

Heather Murphy is Director of Air Procurement at Canada's Defence Investment Agency (DIA), where she is responsible for the procurement and delivery of major aerospace, uncrewed systems, and defence modernization initiatives in support of the Canadian Armed Forces. In this role, Heather leads complex acquisitions and works closely with industry, government, and defence stakeholders to accelerate the delivery of operational capability to Canada.

Heather currently provides executive leadership for the Defence Drone Initiative (DDI), a national effort focused on rapidly identifying, testing, and procuring innovative drone and counter-drone capabilities. Through DDI, she works closely with Canadian industry, academia, allied partners, and defence stakeholders to accelerate the adoption of emerging technologies and strengthen Canada's defence innovation ecosystem.

With more than 15 years of experience in federal procurement and defence acquisition, Heather has led major procurement and commercial initiatives supporting defence, aerospace, research and development, and emerging technologies. Her expertise includes procurement strategy, major project delivery, industry engagement, and commercial negotiations for complex defence capabilities.

In addition to DDI, Heather leads procurement activities for a diverse portfolio of air capability initiatives, including Future Fighter Lead-In Training (FFLIT), the Airlift Capability Project - Multi-role Flight Service (ACP-MFS), Fixed-Wing Search and Rescue (FWSAR), and other aerospace modernization projects.

Heather holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) and a Master of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Ottawa.