Canadian Honours and Awards
Bestowed upon Members of the Canadian Armed Forces
HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, QUEEN OF CANADA, WEARING HER INSIGNIA OF SOVEREIGN OF THE ORDER OF CANADA AND OF THE ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT, IN THE TENT ROOM AT RIDEAU HALL, CANADA DAY 2010

Photo: Canadian Heritage
INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to provide a brief outline of the conditions of eligibility as well as images of the Canadian honours and awards that are available to members of Her Majesty’s Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). The intent is that this booklet will be used as an aide-mémoire for commanders at all levels to help them make recommendations for appropriate honours and awards in a timely manner for the personnel under their authority. The content is limited to Canadian military awards. Other awards, mainly those awarded to civilians as well as those emanating from the United Nations, NATO and other international missions have not been included in the scope of this publication. The information provided should only be viewed as general guidelines. For more detailed information and exact criteria, the reader should consult the various references listed at the end of this booklet. The honours and awards are presented in logical groupings; the correct order of wear being printed at the end of this publication.

Since very ancient times, it has been customary to recognize military valour, bravery or meritorious service by the award of trophies, badges, insignia or medals. Throughout the last three centuries, Canadians have been presented with awards from the French Regime and the British Empire, indigenous Canadian honours being a relatively recent innovation. Gradually, Canada began to create its own awards and the turning point was the creation of the Order of Canada in 1967. The system started to expand in 1972 to become the wide-ranging system we now know.

The modern Canadian honours system recognizes outstanding achievements, gallantry in combat, bravery and service to Crown and country. In Canada, all honours emanate from Her Majesty The Queen and are divided into three main categories:

**Orders** are societies of merit, which recognize outstanding achievement and exceptional service over the course of a career or a life. Orders usually have different levels or grades of membership and the distinction is made with differences in the insignia associated to the various levels or in the way they are worn. An order being a society of merit, one is not awarded an order but admitted into it and, where subsequent service justifies it, one may be promoted within the order. As it is a membership, a person can resign from an order or be expelled if that person failed to respect the principle of honour.

**Decorations** recognize one act of gallantry in combat, or of bravery or meritorious service in a single event or over a specific period of time. A decoration is only awarded once to an individual; if further actions meet the criteria for the same decoration, a bar is worn on the initial decoration in order to denote a second award.

**Medals** recognize participation in a campaign or operation, service under exceptional circumstances, commemorate royal or national anniversaries or recognize long and loyal service. Bars may also be awarded to specify the service being recognized or to denote additional periods of eligible service.
The Sovereign is the fount of all honours and the Governor General, with advice from the Privy Council, acts on her behalf in Canada. National honours are administered by the Chancellery of Honours on behalf of the Government of Canada and the Directorate of Honours and Recognition manages the honours programs for members of the CAF on behalf of the Chancellery of Honours. It should be noted that there is a five-year limit following an action to submit a nomination for most individual awards (Meritorious Service Decorations, Mentions in Dispatches, Commendations, etc.) but the limit is two years for Military Valour Decorations and Canadian Bravery Decorations. Similarly, the creation of a medal to recognize an operation will not be considered if the proposal is made more than five years after the end of the operation.

In Canada, the appointment to orders and the awarding of decorations and medals do not confer any special privileges such as titles, political influence or monetary benefits. Honours only give the recipient the right to wear the appropriate insignia and, in the case of orders and decorations only, the right to use the associated post-nominal letters and display the insignia in the individual's personal coat of arms.
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A-DH-300-000/JD-010, 1 April 2020
The Order of Military Merit was established in 1972 to provide a means of recognizing conspicuous merit and exceptional service by members of the CAF both Regular and Reserve. Her Majesty The Queen is the Sovereign of the Order, the Governor General is the Chancellor and the Chief of the Defence Staff is the Principal Commander. The motto of the Order is OFFICIUM ANTE COMMODUM which means “Service before self”. There are three levels of membership in the Order of Military Merit: Member, Officer and Commander, the latter being the highest. The number of appointments made annually is the equivalent of 0.1% of the total strength of the CAF in the preceding year. Of that number, 5% will be Commanders, 20% will be Officers and 75% will be Members. Nominations coming from the chain of command are considered once a year by the Advisory Council of the Order of Military Merit, chaired by the Chief of the Defence Staff who in turn passes the recommendations to the Governor General for final approval on behalf of The Queen. The investitures take place at Rideau Hall or at La Citadelle of Quebec two to three times yearly where the Governor General presents the members with the insignia of their membership in the Order. Members of foreign armed forces may be appointed honorary members of the Order while members of the Royal Family and Governors General are appointed extraordinary members.

Brigadier-General Andrew Michael Downes, CD, receives his insignia of Officer of the Order of Military Merit from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, CC, CMM, COM, CQ, CD, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, Rideau Hall, 27 May 2019.
Photo: Sgt Johanie Maheu

Sergeant Helen Ruth Hawes, CD, receives her insignia of Member of the Order of Military Merit from the Governor General, Rideau Hall, 27 May 2019.
Photo: Sgt Johanie Maheu
OFFICIALS OF THE ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT

SOVEREIGN

CHANCELLOR

PRINCIPAL COMMANDER
OFFICIALS OF THE ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada and Founding Sovereign of the Order of Military Merit

CHANCELLORS
The Right Honourable Daniel Roland Michener, PC, CC, CMM, OOnt, CD, QC, 1972-1974 †
The Right Honourable Jules Léger, PC, CC, CMM, CD, 1974-1979 †
The Right Honourable Edward Richard Schreyer, PC, CC, CMM, OM, CD, 1979-1984
The Right Honourable Jeanne Mathilde Sauvé, PC, CC, CMM, CD, 1984-1990 †
The Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, PC, CC, CMM, CD, QC, 1990-1995 †
The Right Honourable Roméo Adrien LeBlanc, PC, CC, CMM, ONB, CD, 1995-1999 †
The Right Honourable Adrienne Louise Clarkson, PC, CC, CMM, COM, CD, 1999-2005
The Right Honourable Michéelle Jean, PC, CC, CMM, COM, CD, 2005-2010
The Right Honourable David Lloyd Johnston, PC, CC, CMM, COM, CD, 2010-2017
The Right Honourable Julie Payette CC, CMM, COM, CQ, CD, 2017-

