

Col Pilon and Col Gasparotto's handover ceremonies in Haiti

On 13 July 2016 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Col Nicolas Pilon, CD, handed over the reins as Chief of Staff for the Military Component of MINUSTAH (United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti) to Col Mark Gasparotto, MSM, CD. During a ceremony attended by the Ambassadors of Canada and Chile as well as the Brazilian Force Commander, Gen Ajax Porto Pinheiro, Col Pilon highlighted the accomplishments of the United Nations peacekeeping mission during his tenure as Chief of Staff. Additionally, he celebrated the long-term peace and stability the Canadian peacekeepers in Haiti have been instrumental in building during their service as a part of OPERATION HAMLET. Col Gasparotto, in his acceptance speech, mentioned this is the fourth time he has received a handoff from Col Pilon over his 20 years of service and looks forward to continuing the legacy of excellence and commitment to Peacekeeping the Canadian contingent in Haiti has established.



Col Pilon and Col Gasparotto on parade with MINUSTAH Military Component (MC) Force Commander Gen Ajax Porto Pinheiro during the handing over of MC COS responsibilities held at the Chilean Aviation Unit (Port-au-Prince), Haiti



Col Pilon and Col Gasparotto before the ceremony



Col Pilon giving a speech during the MC COS handover ceremony



Col Gasparotto, the Ambassador of Canada, Mrs. Paula Caldwell St-Onge, and Col Pilon signing the handover scrolls of TF PAP (Port-au-Prince) Comd at the official residence of the Ambassador of Canada