

Jenkins Expert Support: Biographies

Major-General (Ret'd) David Fraser

Former Commander, Task Force Afghanistan

Major-General Fraser was commissioned as an Infantry Officer upon graduation from Carleton University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1980. He served in various command and staff positions in the PPCLI from platoon to battalion commander in both the Second and Third Battalions. In 1990, he attended the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College in Toronto. Following Toronto, he attended French Language training in Ottawa.

Upon promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel, he was stationed in Calgary as Chief of Staff for Alberta District and in 1996, he assumed command of 2PPCLI. He took the Battalion to Bosnia as the first Canadian Battle Group with SFOR. His tour with the Battalion included support to Quebec Ice Storm in 1998.

After the command, he moved to Ottawa and worked as Director, Land Force Readiness 3, responsible for all Army planning and tasks. He played a major role in planning Canada's participation in Kosovo and Honduras. Major-General Fraser was then assigned as the Project Director for Land Force Reserve Restructure, responsible for developing new Army Capabilities and tasks for the Army Reserve.

Major-General Fraser completed his Master's in Defence Management and Policy from the Royal Military College (RMC) and Queen's University in 2001.

In 2003, Major-General Fraser was posted to the Binational Planning Group in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he served as the co-director until 2005. He was awarded the United States Legion of Merit for his work.

On June 29, 2005, Major-General Fraser assumed command of 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group and was promoted to Brigadier-General shortly thereafter. Major-General Fraser officially assumed command of the Multi-National Brigade (Regional Command South) in Afghanistan on February 28, 2006, until November 2006. For his leadership, he was awarded the United States Bronze Star, the Netherlands Medal of Merit in gold, and the Canadian Meritorious Service Cross. He was the Vimy Award recipient in 2006 for "significant and outstanding contribution to defence and security for Canada" awarded by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute. In 2007, he received the Atlantic Council of Canada award for his 'exceptional contribution to furthering international peace and security for his leadership as Commander of the Multi-National Brigade (Regional Command South) in Afghanistan in 2006.'

Major-General Fraser served as Commandant of the Canadian Forces College from July 2007 until July 2009. He commanded both the Land Forces Doctrine and Training

System (LFDTS) and 1 Canadian Division from December 2010 to June 2011 upon which he retired from the Canadian Forces after 31 years of service.

Ray Castelli

Chief Executive Officer, Weatherhaven

Ray Castelli is Chief Executive Officer of Weatherhaven.

Weatherhaven is one of the world's leading suppliers of redeployable camps and shelter systems, specializing in remote areas and difficult climatic conditions.

With operations on 5 continents, the company has supplied more than 20 government agencies around the world, including Canada, USA, UK, NATO, Australia, Brazil, South Africa and Japan. A 100% owned and operated Canadian entity, the company is proud to have supported every Canadian peacekeeping mission since 1989.

The company also has a robust commercial business, supplying exploration camp solutions to many leading global natural resource exploration companies such as Rio Rinto, BHP, Xstrata, Petrobras and Alcoa. Weatherhaven has also been a key supplier to the UN, WHO, Red Cross and other disaster relief agencies for more than 20 years.

Ray's prior career roles include serving as:

- CEO of Naikun, a wind energy development company, in Vancouver;
- Executive Vice-President of Quadrem, a Dallas-based global procurement services company formed by 19 of the world's largest mining/metals companies;
- Director of Strategic Planning and Corporate Development (Mergers and Acquisitions) for Alcan Aluminium (Montreal and New York); and
- Director of Corporate Affairs for Alcan Aluminium in Vancouver.

An alumnus of the INSEAD School and Simon Fraser University - Business, Ray previously served in the Canadian government as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister.

Born and raised in Prince Rupert, BC, he holds both Canadian and European citizenship and speaks 5 languages.

Ray is also a member of the Board of Directors of Avcorp Aviation, the Prince Rupert Port Authority and Global Cobalt Ltd.

In December 2011, he was appointed by the Premier of British Columbia to chair the newly created BC Jobs and Investment Board and has also been appointed to the Canada-Brazil CEO Forum by the federal Minister of International Trade.

Peter Nicholson, Former President and Chief Executive Officer, Council of Canadian Academies

Dr. Nicholson was the inaugural President and CEO of the Council of Canadian Academies. The Council's mission is to provide independent, expert assessments of the science underlying important matters of public interest, and to provide a voice for Canada on behalf of the sciences, both nationally and internationally. A native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, he holds a BSc and MSc in Physics from Dalhousie University and a Ph.D. (Operations Research) from Stanford University, as well as honorary doctorates from Dalhousie University, Acadia University, and the Université du Québec (INRS).

Dr. Nicholson joined the Computer Science Department at the University of Minnesota in 1969 where he taught for four years before joining the Government of Canada in 1973. There he served in a senior policy advisory role in the Departments of Urban Affairs, Transport, and Regional Economic Expansion.

In 1978, Dr. Nicholson left Ottawa and was elected to the Legislature of the Province of Nova Scotia. In 1982, he joined the Taskforce on Atlantic Fisheries established by the federal government to restructure the industry, which had been financially devastated by the 1981-82 recession.

In 1984, Dr. Nicholson joined the Bank of Nova Scotia in Toronto where he was Senior Vice-President, advising the Chairman of the Bank on a broad range of strategic issues.

Between March 1994 and September 1995, Dr. Nicholson was Clifford Clark Visiting Economist in the federal Department of Finance. He participated in the key decisions that led to a sustained turnaround in Canada's fiscal position.

From September 1995 to June 2002, he was Chief Strategy Officer of BCE Inc., Canada's largest telecommunications company.

Between June 2002 and July 2003, Peter Nicholson was Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the OECD in Paris.

Between December 2003 and January 2006, he served in the Office of the Prime Minister of Canada as Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy.

Dr. Nicholson has served in a voluntary capacity on several organizations dedicated to the furtherance of science and technology in Canada. He was an inaugural member of the National Advisory Board on Science and Technology; the founding Chair of the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences; and a member of the Research Council of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research; Chair of the Canadian Institute for Telecommunication Research; and the inaugural Chair of the members of both the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Dr. Nicholson is a member of the Order of Canada, awarded in recognition of his contribution to business through both the public and private sectors.

Christyn Cianfarani
Director, Government Programs, Research and Development and Intellectual Property, CAE Inc.

Christyn Cianfarani is Director, Government Programs, Research and Development and Intellectual Property at CAE Inc. She is a member of CAE's Advanced Technologies and Innovation (AT&I) Organization. In this role, she is responsible for strategies, business cases, execution, and contract compliance of major portfolios stemming from the genesis and execution of R&D at CAE globally including:

- Strategic governmental collaborative funding programs (Strategic Aerospace and Defense Initiative, Atlantic Innovation Fund, Investissement Québec and legacy programs such as Technology Partnerships Canada)
- Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) and multimedia tax credits.

Christyn is also responsible for intellectual property from strategy through to execution, including clearance, disclosure, patent, monetization and protection.

Christyn has held various positions at CAE Inc. such as Manager, Operational Excellence and Continuous Improvement and Manager, Bids and Proposal Engineering over her 15-year career with CAE.

She holds an MA from University of Toronto and a BA from Royal Military College of Canada where she served as a member of Canada's Armed Forces (Regular Service) in the Royal Canadian Navy.