PRINCIPAL COMMANDERS
General Frederick Ralph Sharp, CMM, DFC, CD, 1972 †
General Jacques Alfred Dextraze, CC, CBE, CMM, DSO, CD, 1972-1977 †
Admiral Robert Hilborn Falls, CMM, CD, 1977-1980 †
General Ramsey Muir Withers, CMM, CD, 1980-1983 †
General Gérard Charles Édouard Thériault, CMM, CD, 1983-1986 †
General Paul David Manson, OC, CMM, CD, 1986-1989
General Alfred John Gardyne Drummond de Chastelain, CC, CMM, CD, CH, 1989-1993
Admiral John Rogers Anderson, CMM, CD, 1993-1994
General Alfred John Gardyne Drummond de Chastelain, CC, CMM, CD, CH, 1994-1995
General Joseph Édouard Jean Boyle, CMM, CD, 1995
Vice-Admiral Lawrence Edward Murray, CM, CMM, CD (Acting), 1996-1997
General Joseph Gérard Maurice Baril, OC, CMM, MSM, CD, 1997-2001
General Raymond Roland Joseph Henault, CMM, MSC, CD, 2001-2005
General Rickey John Hillier, OC, CMM, ONL, MSC, CD, 2005-2008
General Walter John Natynczyk, CMM, MSC, CD, 2008-2012
General Jonathan Holbert Vance, CMM, MSC, CD, 2015-

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, wearing her chain of office as the Chancellor of the Order of Military Merit.
Photo: Sgt Johanie Maheu

The Seal of the Order of Military Merit

General Vance, Chief of the Defence Staff, wearing his chain of office as the Principal Commander of the Order of Military Merit.
Photo: Cpl Michael MacIsaac
INSIGNIA OF THE ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT

**OFFICER**

**OMM**

*Officers* of the Order are appointed for outstanding meritorious service while fulfilling duties of responsibility. This has been interpreted to mean that generally, only officers in the ranks of Major or Lieutenant-Commander to Colonel or Captain(N) are eligible to be appointed as Officers.

**COMMANDER**

**CMM**

*Commanders* of the Order are appointed for outstanding meritorious service while fulfilling duties of great responsibility. This has been interpreted to mean that only flag and general officers are eligible to be appointed as Commanders.

**MEMBER**

**MMM**

*Members* of the Order are appointed for exceptional service or performance of duty. This has been interpreted to mean that generally, Non-Commissioned Members (NCMs), Warrant Officers, Petty Officers, and Commissioned Officers up to the rank of Captain or Lieutenant(N) are eligible to be appointed as Members.
The Order of St. John of Jerusalem was established after the First Crusade to maintain a hospital in Jerusalem to care for the sick and wounded crusaders. A Grand Priory of the Order was established in London (UK) in 1831 and was granted a Royal Charter by Queen Victoria in 1888. Since then, the Monarch is the Sovereign Head and Patron of the Order. The Order is part of the Canadian honours system and the Governor General is the Prior of the Priory of Canada. Canadians who have performed good services for the Order, mainly through its two foundations; the St. John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and the St. John Ambulance, may be admitted to the Order. There are five levels to the Order and usually, one is admitted at the lowest grade and is later promoted through the grades when further accomplishments justify it. The grades are Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross, Knight or Dame of Justice or of Grace, Commander, Officer and Member. Military nominations should be submitted by the member’s commanding officer to the Directorate of Honours and Recognition prior to 1 February each year. Defence nominations are reviewed once a year by a Department of National Defence Committee and those that are supported are then forwarded to the St. John National Honours and Awards Committee for consideration.

- Appointments as Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross are made at Her Majesty’s pleasure.
- Are appointed Knights or Dames of the Order those who have successfully demonstrated leadership at a national or regional level, in a position carrying major responsibility; or have demonstrated exceptional leadership and performed meritorious service at a local level.
- Are appointed Commanders of the Order those who have successfully demonstrated leadership at a regional level, in a position carrying substantial responsibility or have demonstrated exceptional leadership and performed meritorious service at a local level.
- Are appointed Officers of the Order those who have successfully demonstrated leadership at a regional level in a position carrying substantial responsibility or at a local level carrying major responsibility.
- Are appointed Members of the Order those who have performed good and devoted service to the Order, through sustained voluntary commitment of time, skills and/or resources to St. John.

Other St. John honours and awards:
- The Service Medal of the Order is awarded, from 1 January 2020, for 10 years of volunteer service for the Order at a minimum rate of 60 recorded volunteer hours a year. Bars are awarded for additional periods of 5 years of eligible service.
- The Priory Vote of Thanks is a certificate signed by the Governor General as Prior to recognize good services to the Order which do not meet the criteria for admission to the Order.
- The Chancellor’s Commendation recognizes a particularly meritorious contribution to the Order on the national scene, an exemplary deed or activity in the pursuit of the objectives of St. John that is worth of national recognition.
- The Provincial/Territorial Commendation recognizes a particularly meritorious contribution to the Order on the provincial scene, an exemplary deed or activity in the pursuit of the objectives of St. John that is worth of provincial or regional recognition.
INSIGNIA OF THE MOST VENERABLE ORDER OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM

OFFICER

COMMANDER

MEMBER

CHANCELLOR'S COMMENDATION

SERVICE MEDAL

PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL COMMENDATION
The three Military Valour Decorations (MVDs) namely the Victoria Cross, the Star of Military Valour and the Medal of Military Valour were created on 1 January 1993 to recognize acts of valour, self-sacrifice or devotion to duty in the presence of the enemy. They can be awarded in situations short of war if the troops are in “combat” with an organized, armed “enemy” that is recognized as such by the Canadian people. It must be understood however that “combat” is not merely the presence of fire. Rather, the fire has to be directed at our troops, with the intent of our troops being the destruction of the opposing force as a valid entity. The word “enemy” in this context means a hostile armed force, and includes armed terrorists, armed mutineers, armed rebels, armed rioters and armed pirates.

It should be noted that conflicting parties in a peacekeeping context are not considered enemies and although there may be altercations with the CAF in a peacekeeping mission, the use of force by the CAF will generally be limited to self-defence. This is why MVDs are not generally awarded during peacekeeping operations.

Nominations are processed through the chain of command from the theatre of operations and cannot exceed one nomination for every 250 persons under command in an active theatre of operations for a six-month period. This rule ensures the respect and value of these decorations is preserved but often imposes difficult choices to the leaders; only the bravest of the brave, those who willingly and knowingly sacrifice themselves for others, or set an extreme example of devotion to duty will be recognized. Nominations, which must include two witness statements, shall be submitted within two years of the date of the incident. At the time of printing, 20 Stars of Military Valour and 89 Medals of Military Valour had been awarded.
THE MILITARY VALOUR DECORATIONS

STAR OF MILITARY VAOUR
SMV

The Star of Military Valour shall be awarded for distinguished and valiant service in the presence of the enemy.

VICTORIA CROSS
VC

The Victoria Cross shall be awarded for the most conspicuous bravery, a daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice or extreme devotion to duty, in the presence of the enemy.

