

# NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND

## Biography



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### **T. J. Lawson, CMM, CD** **CANADIAN FORCES**



Lieutenant-General Thomas J. Lawson is Deputy Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, Peterson AFB, Colorado.

Lieutenant-General Tom Lawson enrolled in 1975 and graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1979. He completed wings and fighter training and was posted to 421 Squadron in Baden, Germany, in 1981. There he flew CF-104 Starfighters. He arrived at RMC in 1985 to complete a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering and serve as a lecturer on the Electrical Engineering staff.

Promoted to Major in 1988, LGen Lawson was posted to Montgomery, Alabama, to attend the United States Air Force Staff College. At that time he completed a Master's Degree in Public Administration at Auburn University.

Posted to Cold Lake in 1991, LGen Lawson completed CF-18 Hornet training and returned to CFB Baden to fly operationally with 421 and 439 Squadrons. Upon closure of the Base, LGen Lawson was posted to Cold Lake, joining 410 Squadron as a CF-18 instructor, where he was in charge of the Fighter Weapons Instructor School.

In 1996, LGen Lawson was posted to Ottawa as a career manager and promoted to LCol. In 1998, he was appointed Commanding Officer of 412 Squadron where he flew the Challenger until 2000. Following command, LGen Lawson was placed in charge of career management for the Air Force. At that time, he completed the USAF Air War College Program.

Promoted Colonel in 2003, LGen Lawson held various staff positions with the Air Force before joining the CF Transformation Team in 2005 and leading the stand up of the Strategic Joint Staff. Posted to 8 Wing in 2006, LGen Lawson completed a year in command of CFB Trenton before being promoted to Brigadier-General in May 2007 and appointed Commandant of the Royal Military College of Canada.

In September 2009, he was promoted to Major-General and appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff. In July 2011, he was promoted to Lieutenant-General and in August 2011, he was appointed Deputy Commander NORAD in Colorado Springs.

**(Current as of September 2011)**