Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Pitcher, CD Outgoing Commanding Officer

LCol Barry Pitcher was born and raised in Mount Pearl, Newfoundland. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces in Newfoundland under the Regular Officer Training Program and would go on to achieve a Bachelor of Science at Royal Roads Military College in 1995. He then graduated from Basic Infantry Officer Training at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown winning the Allard Sword of Honour and posted to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. From 1995-1997, LCol Pitcher served as an infantry platoon commander, recce platoon commander and intelligence officer in both Calgary and Edmonton.

In 1997, LCol Pitcher joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and has since worked in four different provinces. Now an Inspector, throughout his career he has served in various police tactical and specialized duty roles and is currently the senior incident commander and officer in charge of human resources and training.

LCol Pitcher returned to the Primary Reserve in 2010 and served as Infantry Company Commander and Operations officer with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment until 2013. LCol Pitcher and his family then relocated to Halifax and he assumed the role as Officer Commanding of 36 Brigade Influence Activities Company. He returned to the Infantry Corps in 2017 when he assumed the role as Deputy Commanding Officer of the Princess Louise Fusiliers. He has completed the Army Operations Course, Joint Command and Staff Programs One and Two, a Masters of Business Administration, and recently graduated with honours from the Masters of Defence Studies program at Royal Military College.

LCol Pitcher has considerable experience in both domestic and international work. He served in Afghanistan for a year-long deployment in 2007 as senior police advisor to the Afghan National police. During his time in Afghanistan, he was responsible for designing the first Afghan Police First Aid Program and led Operation PORTICULIS, the implementation of over 25 police substations throughout Kandahar City.

LCol Pitcher is honoured to share this special day with his best friend and wife, Nicole, and their two teenagers Ashley and Ryan; both of which he considers his greatest achievement.