MEDAL OF MILITARY VAOUR
MMV

The Medal of Military Valour shall be awarded for an act of valour or devotion to duty in the presence of the enemy.
The Canadian Bravery Decorations were created in 1972 to recognize people who have risked their lives to save or protect others. The three levels – the Cross of Valour, the Star of Courage and the Medal of Bravery – reflect the varying degrees of risk involved in any act of bravery. These decorations are awarded to civilians as well as to members of the CAF. The Governor General personally presents the decorations in ceremonies held at Rideau Hall, Ottawa or La Citadelle, Quebec City. Nominations must be made within two years of the incident.

The following members of the CAF have been awarded the Cross of Valour:

- Sergeant Amedeo Garrammone, CV, CD, 1980
- Chief Warrant Officer Keith Paul Mitchell, CV, MMM, MSM, CD, 1998
- Chief Warrant Officer Vaino Olavi Partanen, CV, CD (Posthumous), 1972
- Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Keith Pierce, CV, MMM, MSC, CD, 1998
- Sergeant Lewis John Stringer, CV, CD (Posthumous), 1972

A flight engineer lowers a Search and Rescue Technician from 424 Transport & Rescue Squadron of 8 Wing Trenton to the ground from a Griffon helicopter during TIGER EX 2015 at the Lake Simcoe Airport, Ontario.

Photo: Mcpl Lori Geneau
THE CANADIAN BRAVERY DECORATIONS

**STAR OF COURAGE (SC)**

The **Star of Courage** is awarded for acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril.

**CROSS OF VALOUR (CV)**

The **Cross of Valour** is awarded for acts of the most conspicuous courage in circumstances of extreme peril. At the time of printing, only 20 people had received this decoration.

**MEDAL OF BRAVERY (MB)**

The **Medal of Bravery** is awarded for acts of bravery in hazardous circumstances.
THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Decorations honour either a single achievement or an activity over a specified period, while the Order of Military Merit focuses on long-term achievement. Meritorious Service Decorations are separated into military and civilian divisions, with two levels in each category: a Cross and a Medal. The military division recognizes individuals for outstanding professionalism and for bringing honour to the CAF. Foreign nationals can be recognized in either division. The military Cross was created in 1984. The military Medal and the civilian Cross and Medal were created in 1991.

There is no annual limit or allocation for these decorations which are intended to be the workhorse of the merit recognition system and recognize one specific act or meritorious service performed over a specific period of time, be it a few minutes, days, a project, an operational rotation or a whole posting. The awards are not reserved for operational or overseas service and the level of award (Cross or Medal) is not linked to the rank or level of responsibility of the nominee, the degree of merit being the only factor. The criteria for each decoration are simple and flexible allowing the recognition of a wide array of achievements by military personnel at all levels and in all fields. Nominations, which must be submitted through the chain of command within five years of the date of the incident or the end of the service cited, should especially be made for individuals who demonstrate either:

- outstanding performance out of trade, rank and experience;
- outstanding performance in trade, rank and experience but performed under exceptional or difficult conditions; or
- performance which has an international flavour or effect.

Sailors from Her Majesty’s Canadian Ship Edmonton and members of the United States Coast Guard recover bales of illicit drugs from the Eastern Pacific Ocean during Operation CARIBBE, 17 November 2016.

Photo: MARPAC Imaging Services
THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE DECORATIONS (MILITARY DIVISION)

MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS
MSC
The Meritorious Service Cross (military division) recognizes a military deed or activity that has been performed in an outstandingly professional manner, according to a rare high standard that brings considerable benefit or great honour to the CAF.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
MSM
The Meritorious Service Medal (military division) recognizes a military deed or activity that has been performed in a highly professional manner or of a very high standard that brings benefit or honour to the CAF.
CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS

CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED IN THEIR MODERN FORM SINCE THE MIDDLE OF THE 19TH CENTURY AND RECOGNIZE PARTICIPATION IN A PARTICULAR CAMPAIGN OR OPERATION.
A campaign medal like the Gulf and Kuwait Medal or the General Campaign Star, is awarded only to those who serve inside a specified theatre of operation, while service medals, like the South-West Asia Service Medal, the General Service Medal or the Operational Service Medal, may also be awarded to those who serve in direct support of the operation from outside the theatre provided there is a certain element of risk, threat, hardship or operational intensity. Canadian campaign and service medals are only awarded for honourable service. Accordingly, a commanding officer may recommend that a member not be awarded the medal if it is deemed that the person has not served honourably. Rotation bars have been created for certain medals in order to recognize long periods of service in a theatre. The first bar is awarded after a total of 210 days of eligible service, including the days taken into account for the award of the original medal, and additional bars are awarded for each subsequent period of 180 days.

CAF members, depending on the mission, may also receive United Nations, NATO and other international mission medals but these are not discussed in this publication. Canadian Honours Policy precludes dual recognition; this means that a specific service may only be recognized by the award of one medal, ribbon or bar.

The Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal has a special status in that it is not a medal that recognizes service with a specific mission or in a defined theatre but rather recognizes the recipient as a peacekeeper and it may therefore be awarded, depending on the situation, in addition to another campaign or service medal.

Lieutenant-General Michael Norman Rouleau, CMM, MSC, CD, Commander of Canadian Joint Operations Command, presents Captain Michael Hobb, Q-West administration officer, with his General Campaign Star – EXPEDITION at the completion of a six-month deployment with Joint Task Force – Iraq on 25 November 2018.

Photo: Op IMPACT Imaging
The Sacrifice Medal may be awarded to members of the CAF, members of an allied force working as an integral part of the CAF such as exchange personnel, civilian employees of the Government of Canada or Canadian citizens under contract with the Government of Canada, on the condition that they were deployed as part of a military mission under the authority of the CAF, that have, on or after 7 October 2001, died or been wounded under honourable circumstances as a direct result of hostile action on the condition that the wounds that were sustained required treatment by a physician and the treatment has been documented.

The Medal may also be awarded posthumously to any member of the CAF who served on or after 7 October 2001 in the Regular Force, Primary Reserve, Cadet Organizations Administration and Training Service or Canadian Rangers, or any member of the Supplementary Reserve who served in or with one of the components aforementioned on or after 7 October 2001, and dies under honourable circumstances as a result of an injury or disease related to military service. A bar is awarded for further occasions which would have warranted award of the Medal.

Corporal Daisy Carrier receives a Sacrifice Medal from General Jonathan Holbert Vance, CMM, MSC, CD, Chief of the Defence Staff, in the presence of Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Charles West, MMM, MSM, CD, Canadian Armed Forces Chief Warrant Officer, Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, 7 October 2015.

