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■ **CANADIAN FORCES:** American military trailblazer shares advice with CFB Borden officers

## 'Make a difference'

IAN MCINROY  
Barrie Examiner

CFB BORDEN — An American woman of military firsts offered professional development tips on leadership to CFB Borden officers, Monday.

U.S. Brig.-Gen. (ret.) Becky Halstead, the first female graduate of West Point to be promoted to general, served as senior commanding general for logistics in Iraq and was the first female in American history to command in combat at the strategic level.

She was responsible for leading more than 200 multi-disciplined units, providing supply, maintenance, transportation and distribution support to more than 250,000 military personnel serving in Iraq.

Following her extensive 27-year career with the U.S. Army, Halstead retired in 2008 and now offers leadership and motivational training to fellow officers and corporations worldwide.

"The fusion of heart and mind in selfless action, for the betterment of others, is to effectively accomplish the mission and make a difference," Halstead said.

It was one of many inspirational quotes she offered up Borden officers.

"Our attitude is the one thing in life we can control," she added. "A selfless action is not just thinking about it, it's doing it. The enemy of great is being



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Former U.S. Brig.-Gen. (ret.) Becky Halstead, the first female in U.S. history to command in combat at the strategic level, speaks to CFB Borden officers, Monday morning.

satisfied with good."

"Show emotions, but don't be emotional," and "challenges are an opportunity to excel" were some of the other snippets Halstead left with those in attendance.

"Her knowledge, experience and her reflection has created a great deal of wisdom," said Dr. Liz Anderson-Peacock, a local motivational speaker, author and coach who has been involved in mutual speaking

engagements recently. "We've had the opportunity to share visions over the last year. She puts a face on the military and what they do."

Halstead will take part in Visionary Leadership — a VIP Evening with General Halstead, on March 1 at Georgian College. Proceeds from that event will go towards Operation Hero, a Georgian College scholarship program for the children and spouses of military personnel.

On March 2, she will be a special guest speaker at the college beginning at 8:30 a.m. as part of the Girls Gals Gurus' (GGG) Energize, Engage, Empower speaker series. A silent auction there will also go towards Operation Hero.

GGG provides speakers and resources to organizations to help inspire women to discover their fullest potential.

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