

**Major-General (later LGen) Derek Alan Macaulay, OMM, MSM, CD**  
**Acting Chief of the Defence Staff**  
**24 February to 19 April 2021**



Major-General Derek Macaulay enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces under the Officer Candidate Training Program in 1989 and was commissioned as an armoured officer into the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians).

Throughout his career, MGen Macaulay has held many command and staff positions from Troop to Regimental level. Most notably, he had the privilege to command his Squadron, as part of the German-led Kabul Multinational Brigade in Afghanistan (2004) and commanding the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) (2008 to 2010). During his tenure, the Regiment deployed consecutive Armoured Squadrons in support of all Battle Groups in Afghanistan (Operation Athena) while deploying the remainder of the unit as Task Force Vancouver supporting the Royal Canadian Mounted Police during the 2010 Winter Olympics (Operation Podium).

MGen Macaulay has several operational tours including the United Nations Protection Force in Visoko, Bosnia (1994), North Atlantic Treaty Organization Stabilization Force in Zgon Bosnia (2000) and International Stabilization Assistance Force (2004).

MGen Macaulay's staff assignments have included tours with The British Columbia Regiment in Vancouver, British Columbia (1995 to 1999), Land Force Western Area Headquarters in Edmonton, Alberta (2001 to 2003), the Deputy Chief of Defence Staff Group (International) and Canadian Expeditionary Command Headquarters in Ottawa, Ontario (2005 to 2007) and Chief of Staff of Land Force Western Area (2010 to 2013).

MGen Macaulay commanded the 3rd Canadian Division Support Group from May 2013 to March 2015. He deployed as the Chief of Staff, Coalition Joint Land Force Component Command in Iraq (Operation Impact) from April 2015 until his appointment as the Chief of Staff Army Strategy in June 2016. He was awarded a **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** for this deployment.

On 01 May 2017, he also assumed the position of Commander 5th Canadian Division. On 05 July 2019, he was promoted to Major-General and appointed the Deputy Commander of the Canadian Army. However, when LGen Wayne Eyre was designated as acting Chief of the Defence Staff, Macaulay was appointed the Acting Commander of the Canadian Army from 24 February to 19 April 2021. He reverted to Deputy Commander of the Canadian Army at this time and was replaced by Major-General Michel-Henri St-Louis, also in the acting role of Commander of the Canadian Army.

In June 2021, he was appointed to a new position in the Canadian Forces, Deputy Commander / J3 at the USA CENTCOM HQ in Tampa, Florida, USA.

Promoted to Lieutenant-General, he served as the Deputy Commander of United Nations Command<sup>1</sup> beginning in December 2023. He is only the second Canadian general to serve in this position.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Command is the multinational military force established to support the Republic of Korea (South Korea) during and after the Korean War. It was the first international unified command in history, and the first attempt at collective security pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations.

<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant-General Wayne Eyre was the first in 2018