 19 years before becoming the founding Executive Director of Canada's National History Society in 1994. He became publisher of the Society's magazine, The Beaver, (now Canada's History) in 1997. He retired in 2004. Laird enjoyed an active community life, having served in volunteer capacities with the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, the Manitoba Historical Society, the Manitoba Magazine Publishers Association and, most recently, the Winnipeg Arts Council, which designated him Chair Emeritus in May, 2016, in recognition of services rendered during his decade on its board. Among other honours, Laird was presented with the **Meritorious Service Cross, M.S.C., (Civilian Division)** in 2000, by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, **to recognize his work in establishing the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History, a national program to honour Canada's best history teachers.**

Laird was the author or co-author of five books, a journalist and, for a period, a free-lance broadcaster with CBC Radio. His first book, The



Nonsuch, was published in 1974 and revised and reissued in 2004 as The Return of the Nonsuch. His articles and reviews appeared in a number of local, regional, and national publications. At Laird's request, cremation has taken place and there will be no service. Instead, donations in Laird's memory would be appreciated to either The Winnipeg Foundation, 1350-1 Lombard Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0X3, in favour of the Winnipeg Arts Council Agency Fund; or, to the Manitoba Museum, 190 Rupert Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0N2, in favour of the Nonsuch Gallery. "I cannot pretend I am without fear. But my predominant feeling is one of gratitude. I have loved and been loved. I have been given much and I have given something in return; I have read and travelled and thought and written. I have had intercourse with the world, the special intercourse of writers and readers. Above all I have been a sentient being, a thinking animal, on this beautiful planet. And that in itself has been an enormous privilege and adventure." - Oliver Sacks Bardal Funeral Home, 843 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg in charge of arrangements.

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**SAMPSON, Susan Jill**

Dr  
Medication, Equipment and Medical Supplies to Guatemala

MSC  
Qualicum Beach B.C.

CG: 01 February 2003  
GH: 15 January 2003  
DOI: 1995 to 2002

“In 1995, Dr. Jill Sampson founded *Poco a Poco*, or “little by little”, after becoming aware of the urgent and obvious need of Guatemala’s poorest citizens for improved medical, surgical and dental care. Through this organization, she has collected and overseen periodic shipments of an impressive quantity of medication, equipment and medical supplies to Guatemala and made travel arrangements for the approximately 150 volunteer doctors, surgeons, dentists and nurses she recruits annually. In addition to providing essential care, these professionals train Guatemalan doctors to help them improve the care they dispense. Dr. Sampson’s dedication and her exceptional qualities in the area of public relations bring honour to her profession and to Canada. “



**BERGERON, Marcel**

Mr  
UN Chief of Civilian Security in Rwanda

MSC  
Montreal, Quebec

CG: 18 October 2003  
GH: 25 September 2003  
DOI: March to September 1994

“As UN Chief of Civilian Security from March to September 1994, during the Assistance Mission in Rwanda, Marcel Bergeron was of invaluable assistance to the Rwandan people. In spite of shelling and gunfire, he distributed food, medicine and fuel to refugee camps and hospitals. He also single-handedly opened and ran the Kigali airport for several weeks, allowing humanitarian aid convoys to reach the threatened population and journalists from around the world to transmit reports to the international community about one of the worst humanitarian tragedies. Despite the extremely difficult working conditions he faced during his mandate, Mr. Bergeron demonstrated outstanding dedication and professional skill.”



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**WEBB, Garth S.**

Mr  
Creation of the Juno Beach Centre

MSC  
Burlington, Ontario

CG: 18 October 2003  
GH: 25 September 2003  
DOI: 2003



“A veteran of the D-Day landings and of the Battle of Normandy, Garth Webb is the driving force behind the creation of the Juno Beach Centre, an interactive education museum located on the Normandy coast of France. Legacy of Mr. Webb’s dedication and commitment, the Centre, officially opened on June 6, 2003, preserves the memory of the accomplishments and sacrifices of Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen on a critical day in the history of the world, and honours Canada’s contribution to the allied victory in World War II.”

