

# Katherine Vigneau, CAFM



Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Katherine Vigneau spent 26+ years in the Canadian Army holding various positions in logistics and transportation in Canada and abroad. From 1998 to 2001 she held the post of Fleet Manager for the Department of National Defence, responsible for policy oversight and management of a fleet of 32,000 vehicles. She most recently spent four years at the Joint Warfare Centre in Stavanger, Norway leading the Logistics training of NATO forces before her retirement in October 2010.

She has been an active volunteer with NAFA – Fleet Management Association since 1999. She worked on education projects and has been the Vice Chair (2005-2007) and Chair (2007 to 2009) of the Certification Board, and Canadian Vice-President (2009-2010). For these volunteer efforts, she received NAFA's Excellence in Education Award in May 2010.

## Expertise

- Bilingual (English/French)
- Project management
- Performance measurement and benchmarking
- Governance, organization structures and job descriptions
- Fleet rightsizing
- Activity-based costing and cost charge-back system design
- Vehicle life cycle cost determination
- Fleet management outsourcing feasibility assessment and facilitation
- Supply Chain Management and strategic sourcing
- Training and Development

## Education

- MDS, RMC 2006
- MBA, RMC 2003
- CLP, 2001
- CAFM 1999
- PLog 1998
- BA in Military and Strategic Studies, RMC 1984

## Organizations

- NAFA, The Fleet Management Association
- CPLI, Canadian Professional

Since 2010, LCol (retired) Vigneau has worked as a fleet and training consultant serving clients such as NATO, NAFA, the United Nations, the Canadian military, Natural Resources Canada and other government and corporate organizations in Canada and the U.S.. Along with consulting work, she is a regular columnist in Canada's Fleet Digest where she writes about fleet and training and development issues. She is currently the Director of Professional Development for NAFA.

### Fleet Management Best Practices Studies

LCol (retired) Vigneau has directed evaluations of fleet management practices for large and small organizations across a wide array of industries. Most of these studies included the evaluation of procurement, remarketing, fuel, maintenance, risk, finance and information management:

- University of Western Ontario
- Cities of Saint John, Prince George, Medicine Hat, North Bay, Port Moody
- Region of Waterloo, Metro Vancouver
- York Regional Police
- York EMS
- Schneider Electric
- Epcor
- Suncor
- Biogen

### Training and Development

LCol (retired) Vigneau has engaged in extensive training and development efforts not only in fleet management topics but in the wider domains of leadership, operations management, transportation and logistics. Some of her many contributions in these areas include:

- Course development and Instructor, Faculty of Business, Royal Military College
- Course development and Instructor, Automotive Business School of Canada, Georgian College
- Course development and Instructor, AEMP program, Ferris State University
- Course development, Instructor and Program Administrator, Certified Automotive Fleet Manager, NAFA
- Course development and Instructor, NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany
- Logistics Training Chief, NATO Joint Warfare Centre, Stavanger Norway

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(continued)

Logistics Institute

- CITT, Canadian Institute of Traffic and Transportation

## Awards

Logistics Medal, 2003

George Bell Medal, 2006

NAFA – Excellence in Education Award, 2010

## Years of Experience

30

## Location

Midhurst, ON

## Governance and Policy Foundation

LCol (retired) Vigneau has a solid background in evaluating organizational requirements and helping organizations create the necessary foundation documents of a sound organization. This includes overall governance and fleet policy as well as job descriptions, Service Level Agreements (SLA) and Request for Proposals (RFP). Her projects in these areas include:

- Fleet Management Policy for Department of National Defence
- Fleet policy, driver's agreements and SLAs for Saint John, North Bay and Waterloo
- Fleet utilization and take-home vehicle policies for Metro Vancouver
- Maintenance Services RFP review and development for Epcor
- Specification development for the United Nations and Suncor Energy
- Governance framework recommendations for Prince George and Saint John

## Fleet Rightsizing Studies

LCol (retired) Vigneau has led and participated in fleet rightsizing studies in Canada and the United States. These studies assist fleets in determining the optimal number of vehicles for their organization based on criticality and usage. Recent studies include the following:

- University of Western Ontario
- Cities of Saint John, North Bay
- State of California
- Region of Waterloo
- York EMS
- Epcor