

Prior to entering the world of provincial politics as the MLA for St. Norbert from 2016 till 2019 and currently re-elected as the MLA for Waverley in 2019, Manitoba's Special Envoy for Military Affairs Minister Jon Reyes served in the Canadian Forces for a combined 10 years in both the Communication Reserves and the regular force with the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN).

Minister Reyes' military career began in 1990 with 735 Communication Regiment at Minto Armouries in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In March of 1993, Mr. Reyes would be stationed in CFB Lahr -Germany to assist with base closure. For his service in Germany, Minister Reyes would be awarded the Special Service Medal (NATO).

Upon his return to Canada in September 1993, he would transfer over to the regular force with the Royal Canadian Navy and go through basic military training at CFB Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. After completion of his training, he would be posted to the Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) Winnipeg from 1994 – 1999.

During his 5 years of service on the HMCS Winnipeg, Minister Reyes would be on deployments that took him to countries such as Aruba, Panama, Mexico, United States, Japan, Korea, Russia, Hawaii, Peru, Chile and Ecuador.

In his final posting, he would end his career in 2000 as an instructor at Canadian Forces Fleet School Esquimalt (now CFFS Pacific) at CFB Esquimalt.

Between the end of his 10 years in the Canadian Forces and up into this point of serving the people as an MLA, Minister Reyes would go on to pursue his Business Degree from Royal Roads University. He would then go on to running 2 small businesses and in business for 14 years. He is the founder and past president of the Manitoba Filipino Business Council. Minister Reyes served on the Board of Directors with the Kidney Foundation of Canada – Manitoba Branch and was a committee member with the RCMP's Commanding Officer's Diversity Committee. He is also a member of the Manitoba Football Officials Association as an amateur tackle football official as well as a former member of the Canadian Football League's support officials crew.

In July 2021, Honourable Jon Reyes was appointed as Minister of Economic Development and Jobs.

Mr. Reyes is happily married to his wife Cynthia and they have 2 children, daughter Reyna and son Miguel.