**Medals:** MSC (civil) – 1939/1945 Star – France & Germany Star – Defence – Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with clasp – 1939/1945 medal – Centennial Medal – Canada 125 Medal – Efficiency Medal with bar

**SAUVAGEAU, Danièle**

Ms  
Head Coach Canadian Women’s Olympic Hockey Team

OC MSC  
St. Lambert, Quebec

CG: 25 September 2004  
GH: 01 September 2004  
DOI: February 2002



“As Head Coach, Danièle Sauvageau led the Women’s Canadian Olympic Hockey Team to victory at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah. The team captured the first ever Olympic gold medal in that discipline, when it defeated the USA in the final game. Selected as the Coaching Association of Canada’s official spokesperson in July 2002, Ms. Sauvageau has since lobbied to promote the essential role of coaches, in particular the importance of increased participation by women in coaching positions.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Canada (OC)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 06 July 2013.



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**STORMS, Peter S.**  
Mr  
Project Manager Expertise

MSC  
Aurora, Ontario

CG: Not Gazetted  
GH: 25 April 2006  
DOI: 1996 to 2003

“Between 1995 and 2003, Peter Storms contributed his strategic and project management expertise to the development and hands-on implementation of core public safety policies affecting youth at risk in Canada, and in highly sensitive areas internationally. In spite of risks to his own personal safety for prolonged periods of time, he displayed relentless efforts and commitment in applying strategies and solutions to strengthen municipal infrastructures and eradicate dangers affecting numerous social, political and civilian organizations throughout the world.”

On April 25, 2006, Government House put out this announcement –  
“Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, will preside over a presentation ceremony of the Meritorious Service Decorations at Rideau Hall, in Ottawa, on Friday, April 28, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. Peter S. Storms, M.S.C. (civil division) – Aurora, Ontario”.  
I erroneously listed him as a Posthumous award but that was incorrect.



Photo shows the GG Michaëlle Jean, Carol and Peter S. Storms, MSC and Peter's citation

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Civil Division) (MSC)**

**ARSLANIAN, Vatchey**

Mr  
Logistician International Red Cross in Iraq

MSC  
Oromocto, New Brunswick  
**Posthumous**

CG: 07 May 2005  
GH: 21 April 2005  
DOI: February 2002

“In July 2001, Vatchey Arslanian, senior logistician with the International Committee of the Red Cross, was assigned to war-torn Iraq to deliver urgently needed relief supplies such as food, water and medical equipment to hospitals and water-treatment plants throughout the country. A motivated and compassionate individual, Mr. Arslanian demonstrated great dedication to his mission by volunteering to remain in Iraq in spite of the conflict. On April 18, 2003, during the worst of the hostilities, he was killed in Baghdad while escorting Iraqi co-workers home, when the vehicle he was travelling in was caught in a crossfire. “



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**VIENNEAU, Tony Jude**

Constable - RCMP  
Logistician International Red Cross in Iraq

MSC  
Grand Falls, New Brunswick  
**Posthumous**

CG: 07 May 2005  
GH: 21 April 2005  
DOI: 04 December 2002

“On December 4, 2002, Constable Tony Vienneau went to the aid of a 15-year-old boy who was threatening to jump off the Perth-Andover Bridge, overlooking the St. John River, in New Brunswick. Constable Vienneau was on his way home when he noticed the teenager standing without support on the railing of the bridge. The off-duty officer immediately climbed onto the rail and began walking behind him. After an hour of negotiating, Constable Vienneau was able to prevent the boy from committing suicide, and convinced him to seek treatment at a local hospital.”