Photo: Cpl Nicolas Tremblay
THE SACRIFICE MEDAL

[Image of the Sacrifice Medal]
The Gulf and Kuwait Medal recognizes the persons deployed to or in direct support of the operations against Iraq during the Gulf war. The medal is awarded to persons who served a minimum of 30 cumulative days in theatre between 2 August 1990 and 27 June 1991, on operations to defend against aggression and to liberate Kuwait.

Those who served for at least one day, in the theatre of operations, during the hostilities (16 January to 3 March 1991) are eligible for the Medal and bar. A silver maple leaf is worn on the undress ribbon to denote the award of the bar.

The theatre of operations was the special duty area of the Persian Gulf including Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq, as well as those other states on the immediate borders of Iraq.

A CF-18 taxis back to “M” line after a sortie in the Middle East as part of Operation FRICTION, which was the Canadian contribution to the American-led Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM.

Photo: DND
THE GULF AND KUWAIT MEDAL
The Somalia Medal recognises the participation of CAF members in the coalition mission in Somalia to help stabilise the country from civil war, and to help deliver humanitarian aid.

The Medal is awarded for a minimum of 90 cumulative days of honourable service in the theatre of operations between 16 November 1992 and 30 June 1993, provided that this service has not been recognised by another medal.

The theatre of operations consisted of the Somali Democratic Republic, its offshore waters extending to 200 nautical miles and the Republic of Kenya.
THE SOMALIA MEDAL
THE SOUTH-WEST ASIA SERVICE MEDAL

The South-West Asia Service Medal recognizes participation while deployed to or in direct support of the operations against terrorism in South-West Asia. The medal with AFGHANISTAN bar is awarded for 30 days cumulative service between 11 September 2001 and 31 July 2009 in the theatre of operations, which is a subset of the United States Central Command Area of Operation Responsibility (USCENTCOM AOR). The theatre of operations is defined as the land, sea, or air spaces of Afghanistan, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Aden, Red Sea, Suez Canal and those parts of the Indian Ocean north of 5° South Latitude and west of 68° East Longitude.

Recipients of the medal with AFGHANISTAN bar may receive a rotation bar for every subsequent period of 180 days of eligible service following eligibility for the medal. The award of the AFGHANISTAN bar is denoted by the wear of a small silver shield device on the undress ribbon while the award of rotation bars is denoted by maple leaf devices.

The medal (without bar) is awarded for a minimum of 90 days cumulative service in direct support of operations against terrorism in South-West Asia from 11 September 2001 (end dates vary depending on location) in the Headquarters in Tampa Bay, Florida, with the Strategic Airlift Detachment, Ramstein, Germany, with the Strategic Lines of Communications Detachments in the US or Europe, or with the Military Police Security Implementation Teams deployed to provide security to HMCS in various ports of Europe and North Africa.

Service under or in direct support of NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) is not eligible for this medal but for the SOUTH-WEST ASIA ribbon to either the General Campaign Star or General Service Medal.

AFGHANISTAN BAR

ROTATION BAR
THE SOUTH-WEST ASIA SERVICE MEDAL
The General Campaign Star is awarded to members of the CAF who deploy into a defined theatre of operations to take part in operations in the presence of an armed enemy. The Star is always issued with a ribbon specific to the theatre or task in question, and each ribbon has its own criteria.

**ALLIED FORCE:** Awarded to fighter pilots and AWACS crew members who flew at least five sorties during Operation ALLIED FORCE between 24 March and 10 June 1999 in the theatre of operations which consisted of the airspace over Kosovo and other territories of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Adriatic and Ionian seas.

**SOUTH-WEST ASIA:**

**24 April 2003 to 12 March 2014**
Awarded to military personnel who served for 30 days cumulative:
  - with the Canadian contribution to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan between 24 April 2003 and 31 July 2009, in the theatre of operations which consisted of the political boundaries and airspace of Afghanistan; and/or
  - in the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries of Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and those parts of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea that are west of sixty-eight degrees East longitude and north of five degrees South latitude, as well as the airspace above those areas from 13 March 2014 onwards, provided that the service has not been counted towards another service medal.

Personnel who have eligible service under the 24 April 2003 to 12 March 2014 criteria but did not meet the 30 day criteria, and also have eligible service under the 13 March 2014 – onward criteria, shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the minimum of 14 cumulative days of eligible service criteria.

**EXPEDITION:**

**1 January 2003 to 4 October 2014**
Awarded to military personnel who served in approved locations outside Canada and inside a specific theatre of operations in the presence of an armed enemy for at least 30 cumulative days between 1 January 2003 and 4 October 2014 provided that the service has not been counted towards another service medal.
  - This includes military service within the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq between 20 January 2003 and 4 October 2014 provided the service has not been recognized by another service medal such as a UN or British medal.
THE GENERAL CAMPAIGN STAR
**5 October 2014 to present**

Awarded to military personnel who served **14 days cumulative:**
- within the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq from 5 October 2014 onwards; and/or
- within the political boundaries of Syria, its airspace and territorial waters from 20 April 2015 onwards.

Personnel who have eligible service under the 1 January 2003 to 4 October 2014 criteria but did not meet the 30 day criteria, and also have eligible service under the 5 October 2014 – onward criteria, shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the minimum of **14 cumulative days** of eligible service criteria.

**ROTATION BAR**

Recipients of the Star may be awarded a first Rotation Bar after a total of 210 days of eligible service, including the days taken into account for the award of the original medal, and additional bars are awarded for each subsequent period of 180 days.
Canadian Army soldiers train Iraqi Army soldiers at Taji Military Complex, Iraq, 19 September 2018.

Photo: Op IMPACT Imaging
THE GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL

The General Service Medal is awarded to CAF members who deploy outside of Canada - but not necessarily into a theatre of operations - to provide direct support, on a full-time basis, to operations in the presence of an armed enemy. The Medal may also be awarded to Canadian civilians, who are deployed outside Canada, either inside or outside a theatre of operations and working under to control and authority of the CAF to provide direct support, on a full-time basis, to operations in the presence of an armed enemy. The Medal is always issued with a ribbon identifying the theatre or task in question, and each ribbon has its own criteria.

ALLIED FORCE: Awarded for at least 30 days cumulative service in direct support of Operation ALLIED FORCE in Aviano and/or Vicenza, Italy or in Skopje, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia between 24 March and 10 June 1999.

