Billy Bishop Museum's 2026 Honouring Our Local Veterans

Sergeant Witold Lason
The Royal Canadian Regiment

Family Life

Witold Lason was born on April 3, 1984, in Łódź, Poland to Olga Gorecka and Radoslaw Lason. He spent his early childhood in Poland, where he attended elementary school before moving to Canada with his family at the age of eleven. Moving to Canada for better opportunities, the family eventually settled in the Toronto area.

As a youth, Witold was exposed to outdoor activities through his parents' involvement in scouting organizations in Poland. He spent many summers participating in sailing programs and camps, developing skills and interests that would remain useful throughout his life. After arriving in Canada, he became involved in competitive soccer and continued pursuing sailing with his family.

Prior to joining the Canadian Armed Forces, Witold worked several jobs. From 2002 to 2003, he was employed as a mover, then a gas station attendant from 2003 to 2004. These early employment experiences helped him develop a strong work ethic before beginning his military career in 2004.

Since retiring from the Canadian Armed Forces, he has worked for General Dynamics as a Trainer Operator of Chassis and Weapons.

Witold is married to Angela Lason, and they have two children, Olivia and Justin. Throughout his military service and civilian life, family has remained a significant part of his identity. As a member of the Canadian Veteran Freedom Riders, he rides a 2020 Harley-Davidson Street Bob.

Decorations

- General Campaign Star - South-West Asia
- Canadian Forces' Decoration

Military Service

Sergeant Lason joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 2004 and served with the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR). Throughout his service, Lason achieved a variety of military qualifications, including Reconnaissance, C6 Gunner, Signaller, Instructor, LAV III and LAV VI Gunner, and Remote Weapon System courses. His reconnaissance training was particularly demanding, requiring both physical endurance and strong navigation and observation skills. As he advanced through the ranks, he completed leadership training that prepared him to lead soldiers, plan operations, and conduct instruction within his unit.

One of the most significant experiences of his career was his deployment to Afghanistan from 2008 to 2009. As the battalion was switching to a mechanized unit, Lason had a two year long training period before deployment. He was deployed with 3rd Battalion, RCR, as the first platoon of the battle group to deploy, stationed in FOB Wilson. Serving primarily as a C6 gunner and a member of the Quick Reaction Force (QRF), he participated in patrols, convoy escorts, rapid-response operations, and security for engineering projects (namely a police station). He also assisted medics during field operations when required after completing the Tactical Casualty Care Course.

In 2018, Lason was posted to 1st Battalion, RCR and participated in training exercise in Nunavut, as a Section Commander. The exercise was focused on Canada's Arctic sovereignty and cold-weather operations.

He retired from the Canadian Armed Forces on November 7, 2025.

During a recent interview, Witold joked, "I took a wrong turn to college and ended up doing 21 years in the infantry."

He values education as much as he does his experience serving in the Canadian Armed Forces: "As an immigrant to Canada, it was my honour and privilege to serve with Canada's best. People make the best of this job by having a positive attitude. Experiance is a great teacher and it is a leader's responsibility to use it to teach and develop the next generation of Canadian soldiers."