



## **Mike O'Shea**

Mike is a member of the Canadian Football Hall of Fame having been inducted in 2017. He is the second leading defensive tackler in CFL history with 1,154 tackles and its leading Canadian-born tackler.

Mike began his career in 1993 with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. He spent until the conclusion of the 1995 season in Steel Town and then tried out with the Detroit Lions of the NFL for the 1996 season. He was one of the last cuts of the Lions, which is the CFL's gain. He then signed on with the Toronto Argonauts and played there from 1996 to 1999. In 1999, Mike was named the CFL's Most Outstanding Canadian Player. He returned to Hamilton for the 2000 season and then it was back down the QEW Highway to Toronto where he has remained until his playing career ended after the 2008 season.

Mike was named the middle linebacker on the Toronto Argonauts all-time team. (Note that the Argonauts were founded in 1873 making them the oldest football club, and one of the oldest sports franchises, in all of North America.) Mike has won the Grey Cup three times as a player in 1996, 1997 and 2004, all with the Argos. He has been an Eastern Division All-Star 5 times and a Canadian All-Star once. In his career, he recorded 11 fumble recoveries, forced 25 fumbles, intercepted 22 passes and sacked the quarterback 30 times.

After his playing career ended, O'Shea became special teams co-ordinator with the Argos and won another Grey Cup with the Club in 2012. Mike has been the head coach of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers since 2014.

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