SOUTH WEST-ASIA:
24 April 2003 to 12 March 2014
Awarded to military personnel and Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF either:
• in direct support of the Canadian military operations provided from outside the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries of Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and those parts of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea that are west of sixty-eight degrees East longitude and north of five degrees South latitude, as well as the airspace above those areas for at least 30 cumulative days between 1 August 2009 and 12 March 2014;

Awarded to Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF either:
• in direct support of Canadian participation to ISAF in Afghanistan while deployed outside the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries of Afghanistan and its airspace for at least 30 cumulative days between 24 April 2003 and 31 July 2009; and/or
• in direct support of the Canadian military operations while deployed inside the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries of Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and those parts of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea that are west of sixty-eight degrees East longitude and north of five degrees South latitude, as well as the airspace above those areas for at least 30 cumulative days between 1 August 2009 and 12 March 2014.
THE GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL
13 March 2014 to present
Awarded to military personnel and Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF:

- in direct support of the Canadian military operations provided from outside the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries of Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and those parts of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea that are west of sixty-eight degrees East longitude and north of five degrees South latitude, as well as the airspace above those areas for at least 21 cumulative days from 13 March 2014 onwards.

Awarded to Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF:

- in direct support of the Canadian military operations while deployed in the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq for at least 30 cumulative days between 20 January 2003 and 4 October 2014.

Personnel who have eligible service outside the theatre of operations under the 24 April 2003 to 12 March 2014 criteria but did not meet the 30 day criteria, and also have eligible service under the 13 March 2014 – onward criteria, shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the minimum of 14 cumulative days of eligible service criteria.

EXPEDITION:
1 January 2003 to 4 October 2014
Awarded to military personnel and Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF:

- in direct support of the Canadian military operations provided from outside the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq for at least 30 cumulative days between 20 January 2003 and 4 October 2014.

Awarded to Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF:

- in direct support of the Canadian military operations while deployed in the theater of operations consisting of the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq for at least 30 cumulative days between 20 January 2003 and 4 October 2014.

5 October 2014 to present
Awarded to military personnel and Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF:

- in direct support of the Canadian military operations provided from outside the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq for at least 21 cumulative days from 5 October 2014 onwards.
Awarded to Canadian civilians who served under the authority of the CAF:

- in direct support of the Canadian military operations while deployed in the theater of operations consisting of the political boundaries and airspace of Iraq for at least **14 cumulative days** from 5 October 2014 onwards.

Personnel who have eligible service outside the theatre of operations under the 1 January 2003 to 4 October 2014 criteria but did not meet the 30 day criteria, and also have eligible service under the 5 October 2014 – onward criteria, shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the minimum of **21 cumulative days** of eligible service criteria.

Canadian citizens who served under the authority of the CAF and who have eligible service in the theatre of operation under the 1 January 2003 to 4 October 2014 criteria but did not meet the 30 day criteria, and also have eligible service under the 5 October 2014 – onward criteria, shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the minimum of **14 cumulative days** of eligible service criteria.

**ROTATION BARS**

Recipients of the Medal may be awarded a first Rotation Bar after a total of 210 days of eligible service, including the days taken into account for the award of the original medal, and additional bars are awarded for each subsequent period of 180 days.
The Operational Service Medal is awarded to military and police personnel, as well as other Canadian citizens working directly for the Government of Canada, who served in a theatre of operations, provided direct support on a full-time basis to operations conducted in such a theatre or served under dangerous circumstances outside Canada since 7 October 2001 provided the service has not been counted towards by another service medal aside from the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal where appropriate.

The Medal is always issued with a ribbon specific to the theatre or type of service being recognized, and each ribbon has its own criteria.

**SOUTH-WEST ASIA:** is awarded to non-DND eligible persons who served the theatre of operations consisting of the political boundaries of Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal and those parts of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea that are west of sixty-eight degrees East longitude and north of five degrees South latitude, as well as the airspace above those areas, or provided direct support to operations conducted in those areas from outside Canada for at least 30 cumulative days between 7 October 2001 and 13 March 2014, or 21 cumulative days from 14 March 2014 onwards;

**SIERRA LEONE:** Recognizes 30 cumulative days of service in Sierra Leone between 31 July 2002 and 16 February 2013, or 21 cumulative days of service from 17 February 2013 onwards. Primarily intended for CAF members who served with the British-led International Military Advisory and Training Team (IMATT) following the Lome Peace Agreement (Op SCULPTURE);

**HAITI:** Recognizes 30 cumulative days of service in Haiti between 6 March 2004 and 30 June 2017, or 21 cumulative days of service from 1 July 2017 onwards. Primarily intended for CAF members who served with the US-led Multinational Interim Force (MIF) (Op HALO) as well as for direct support provided by the medical evacuation team in the Dominican Republic;

**SUDAN:** Recognizes 30 cumulative days of service in Sudan between 15 September 2004 and 29 July 2016, or 21 cumulative days of service from 30 July 2016 onwards. Primarily intended for CAF members who served with the African Union-led mission in Darfur from 15 September 2004 to 31 December 2007 (Op AUGURAL) as well as for direct support provided to the operations conducted in the Sudan from Ethiopia and Senegal;

**HUMANITAS:** Replaces the HUMANITAS bar to the Special Service Medal (which was reserved for CAF members only) as of 1 August 2009. This award recognizes 30 cumulative days of service on approved humanitarian missions between 1 August 2009 and 27 April 2015, or 14 cumulative days of service from 28 April 2015 onwards; and

**EXPEDITION:** Recognizes service on smaller operations for which there are no medals available or service in dangerous circumstances outside of an existing theatre. It is awarded for 30 cumulative days of service between 7 October 2001 and 14 May 2014, or 21 cumulative days of service from 15 May 2014 onwards.

Personnel who have eligible service under the old criteria but did not meet the eligibility criteria, and also have eligible service under the new eligibility criteria, shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the new criteria. Essentially, one has to serve at least one eligible day under the new eligibility to be able to cumulate all past eligible service toward the shorter criteria.

**ROTATION BARS**

Recipients of the Medal may be awarded a first Rotation Bar after a total of 210 days of eligible service, including the days taken into account for the award of the original medal, and additional bars are awarded for each subsequent period of 180 days.
THE OPERATIONAL SERVICE MEDAL
THE SPECIAL SERVICE MEDAL

The Special Service Medal (SSM) recognizes members of the CAF who have performed a service determined to be under exceptional circumstances, in a clearly defined locality for a specified duration. This medal is always issued with a bar that specifies the special service being recognized (there are no rotation bars to the SSM), each bar having its own criteria.

The SSM has been amended to expand eligibility to Canadian civilians and members of allied forces working under the authority of the CAF from 29 April 2014 onwards to align this medal with other modern service medals which allow recognition of all members of the Defense Team who play a key role in the success of our operations.

