

**General Wayne Donald EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD**  
**Chief of the Defence Staff**  
**24 February 2021 to 18 July 2024**



General Eyre was appointed Chief of the Defence Staff on 25 November 2021. He had served as the Acting Chief of the Defence Staff from 24 February 2021 in the rank of Lieutenant-General and on 13 August 2021 was promoted to the substantive rank of General.

General Eyre grew up on a farm near Wadena, Saskatchewan, and spent his high school years in Medicine Hat, Alberta. He joined Army Cadets at age 12 and has been in uniform ever since.

General Eyre attended Royal Roads Military College (RRMC) Victoria and Royal Military College of Canada (RMC) Kingston from 1984 to 1988. Upon commissioning in 1988, he completed infantry officer's training and was posted to the Second Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI), where he served as a rifle platoon commander,

including a peacekeeping tour in Cyprus, and as the Reconnaissance Platoon commander second-in-command.

Following employment as the Adjutant of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, he returned to 2 PPCLI and spent two and a half years as the unit's Reconnaissance Platoon commander. In this position he deployed with 2 PPCLI to Croatia in 1993 as part of the United Nations Protection Force, a tour that included the Medak Pocket Operation.

After attending the Canadian Land Force Command and Staff College, General Eyre was employed as a staff officer in Land Force Western Area Headquarters, in both the G1 branch and as Executive Assistant to the Commander. Among various domestic operations in this job, he was the military liaison to the Government of Manitoba for the 1997 floods and commanded a company fighting the 1998 BC forest fires.

Following this posting and promotion to Major, he spent the next two years as a rifle company commander with 3 PPCLI. This included a tour with NATO's Stabilization Force in Bosnia in 2000, where he was awarded the Chief of Defence Staff Commendation. Following this tour, he commanded the Battalion's Administration Company.

In 2001, General Eyre was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel and was posted to Quantico, Virginia, as the Canadian student at the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College. He was subsequently selected by the Marines to attend the USMC School of Advanced Warfighting for the following year, a course focused on developing operational planners. On return to Canada, he was employed as a section head in the Directorate of Defence Analysis at National Defence Headquarters.

In June 2004, he became the Commanding Officer of 3 PPCLI. After generating numerous Battalion elements for employment in Afghanistan, he deployed in February of 2007 to command the Canadian Operational Mentor and Liaison Team. In this position he mentored the Commander of 1-205 Brigade, Afghan National Army, through combat operations in Kandahar and Uruzgan Provinces, for which he was awarded the **Meritorious Service Cross**. After giving up command of 3 PPCLI in Aug of 2007, he was promoted to Colonel and became the J3 of Canadian Expeditionary Force Command in January of 2008.

In August 2009, then Colonel Eyre took command of the **2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Mechanized Brigade** at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa. During this tour, he commanded the Task Force that secured the 2010 G8 Summit.

In June 2011, he went to the **US Army War College** in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, for Advanced Training. After a year at the War College, he was promoted to Brigadier-General in May 2011 and became the **Deputy Commanding General (Operations) for the XVIII (US) Airborne Corp** at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

In June 2013, was sent to Afghanistan as the Commander of the **NATO Training Mission** where he oversaw the force generation, institutional training, and professional development of the Afghan National Security Forces.



Returning to Canada in June 2014, he was appointed **Commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division** in Edmonton. While holding this Command, he was Commander of Joint Task Force Western and commanded the military response to both the 2015 Saskatchewan wildfires and the 2016 Fort McMurray fire evacuation.

On promotion to Major-General in June 2017, he became the **Deputy Commander of Military Personnel Command**. This desk job lasted only 11 months as he was promoted to Lieutenant-General in May 2018 and became the first non-U.S. **Deputy Commander of United Nations Command Korea** in its 69-year history, and as such was the most senior Canadian officer ever permanently stationed in the Asia Pacific region.

On return from the UN Command Korea, he was appointed as Commander of Military Personnel Command for a short time but on 20 August 2019 he was appointed **Commander of the Canadian Army**.

His appointment as Acting Chief of the Defence Staff (24 February 2021 as a Lieutenant-General); promoted to full General (25 August 2021); and finally appointed as the Chief of the Defence Staff (25 November 2021). He remained as the Commander of the Canadian Army throughout 2021 and into 2022 as the new Commander's appointment was delayed!



