



# *Biography*



NATO AEW&C Programme Management Agency, Chief PMD  
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## **Mr. Gordon D. Ward**

### **Chief Programme Management Division NATO Airborne Early Warning & Control Programme Management Agency (NAPMA)**

Mr. Ward was born in Trenton, Ontario, Canada and joined the Canadian Forces (CF) in 1973 under the Regular Officer Training Plan. He pursued his military and academic studies at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario where he graduated in 1977 with a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and Management.

Upon completion of his Communication and Electronics Officer Training at the CF School of Communications & Electronics (CFSCE) in Kingston, he was appointed the Telecommunications Maintenance, System Standards & Training Officer at Canadian Forces Station (CFS) Kamloops, a long range air defence radar site in the CADIN Pinetree Line supporting 25th NORAD Region. Promoted to Captain in 1980, he returned to CFSCE as an instructor in the Officer Training Squadron, training new air force officers in subjects ranging from communications security to basic electronics and radar theory. 1983 saw Captain Ward posted National Defence Headquarters (NDHQ) as the Technical/Design Authority/Project Manager for Land Electronic Warfare (EW) Non-Communications and ADP Systems. In 1985, he was promoted to Major and transferred to the Aerospace Maintenance Development Unit as the Branch Head for Telecommunications Projects Branch responsible for the design, development, production, installation and maintenance of air force ground telecommunications systems. Major Ward was put in a command position in 1989, assuming the role of Commanding Officer of a remote signals intelligence and direction finding unit at CFS Masset. Promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in 1991, he attended the CF Command and Staff College Course whose curriculum was centred on professional development through study, lectures, group discussions and staff work. It was there he earned the qualification of "PCSC".

An opportunity presented itself in 1992 for Lieutenant-Colonel Ward to take up a post with NATO as the Chief of Information Systems Division for Headquarters Land Forces Central Europe in Heidelberg, Germany. Returning to NDHQ, Ottawa in 1994, Lieutenant-Colonel Ward was appointed Project Manager Reserve Integrated Information Project (RIIP), a \$75M integrated information technology solution intended to automate the core business processes of the CF Reserve Forces. Returning to the international environment in 1996, Lieutenant-Colonel Ward went to Headquarters North American Aerospace Defence Command (HQs NORAD), Colorado Springs, Colorado, to be Chief-

NORAD/USSPACECOM C4 Systems Program Branch charged with the delivery of joint battle management tools in support of NORAD's air surveillance/defence mission. In 2000, he took up a post as the A6/Chief Air Force Telecommunications & Information Services at the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Air Division in Winnipeg, Manitoba, becoming the Commander's principal advisor on Air Force telecommunications and information management matters. A promotion to Colonel in 2001 came with a posting back to NDHQ to the Air Staff as the Director Air Programs. He was the capability champion for Command, Control, Information and Intelligence (C2I2) within the Aerospace Capability Framework (ACF), and the Chief Information Officer advising the Commander on the role of IM in the execution of the air force C2 mission. In 2005, Colonel Ward took up what would be his last position in the Canadian Forces, that of Director Aerospace Engineering Project Management/Radar & Communication Systems, responsible for all assigned air force ground based electronic systems including the acquisition, life cycle management and operational airworthiness of all air defence radars, ground based air traffic management systems, air force command and control weapon systems, and CF aircraft simulators. He was also concurrently the Director North Warning System Office (NWSO). As Director of the bi-national NWSO, he was accountable for the operation and maintenance of 47 air defence radar sites across Canada's north in support of Canadian sovereignty and Canada's contribution to NORAD.

In 2010, Mr. Ward retired from the CF after 37 years of service at the rank of Colonel to take up a post with the NATO AEW&C Programme Management Agency in Brunssum, The Netherlands, initially as the Chief of the Implementation Division and then as the Chief Programme Management Division.

Mr. Ward is married to Wendy Jane of Berwick, Nova Scotia. They have three children Ryan Alexander, Tyler Adam and Leah Meighan.

## **PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Awarded the United States Meritorious Service Medal while serving as Chief, Information Systems Section, LANDCENT Signal Group, Headquarters Allied Land Forces Central Europe.

Awarded CF Special Service Medal for tour in NATO.

Awarded second United State Meritorious Service Medal while serving as Chief, C4 Systems Program Branch, Headquarters North American Aerospace Defence Command.

Awarded Commander's Coin by NORAD-USSPACECOM Director of Command Control Systems, USAF Major-General Harry D. Radegue, for "excellence in leadership in defining NORAD command and control solutions."

Co-wrote an article called "Working coalition interoperability in a bi-national environment" that was published in September 1999 issue of INTERCOM.

Awarded CF Decoration with Second Rosette signifying over 32 years of Service.