General (Retired) Walt Natynczyk CMM MSC CD Deputy Minister



General Walt Natynczyk is a native of Winnipeg, Manitoba. He joined the Canadian Forces in 1975 after spending five years as an Air Cadet. He has served in numerous regimental command positions at all levels from tank troop leader up to commanding officer of The Royal Canadian Dragoons.

General Natynczyk's operational experience consists of four years on NATO duty in Germany; six months of UN peacekeeping duties in Cyprus (1989); a one-year-long mission with the United Nations in the Former Yugoslavia as Sector South-West Chief of Operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1994) with British forces, then as the Chief of Land Operations, UNPROFOR HQ in Zagreb, Croatia (1995). He commanded The Royal Canadian Dragoons in domestic operations during the Winnipeg floods of 1997 as well as in the Ottawa region during the 1998 Ice Storm. He returned to Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1998-1999, where he served as the Canadian Contingent Commander.

As an exchange officer, he served as Deputy Commanding General, III (US) Armored Corps in Fort Hood, Texas and deployed with the Corps to Baghdad,

Iraq throughout 2004, serving first as the Deputy Director of Strategy, Policy and Plans and subsequently as the Deputy Commanding General of the Multi-National Corps.

Upon his return to Canada, he assumed command of the Canadian Army's Doctrine and Training System. He was subsequently appointed Chief of Transformation where he was responsible for implementation of the force restructure. He served as the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff from 2006-2008.

General Natynczyk served as Canada's Chief of Defence Staff from 2 July 2008 to 29 October 2012. Key events over his tenure were the combat mission in Afghanistan, the 2010 Winter Olympics, humanitarian support to Haiti and the NATO mission in Libya.

General Natynczyk attended Royal Roads Military College, Victoria, BC and Collège Militaire Royal, Saint-Jean, QC (Business Administration). He is a graduate of the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College, the U.K. All-Arms Tactics Course and the US Army War College (Master in Defence Studies).

His decorations include the Commander of the Order of Military Merit (Canada), the Meritorious Service Cross (Canada), the Commander Legion of Merit (US), Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur (France), Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit (Poland) and the Medal of Merit in Gold (Netherlands).

General Natynczyk's was President of the Canadian Space Agency from August 2013 to November 2014. On November 3, 2014, he began his current role as Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada.

He enjoys many outdoor activities, in particular, sailing. He and his wife Leslie have three children, Margaret, William and John, who are serving in the Canadian Navy, Air Force and Army respectively.

Lisa Campbell Associate Deputy Minister, Veterans Affairs Canada



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Lisa Campbell is Associate Deputy Minister, Veterans Affairs Canada. Previously, Lisa was Assistant Deputy Minister, Defence and Marine Procurement, leading the organization procuring Canada's military and marine equipment. Ms. Campbell worked at Canada's competition authority as Senior Deputy Commissioner reviewing mergers and business conduct. Lisa also enforced civil and criminal laws for truth in advertising.

Ms. Campbell worked as a litigator in the areas of criminal, employment and constitutional law. Lisa obtained a B.A. in Political Science from McGill University (1988), an LL.B. from Dalhousie Law School (1991), and regularly writes and presents on law and technology issues. Ms. Campbell also serves as the Deputy Champion for the University of Prince Edward Island. Proud parent of Madelon and Alex, Lisa is an avid outdoor sports enthusiast and supporter of community organizations.