

Canadian Chief of Defence Staff returns to the War College

By Robert Martin, USAWC PAO 07 November 2022



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Canadian Gen. Wayne D. Eyre, Chief of Defence Staff is congratulated by Army War College provost James Breakenridge during his induction to the USAWC international Hall of Fame, Nov. 4 in Bliss Hall.

Building relationship is one of the critical outputs the Army War College produces, according to Canada's Gen. Wayne D. Eyre, speaking to the students and faculty of the USAWC Class of 2023. The Army War College gathered to honor a most distinguished member of the Class of 2012 with an induction into the International Fellows Hall of Fame on Nov 4 in Carlisle's Bliss Hall.

Gen. Eyre assumed the duty as the Chief of the Canadian Defence Staff on Nov 25, 2021, after most recently serving as the Commander Canadian Army. He is the 72nd graduate of the war college to receive the International Fellow honor.

"If you look at multi-national operations, which for Canada is the norm," said Eyre. "multi-national operations are predicated on trust. But that trust is accelerated by personal relationships, so building relationships here [War College] amongst the hundreds of students is significant in my

perspective. Those relationships have served me extremely well since I graduated from the War College."

Gen. Eyre recommended to the international fellows that while attending the War College. "They get to know as many of your classmates as possible. You will tend to socialize more with the international fellows but reach out and get to know as many Americans as possible."

"I expect that network of relationships from a War College graduate. This is why we send our international fellows to various War colleges worldwide. I expect Critical thinking skills and an understanding of civilian-military relation strategy and how the military fits in," he said.

A Native of Wadena, Saskatchewan, Canada, Eyre was commissioned in 1988 and assigned to the Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Eyre was the first non-U.S. Deputy Commander of United Nations Command Korea in its 69-year history and, as such, is the most senior Canadian officer ever permanently stationed in the Asia Pacific region. He was also the Commanding General of NATO's Training Mission – in Afghanistan, where he oversaw the force generation, institutional training, and professional development of the Afghan National Security Forces.

The U.S. Army War College International Fellows Hall of Fame was established to provide a prestigious and visible means of honoring USAWC International graduates who have attained, through military merit, the highest positions in their nation's armed forces or who have held an equivalent position by rank or responsibility in a multi-national organization.