PAKISTAN 1989-1990: For 90 days service with the Mine Awareness and Clearance Training Program in Pakistan, between 15 March 1989 and 29 July 1990, under the auspices of the UN. This bar is no longer issued and may be exchanged for the UN Special Service Medal.

ALERT: For 180 days service at CF Station Alert since 1 September 1958.

PEACE: For 180 days peacekeeping service between November 1947 and 21 June 2001. It was issued for service which had not been recognized by any other award. In 2001, the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal (CPSM) superseded this bar.

NATO+OTAN

1951 to 2004
For 180 days service in a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) position or in a Canadian position under the operational control of NATO between 1 January 1951 and 19 October 2004. Any posting underway on 19 October 2004 continues to qualify under this criteria until the end of that posting.

2004 to Present
For 45 days service in approved locations or tasks outside Canada from 20 October 2004 as part, or in direct support, of NATO operations or missions provided the service is not counted towards another medal. Service in NATO transformation establishments, schools and colleges, NATO training, exercises and conferences, as well as other similar service is excluded from eligibility.

Personnel who have eligible service under the 1951 – 2004 criteria but did not meet the 180 day criteria, and also have eligible service in a new deployment having begun on or after 20 October 2004 shall be allowed to combine all the eligible days of service towards the minimum of 45 cumulative days of eligible service criteria.

HUMANITAS: For 30 days service in approved humanitarian operations outside Canada between 11 June 1984 and 31 July 2009, provided that service has not been acknowledged by any other award. In 2009, the Operational Service Medal with HUMANITAS ribbon superseded this bar.

RANGER: For four years of service as a Canadian Ranger or Canadian Ranger Instructor and completion of a minimum of three eligible Ranger Patrol Exercises within Canada or its territorial and contiguous waters since 1947.

EXPEDITION: For 45 days service performed outside Canada from 1 July 2007, while deployed to participate in or provide direct support on a full-time basis to approved operations, provided the said service is not counted towards any other medal.
THE SPECIAL SERVICE MEDAL
The Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal (CPSM) is awarded for a minimum of 30 days of service in an approved UN or international peacekeeping mission since 1947.

Peacekeeping missions that qualify for award of the CPSM will be carried out under the auspices of the United Nations, or with another international force, and the belligerents who agree to a peace-support deployment must also agree to participation by the CAF. The types of missions to be included are support of preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and post-conflict peace-building, and sanctions monitoring missions and monitoring no-fly zones (ie, observing and noting violations but not attempting enforcement).
THE CANADIAN PEACEKEEPING SERVICE MEDAL
The Canadian Forces’ Decoration (CD) is awarded to officers and non-Commissioned members of the CAF (Regular Forces, Primary Reserve, officers of the Cadet Organizations Administration and Training Service (COATS) and Canadian Rangers) who have completed twelve years of good and loyal service. The decoration is awarded to all ranks, who have a record of good conduct.

A clasp is awarded for every subsequent period of ten years of qualifying service. The award of the clasp to the CD is denoted on the undress ribbon with a small silver device in the form of a heraldic rose, referred to as a rosette.

The Sovereign as Fount of all honours, and the Sovereign’s representative in Canada, the Governor General and Commander-in-Chief, are deemed to meet all CD criteria. Service as a captain general, colonel-in-chief, colonel commandant, colonel of the regiment, honorary colonel or lieutenant-colonel is deemed to be active service. Personal appointments however, such as Aide-de-Camp to a Lieutenant Governor, are not considered active service and therefore, are not on their own, eligible for the CD.

Warrant Officer Jean-Marc Grenier, CD, is presented with the Third Clasp to his Canadian Forces’ Decoration in recognition of his 42 years of military service by Major Rob Truscott, CD, 12 Wing Shearwater Chief of Staff, 12 Wing Shearwater, Nova Scotia, 14 November 2019.

Photo: LS Laurance Clarke
THE CANADIAN FORCES’ DECORATION
The following awards are bestowed upon individuals whose acts or services do not quite meet the criteria for a decoration but are nonetheless worthy of recognition.

The **Mention in Dispatches** is a national honour awarded for valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service to members of the CAF on active service and other individuals working with or in conjunction with the CAF on or after 1 November 1990. The oak leaf is worn on the ribbon of the appropriate campaign or service medal. When no medal is associated with the action, the oak leaf is worn in the same manner as a commendation.

A maximum of one nomination for every 100 persons under command in theatre for a six months period should be made in war-like situations, the maximum being 1 for 200 in other operations.

The **Chief of the Defence Staff Commendation** is awarded by the Chief of the Defence Staff to recognize deeds or activities beyond the demand of normal duty.

The **Command Commendation** is awarded by a command to recognize a contribution affecting or reflecting well on the command.

Lieutenant(N) Andrea Marie Murray, CD, receives her Chief of the Defence Staff Commendation from General Jonathan Holbert Vance, CMM, MSC, CD, Chief of the Defence Staff, in the presence of Chief Warrant Officer Alain Guimond, MMM, CD, Canadian Armed Forces Chief Warrant Officer, NDHQ WO’s & Sgt Mess, Ottawa, 15 June 2019.

Photo: MCpl Levarre McDonald
MENTION IN DISPATCHES AND COMMENDATIONS

MENTION IN DISPATCHES

CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF COMMENDATION

COMMAND COMMENDATION
UNIT AND CIVILIAN RECOGNITION

The Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation may be awarded to any unit, sub-unit, composite formation or other military group of the CAF, or to any similar organization of a foreign armed force working with or in conjunction with the CAF, that has performed an extraordinary deed or activity of a rare high standard in extremely hazardous circumstances. The award is restricted to war or war-like conditions in an active theatre of operations.

The Canadian Forces’ Unit Commendation is a group award created to recognize distinguished service by a military unit. It is awarded to any formation, unit, sub-unit, composite formation or other military group of the CAF, or to any similar organization of a foreign armed force working with or in conjunction with the CAF, that has performed a deed or activity considered beyond the demand of normal duty. It may be awarded to winners of competitions only under very exceptional circumstances.

The Canadian Forces Medallion for Distinguished Service is awarded by the Chief of the Defence Staff on behalf of the CAF to recognize outstanding service performed by persons other than active military personnel. It is awarded for service of a rare and exceptionally high standard, which accrues great benefit to the CAF as a whole. Eligibility is open to any person or group, Canadian or foreign, other than active members of the CAF or the armed forces of any other country.

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, CC, CMM, COM, CD, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, presents the pennant of the Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation to Lieutenant-Colonel Roch Pelletier, CD, and Colonel Joseph Roger Alain Gauthier, MSC, CD, on behalf of the 3rd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment Battle Group, from Valcartier, for courageous and professional execution of duty in Afghanistan, on 4 February 2011.