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## MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (MSC) (Civil)

### To FOREIGN CITIZENS

**JAAFAR, Mohammed**  
Kuwaiti Businessman  
GULF WAR

MSC  
Kuwait

CG: 18 April 1992  
DOI: 02 August 1990 - 03 March 1991

"Mr. Jaafar, a Kuwaiti businessman, provided an extraordinary service to the Canadian Embassy and community in Kuwait during the crisis. At great risk to himself, he was responsible for providing a portable generator and ongoing deliveries of food to the Canadian Embassy until it was surrounded by troops. He offered safe hiding for Canadian nationals and embassy staff. In response to these humanitarian acts, Mr. Jaafar was arrested and subjected to extremely difficult and physical and psychological conditions by the Iraqi forces."

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**WILSON, Sheila**  
International Red Cross in Tanzania  
Paisley, Scotland

MSC  
Lochwinnoch, Scotland

CG: 07 October 1995  
GH: 02 May 1995  
DOI: 1993 - 1994

"Ms. Wilson played a pivotal role in managing and directing the unprecedented relief operation in aid of hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees. During 1993 and 1994, she was Head of Delegation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Tanzania. Her leadership, dedication and courage, as well as her considerable experience in international humanitarian operations, enabled the global community to meet one of its most daunting challenges ever."

### SHEILA WILSON



Sheila Wilson's work has taken her all over the map — literally. She has volunteered with international organizations on four continents and practised in refugee camps, war zones and on an oil rig. The Scottish-born Wilson came to Newfoundland and Labrador 36 years ago as a midwife after hearing a talk by a nurse who had recently come back from working with the International Grenfell Association in Labrador. "It inspired me," she says.

Since then, Wilson has worked throughout the province in diverse roles. "People don't realize how many different types of nursing there are out there to plug into. As an RN, I've found it's amazing what you can do."

Wilson is always eager to take on new challenges. One of the biggest was setting up the world's largest refugee camp as head of the International Red Cross emergency response to the influx of 250,000 Rwandans into neighbouring Tanzania in 1994. For several years before that, she had found herself on the front lines of other emergency disaster relief efforts in east African countries including Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia. More recently, she was involved in providing aid to North Koreans during a severe famine.

Wilson's work for humanitarian organizations has won her numerous awards and earned her invitations to speak to various groups, including young nurses considering similar work abroad. "As I always say, it's the humanitarian values that draw you in, but the people that keep you coming back. In so many places there are such appalling conditions of poverty and oppression, yet the people find the strength to keep their dignity and carry on. They show such gratitude."

Nevertheless, Wilson tries to paint as realistic a picture as possible of conflict situations. "If you're not scared, then something's wrong," she says. She stresses that you have to learn the basics about the culture and customs of the region where you're going. "Awareness is what allows us to continue to work in these places. As a white woman, especially in a management position, going into a male-dominated Islamic society, I have a responsibility to present myself appropriately. If I were to run around in shorts and a T-shirt, I'd upset some people."

Even with all her work overseas, Wilson and her husband, who has also managed international aid programs overseas, have been able to maintain a presence in their home province. At the one-nurse clinic on the northern Labrador coast where she works full time, Wilson sees patients with chronic diseases as well as emergencies. She also controls medications, handles all the paperwork and is responsible for overall management of a team that works very closely with the community. "Every day is different," she says. "I'm on 24-7 so I need to be aware and try to pace myself."

Wilson is happy to stay put for now but is thinking ahead and doesn't rule out the possibility of another overseas assignment in the future. She admits it's hard sometimes to watch events unfold on TV and not feel compelled to respond to obvious human tragedies. "I'm always being asked to go here or there, and one of these days I'll probably jump ship," she says. "Now that I'm in outpost in Labrador I'm fully committed to that. I love it. It's a great place, and it's a fantastic scope of practice."

She enjoys the solitude of living by the water and spending time outdoors, walking, snowshoeing and taking in the colours, smells and feel of nature. "I love the coast of Labrador — and its wonderful people. I started here and now I'm back, so it's full circle for me."



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