

BRIGADIER-GENERAL STEPHEN (STEVE) LACROIX, CD

With over 35 years of service in the Canadian Armed Forces, Stephen (Steve) Lacroix is a proven strategic leader and brings a wealth of experience to the Government of Alberta. He was hired in December 2020 as the Managing Director of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA). He was immediately seconded as the Executive Lead of a multi-disciplinary team of Alberta Public Service professionals, to further support and complement the steps that Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services have already taken to deliver the COVID-19 vaccines to Albertans. He will formally assume his new role as Managing Director of AEMA after the task force work is complete.

His military career has been evenly split between duty in the Canadian Army and strategic staff portfolios at National Defence Headquarters. His most recent role was as Commander of the 3rd Canadian Division/Joint Task Force – West where he had the privilege to lead and soldier with over 15,000 military and civilians in the four western provinces and two territories. From 2017 to 2019, he served as the first Canadian to hold the assignment of Director-General of the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington, DC. The Inter-American Defense Board is the oldest defence and security cooperation organization in the world. It is an international committee of nationally appointed diplomats and security issues facing countries in the Americas and the Caribbean. Between 2015 and 2017, he commanded Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Edmonton and CFB Wainwright and led CFB Suffield and CFB Shilo, MB.

His operational and international experience is varied. He started his career in Germany upon receiving his commission with the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps. He was posted to the United Nations Mission in El Salvador in 1992, and Haiti in 1994. He was deployed in the Former republic of Yugoslavia in 1996 and once again in 2004. In 2010, he served as a Senior Mentor to the Commander of an Afghan National Police Regional Headquarters, responsible for the operations of 22,000 police officers stationed in the volatile southern provinces of the country.

He is fluently trilingual (English, French and Spanish) and is competent in Portuguese. He holds a Bachelor of Military Arts and Science, a Master of Defence Studies and a Master in Public Administration from the Royal Military College of Canada.

He is the Vice President of the Board of the Inter-American Defense Foundation, President of the Trust of the 12ième Régiment blindé du Canada Association, Honorary Chair of Homes for Heroes, a member of the Treble Victor Group and recently appointed as an Advisory Board Member of No Stone Left Alone.

Steve is happily married to Ms. Isabelle Jean, a former Canadian Army logistician now serving in the Federal Public Service, and they are the proud parents of two lovely teenagers named Ophelia and Celeste. The family is thrilled at the prospect of growing roots in Alberta.