Photo: Sgt Serge Gouin
UNIT AND CIVILIAN RECOGNITION

THE CANADIAN FORCES’ UNIT COMMENDATION

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF UNIT COMMENDATION

PENANT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF UNIT COMMENDATION

THE CANADIAN FORCES’ UNIT COMMENDATION

THE CANADIAN FORCES MEDALLION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

PENANT OF THE CANADIAN FORCES’ UNIT COMMENDATION
Canadian policy on Commonwealth and foreign honours requires Government approval before an order, decoration or medal can be awarded to one of its citizens. Otherwise, Canada will not recognize the honour, and it cannot be worn with national honours or on a CAF uniform. Although the policy requires approval before an award, requests after the fact, which explain the presentation circumstances, may be considered.

To be recognized by Canada, foreign honours must emanate from a head of state or government. Awards originating from some other or lower authority are regarded as private honours and can be accepted as private mementoes only. Except for courtesy reasons at the moment of presentation, they cannot be worn with national honours or on a CAF uniform. Canada will only approve honours which recognize meritorious activity. Canada does not engage in exchanges of honours, nor give or receive honours based solely on an individual’s status.

Requests to award foreign honours to Canadians must be submitted by the donating country through their diplomatic mission in Canada for approval by the Government Honours Policy Sub-Committee at Rideau Hall.

Newly enrolled CAF members who have received honours for prior service with Commonwealth or foreign forces shall request permission to wear these honours on the CAF uniform. The member’s Commanding Officer shall send a request to the Directorate of Honours and Recognition detailing the prior service of the member, the honours received and adjoining copies of documents from the force in question proving the member’s prior service and the award of the honours in question.

Brigadier-General Martin Andres Frank, MSM, CD, receives the Legion of Merit – Degree of Officer from Mr. Rick Mills, Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States of America to Canada at a ceremony at the United States Embassy, Ottawa, 16 July 2019.

Photo: U.S. Embassy
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN HONOURS

- Insignia of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire
- British Ebola Medal for Service in West Africa
- Insignia of a Knight of the French Legion of Honour
- French National Defence Medal (Bronze)
- Insignia of the Latvian Order of Viesturs, Fourth Class
- Insignia of a Legionnaire of the United States Legion of Merit
- United States Defense Meritorious Service Medal
- NATO Meritorious Service Medal
The Memorial Cross is granted by Her Majesty’s Canadian Government as a memento of personal loss and sacrifice in respect of military personnel who lay down their lives for their country. The Memorial Cross was created in 1919 and since 7 October 2001, it is granted to up to three recipients previously identified by the member whose death is the result of an injury or disease related to military service, regardless of location.

The Memorial Ribbon is granted to up to five recipients to commemorate the death of a CAF member who served on or after 1 October 1947 and whose death is directly attributed to military service.

The Memorial Scroll and Memorial Bar are presented to the primary beneficiary of the estate of the deceased. The Scroll is a tradition restored from the First World War while the Bar is a Canadian memento issued during the Second World War and which is now intended to be included in a shadow box containing the medals and other souvenirs of the fallen or to be affixed on a picture frame.

The names of CAF members who die as a result of military service are also inscribed in the 7th Book of Remembrance kept in the Memorial Chamber in the Peace Tower of the Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa.

The Dag Hammarskjöld Medal is presented by the United Nations to the families of those who gave their lives in the service of the United Nations.

The Memorial Chamber is a solemn room near the base of the Peace Tower. Built of marble, the room is dedicated to the Canadians who died in conflicts around the world.

The Chamber’s stained glass windows show the journey of soldiers from the call of battle to the return home. The floor is made from stone collected from the battlefields of Europe: Ypres, Sommes, Vimy and Verdun, to name a few. The Chamber contains a massive stone central altar. The altar is surrounded by seven altars that are made of stone and bronze. Each altar holds a different Book of Remembrance. These books contain the names of the more than 118,000 Canadians who fought and died in the service of Canada.

The Books are displayed open in glass cases. At 11 o’clock every morning, one page is turned in each book during a ceremony. The families and friends of Canada’s fallen heroes can search the Books of Remembrance or contact the Memorial Chamber to learn when their loved one’s name will be shown.

Photo: GoC
MEMORIALS

THE MEMORIAL CROSS

THE MEMORIAL RIBBON

THE MEMORIAL SCROLL

THE MEMORIAL BAR

THE DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD MEDAL
ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

The insignia of orders, decorations and medals shall be worn in the order shown below. Authorized post-nominal letters are indicated in brackets where appropriate and the recipients of those honours may place these letters, in accordance with the order of precedence, after their name where appropriate.

Victoria Cross (VC)
Cross of Valour (CV)
Order of Merit (OM)
Companion of the Order of Canada (CC)
Officer of the Order of Canada (OC)
Member of the Order of Canada (CM)
Commander of the Order of Military Merit (CMM)
Commander of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces (COM)
Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO)
Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)
Officer of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces (OOM)
Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO)
Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)
Member of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces (MOM)
Member of the Royal Victorian Order (MVO)
The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem (all grades)
Order of Quebec (Ordre national du Québec) (GOQ, OQ, CQ)
Saskatchewan Order of Merit (SOM)
Order of Ontario (OOnt)
Order of British Columbia (OBC)
Alberta Order of Excellence (AOE)
Order of Prince Edward Island (OPEI)
Order of Manitoba (OM)
Order of New Brunswick (ONB)
Order of Nova Scotia (ONS)
Order of Newfoundland and Labrador (ONL)
Order of North West Territories (ONWT)
Order of Nunavut (ONu)
Order of Yukon (OY)

Star of Military Valour (SMV)
Star of Courage (SC)
Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)
Medal of Military Valour (MMV)
Medal of Bravery (MB)
Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)
Royal Victorian Medal (RVM)
Sacrifices Medal
Gulf and Kuwait Medal
Somalia Medal
South-West Asia Service Medal
General Campaign Star
ALLIED FORCE
SOUTH-WEST ASIA
EXPEDITION
General Service Medal
ALLIED FORCE
SOUTH-WEST ASIA
EXPEDITION
Operational Service Medal
SOUTH-WEST ASIA
SIERRA LEONE
HAITI
SUDAN
HUMANITAS
EXPEDITION
Special Service Medal
PAKISTAN 1989-90
PRESIDENTIAL
HUMANITAS
NATO/OEAN
PEACE/PAIX
RANGER
EXPEDITION

