



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Monday, June 8, 2026
(23)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on National Security, Defence and Veterans Affairs met this day at 4 p.m., in room C128, Senate of Canada Building, the chair, the Honourable Marty Deacon, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Al Zaibak, Boehm, Cardozo, Carignan, P.C., Dasko, Deacon (*Ontario*), Hay, Henkel, McNair, Patterson, White, Youance and Yussuff (13).

Other senators present: The Honourable Senator Duncan (1).

Participating in the meeting: Anne-Marie Therrien-Tremblay and Andrés León, Analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, May 28, 2026, the committee continued its consideration of Bill C-11, An Act to amend the National Defence Act and other Acts.

APPEARING:

The Honourable David McGuinty, P.C., M.P., Minister of National Defence.

WITNESSES:

Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces:

General Jennie Carignan, Chief of the Defence Staff;

Lieutenant-General Paul Prévost, Chief, Professional Conduct and Culture;

Major General Rob Holman, Judge Advocate General;

Martin Gravel, Chief Operating Officer, Defence Community Support Resource Centre;

Brigadier-General Vanessa Hanrahan, Canadian Forces Provost Marshal;

Colonel Nooral Ahmed, Director, Defence Counsel Services;

Colonel Dylan Kerr, Director, Military Prosecutions.

As individuals:

The Honourable Marie Deschamps, Independent Authority, External Review Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment CAF 2015 and Former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada (*by videoconference*);

Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Rory Fowler, Lawyer.

The Honourable Marie Deschamps and Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Rory Fowler each made a statement and answered questions.

At 4:55 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:02 p.m., the committee resumed.

Minister McGuinty made a statement and, together with Major General Rob Holman, General Jennie Carignan, Lieutenant-General Paul Prévost and Martin Gravel, answered questions.

At 6:03 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 6:09 p.m., the committee resumed.

General Jennie Carignan, Major General Rob Holman, Lieutenant-General Paul Prévost and Martin Gravel answered questions.

At 6:57 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 7:06 p.m., the committee resumed.

Brigadier-General Vanessa Hanrahan, Colonel Nooral Ahmed and Colonel Dylan Kerr each made a statement and answered questions.

At 8 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Ericka Paajanen

Clerk of the Committee