He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Special Forces Qualification Course, the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College, the U.S. Marine Corps School of Advanced Warfighting, and the U.S. Army War College. He holds a Bachelor of Science and three Masters Degrees (Military Studies, Operational Studies and Strategic Studies).

His decorations include the **Order of Military Merit in the rank of Commander**, the **Meritorious Service Cross**, the Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation, the Chief of Defence Staff Commendation, the **Order of National Security Merit from South Korea** and was three times awarded the **U.S. Legion of Merit**, including at the rank of Commander.

#### Medals

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Commander, Order of Military Merit (CMM)                        | 01 June 2019                              |
| Meritorious Service Medal (MSC)                                 | 19 April 2008                             |
| General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon<br>and one extra tour bar | February 2007 and June 2013 tours         |
| Peacekeeping  | 1990                                      |
| United Nations Cyprus   | 1990                                      |
| UNPROFOR  | 1993                                      |
| NATO with bar former Yugoslavia                                 | 2000                                      |
| EIIR Diamond Jubilee  | 2012                                      |
| CD and 2 Bars   | 1996 – bar 2006; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bar 2016 |
| Alberta Centennial  | 2005 LCol and CO of the PPCLI             |
| Officer, Legion of Merit (USA)                                  | 04 April 2015                             |
| Officer, Legion of Merit (USA) – First Oak Leaf Cluster         | 20 February 2020                          |
| Commander, Legion of Merit (USA)                                | 24 April 2021                             |
| Commander of the National Order of Merit (France)               | 30 October 2021                           |
| Order of National Security Merit (Gukseon Medal) (South Korea)  | 27 February 2021                          |
| Korea Service Medal (Korea)                                     | 30 October 2021                           |



## Promotions and Assignments Colonel to General

|   |   |         |                                 |               |
|---|---|---------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| STUDENT   | - US Marine Corps Command and Staff College:          | LCol    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CD           | 2001          |
| STUDENT   | - USMC School of Advanced Warfighting:                | LCol    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CD           | 2002          |
| SECTION HEAD  | - Directorate of Defence Analysis at NDHQ:            | LCol    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CD           | 2003          |
| COMMANDING OFFICER  | - 3 PPCLI   | LCol    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CD           | June 2004     |
| COMMANDER   | - Cdn Operational Mentor and Liaison Team Afghanistan | LCol    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CD           | February 2007 |
| J3  | - CDN EXPEITIONARY FORCE COMMAND:                     | Colonel | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | August 2008   |
| COMMANDER   | - 2 CDN MECHANIZED BRIGADE Petawawa:                  | Colonel | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | August 2009   |
| COMMANDER   | - 2 CDN MECHANIZED BRIGADE Petawawa:                  | Colonel | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | January 2010  |
| ADVANCED TRAINING   | - US ARMY WAR COLLEGE:                                | Colonel | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2011     |
| DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL XVIII (US) AIRBORNE CORP:         |   | BGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | May 2012      |
| DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL US XVIII AIRBORNE CORP Fort Bragg |   | BGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | January 2013  |
| COMMANDER   | - NATO TRAINING MISSION AFGHANISTAN:                  | BGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2013     |
| COMMANDER   | - 3 <sup>rd</sup> CDN DIVISION - WESTERN AREA:        | BGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2014     |
| COMMANDER   | - JOINT TASK FORCE WESTERN:                           | BGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2014     |
| COMMANDER   | - 3 <sup>rd</sup> CDN DIVISION – WESTERN AREA:        | BGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2015     |
| DEPUTY COMMANDER  | - MILITARY PERSONNEL COMMAND:                         | MGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2016     |
| DEPUTY COMMANDER  | - MILITARY PERSONNEL COMMAND:                         | MGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2017     |
| DEPUTY COMMANDER  | - UNITED NATIONS COMMAND KOREA:                       | LGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | May 2018      |
| COMMANDER   | - MILITARY PERSONNEL COMMAND:                         | MGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, MSC, CD      | June 2017     |
| COMMANDER   | - CANADIAN ARMY:                                      | LGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD | August 2019   |
| ACTING CHIEF of the DEFENCE STAFF:                          |   | LGen    | Wayne Donald EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD | February 2021 |
| ACTING CHIEF of the DEFENCE STAFF:                          |   | General | Wayne Donald EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD | August 2021   |
| CHIEF of the DEFENCE STAFF:                                 |   | General | Wayne Donald EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD | November 2021 |
| RETIRED   | - CANADIAN ARMED FORCES:                              | General | Wayne Donald EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD | 18 July 2024  |