Canadian Peacekeeping Service
UN Emergency Force (Egypt/Sinai)
UN Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine and Observer Group in Lebanon
UN Military Observation Group in India and Pakistan
UN Operation in Congo
UN Temporary Executive Authority in West New Guinea
UN Yemen Observation Mission
UN Force in Cyprus
UN India/Pakistan Observation Mission
UN Emergency Force Middle East
UN Disengagement Observation Force Golan Heights
UN Interim Force in Lebanon
UN Military Observation Group in Iran/Iraq
UN Transition Assistance Group (Namibia)
UN Observer Group in Central America
UN Iraq/Kuwait Observer Mission
UN Angolan Verification Mission
UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
UN Observer Mission in El Salvador
UN Protection Force (Yugoslavia)
UN Advance Mission in Cambodia
UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UN Operation in Somalia
UN Operation in Mozambique
UN Observation Mission in Uganda/Rwanda
UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda
UN Mission in Haiti
UN Verification Mission in Guatemala
UN Mission in the Central African Republic
UN Preventive Deployment Force (Macedonia)
UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka
UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UN Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
UN Mission in East Timor and Transitional Administration in East Timor
UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo / UN Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti
UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire
UN Mission in Sudan
UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste
UN Hybrid Mission with the African Union in Darfur
UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan
UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
UN Special Service
UN Headquarters
NATO Medal for the Former Yugoslavia
NATO Medal for Kosovo
NATO Medal for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Article 5 NATO Medal for Operation “Eagle Assist”
Article 5 NATO Medal for Operation “Active Endeavour”
Non-Article 5 NATO Medal for operations in the Balkans
Non-Article 5 NATO Medal for the NATO Training Mission in Iraq
Non-Article 5 NATO Medal for NATO Logistical Support to the African Union Mission in Sudan
Non-Article 5 NATO Medal for Africa
Non-Article 5 NATO Medal for Service on NATO Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR – LIBYA
Non-Article 5 NATO Medal for Service on NATO Operation SEA GUARDIAN
International Commission for Supervision and Control (Indo-China)
International Commission for Control and Supervision (Vietnam)
Multinational Force and Observers (Sinai)
European Community Monitor Mission (Yugoslavia)
International Force East Timor
European Security and Defense Policy Service Medal / Common Security and Defence Policy Service Medal
Polar Medal
Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers
Canadian Centennial Medal
Queen Elizabeth II’s Silver Jubilee Medal
125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada Medal
Queen Elizabeth II’s Golden Jubilee Medal
Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee Medal
RCMP Long Service Medal
Canadian Forces’ Decoration (CD)
Police Exemplary Service Medal
Corrections Exemplary Service Medal
Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal
Canadian Coast Guard Exemplary Service Medal
Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal
Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal
Queen’s Medal for Champion Shot
Service Medal of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem
Commissionaire Long Service Medal
Commonwealth orders in order earned
Commonwealth decorations in order earned
Commonwealth medals in order earned
Foreign orders in order earned
Foreign decorations in order earned
Foreign medals in order earned
The insignia of orders, decorations and medals shall be worn on the CAF uniforms in accordance with CAF dress regulations. They can also be worn on civilian attire; the basic rule is that full-size awards are worn for daytime events such as parades, investitures, commemorative ceremonies and services, speeches from the Throne, military or state funerals, levees, etc, while miniature awards are worn for night-time events such as mess dinners, banquets, balls, etc. Invitations should specify if medals will be worn. The medals shall be mounted and worn on civilian dress in a similar manner as on military dress, the ladies having the additional option of wearing neck badges and/or a single breast medal mounted on a bow on the left shoulder.

Whether in uniform or in civilian attire, only the official insignia of orders, decorations and medals, duly authorized by The Crown, may be worn. Unofficial, organizational medals or foreign honours which have not been approved by the Government of Canada shall not be mounted or worn in conjunction with official honours in any circumstances.

Contrary to popular belief, it is not permissible, and it is in fact unlawful, to wear the medals of a deceased family member or friend. Orders, decorations and medals are worn by individuals as a public and official mark of recognition for their courage, merit or service and it is therefore logical that only the original and intended recipient may wear them. After the recipient’s passing, the awards may remain in the family and even be put on display as heirlooms or given to a recognized museum but under no circumstances should the awards be worn by anyone other than the original recipient.
To obtain information on military honours or to make an application for or obtain a replacement of a modern Canadian, United Nations or NATO award, contact the Directorate of Honours and Recognition (DH&R):

www.canada.ca/en/services/defence/caf/honours-medals-awards.html
1-877-741-8332
Directorate of Honours and Recognition
National Defence Headquarters
101 Colonel By Dr
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2

To obtain information on the Canadian Honours system, to make a nomination or obtain a replacement for a Canadian order or decoration (non-military), the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (CVSM) for Korea and/or commemorative medals, contact the Chancellery of Honours at Rideau Hall:

www.gg.ca
1-800-465-6890
Chancellery of Honours
Rideau Hall
1 Sussex Dr
Ottawa ON K1A 0A1

To make an application for or obtain replacements of Second World War medals as well as those related to the Korean conflict (with the exception of the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal for Korea), contact Veterans Affairs Canada:

www.veterans.gc.ca
1-866-522-2122
Honours and Awards
Veterans Affairs Canada
66 Slater St Suite 1411
Ottawa ON K1A 0P4

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Sequence for Wearing Orders, Decorations and Medals (Poster), Revised 2018
[A-DH-300-000/DA-003]
The Governor General, the Prime Minister and the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, later to become Chief of the Defence Staff, with several Military Valour Decorations holders on the occasion of the unveiling of the Canadian Victoria Cross, Rideau Hall, 16 May 2008

Front row from left to right: Warrant Officer Patrick Tower, SMV, CD; The Right Honourable Stephen Joseph Harper, PC, MP; Her Excellency The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, CC, CMM, COM, CD; Lieutenant-General Walter John Natynczyk, CMM, MSC, CD, and Major David Nelson Quick, SMV, CD

Second row from left to right: Sergeant Derek John Scott Fawcett, MMV, CD; Master Corporal Collin Ryan Fitzgerald, MMV; Sergeant Michael Thomas Victor Denine, MMV, CD; Sergeant Gerald Alexander Killam, MMV, CD; Corporal Clinton John Orr, MMV; Captain Derek Prohar, MMV; Master Corporal Sean Hubert Neifer, MMV; and Private Shane Aaron Bradley Dolmovic, MMV

Third row from left to right: Major Michael Charles Wright, MMV, MSM, CD; Captain Michael John Reekie, MMV; Corporal John David Makela, MMV; Corporal Joseph Jason Lee Ruffolo, MMV; Corporal Michael Patrick O Rourke, MMV; and Private Jay James Renaud, MMV

Photo: MCpl Serge Gouin