



CANADIAN GLOBAL AFFAIRS INSTITUTE
INSTITUT CANADIEN DES AFFAIRES MONDIALES

North Pacific Defence Cooperation

29 September 2026

KPMG - 150 Elgin St Ste
1800



- 8 h 45** ● **WELCOME REMARKS**
Dr. David Perry, Canadian Global Affairs Institute
- 9 h 00** ● **OPENING KEYNOTE**
Lieutenant-General Derek Macaulay, Canada's Senior Military Representative to the Indo-Pacific (SMR-IP)
- 9 h 35** ● **Panel I: Strengthening Cybersecurity Cooperation**

Moderator: **Vina Nadjibulla**, Founder and CEO, Centre for Strategic Statecraft
- **Dr. Jeehye Kim**, Senior Program Manager, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
 - **MGen Dave Yarker**, Commander, Canadian Cyber Command
- 10 h 20** ● **BREAK**
- 10 h 50** ● **Panel II: AI, Space, and Emerging Technologies**

Moderator: **Dr. Alex Wilner**, Professor, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University
- **Dr. Alex Salt**, Senior Researcher, Canadian Global Affairs Institute
 - **Giovanni D'Aliesio**, Senior Director Business Development, MDA Space
 - **Ray Townsend**, Canadian Public Sector Lead, Cohere
- 11 h 40** ● **KEYNOTE**

• **Hideaki Ishii**, Chargé d'affaires, Embassy of Japan to Canada



1 2 h 1 0 ● **LUNCH**

1 3 h 4 0 ● **Panel III: Partnerships for Maritime Security**

Moderator: **Charlotte Duval-Lantoine**, Vice President Ottawa Operations, Canadian Global Affairs Institute

- **Clare Helene McKendry**, PhD Candidate, University of Waterloo
- **Joffre Leblanc**, Deputy Director (Indo-Pacific, Middle East and Africa), Security and Defence Relations Division, Global Affairs Canada
- **Cpt (N) Robert Watt**, Director Naval Strategy, Royal Canadian Navy

1 4 h 2 5 ● **BREAK**

1 5 h 0 5 ● **Panel IV: Growing Defence Industry Collaboration**

Moderator: **Dr. David Perry**, President and CEO, Canadian Global Affairs Institute

- **Dr. Julie Kim**, Korea Post-Doctoral Fellow, Canadian Global Affairs Institute
- **Daniel Lauzon**, Head of Global Public Policy, CAE

1 5 h 5 0 ● **CLOSING REMARKS**



DR. DAVID PERRY

President and CEO

Canadian Global Affairs Institute

Dr. David Perry is the President of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, host of the institute's Defence Deconstructed Podcast, and a co-director of the Triple Helix MINDs Collaborate Network. He is the author of multiple publications related to defence budgeting, transformation and procurement and a columnist for the Canadian Naval Review.

He received his PhD in political science from Carleton University where his dissertation examined the link between defence budgeting and defence procurement. He is an adjunct professor at the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies at the University of Calgary and a research fellow of the Centre for the Study of Security and Development at Dalhousie University.



He was previously the Senior Security and Defence Analyst of the Conference of Defence Associations Institute and Deputy Director of Dalhousie University's Centre for Foreign Policy Studies. Embassy Magazine and The Hill Times has named him one of the "Top 100 Influencing Canadian Foreign Policy."

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL D.A. MACAULAY, CMM, MSM, CD

*Canada's Senior Military
Representative to the Indo-Pacific*

The Canadian Armed Forces

Lieutenant-General Derek (Max) Macaulay has served Canada for more than 30 years in a range of command, operational, and strategic leadership appointments across the Canadian Armed Forces and within multinational organizations. In his current role as Senior Military Representative – Indo-Pacific, he advances Canada's defence relationships and strategic objectives across the Indo-Pacific region, supporting regional stability, interoperability, and cooperation with allies and partners.

An Armour Officer from Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), Lieutenant-General Macaulay has held numerous leadership and staff appointments throughout his career. His command experience includes The Strathconas and the 5th Canadian Division (Mighty Maroon Machine).



Throughout his career, Lieutenant-General Macaulay has contributed to strengthening Canada's defence partnerships, reinforcing collective deterrence, and advocating for international law and regional stability. His experience spans NATO operations, coalition activities, and domestic operations, reflecting a sustained commitment to operational excellence, strategic cooperation, and international engagement. He holds master's degrees from the Royal Military College of Canada and the United States Army War College.



MR. HIDEAKI ISHII

Deputy head of Mission

Embassy of Japan in Canada

Mr. Hideaki Ishii is a Japanese diplomat currently serving as Minister and Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Japan in Canada. He has built a distinguished career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, specializing in international affairs, security policy, diplomacy, and public engagement.

Mr. Ishii graduated from the Faculty of Law at the University of Tokyo and joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in 1999. Early in his career, he served in the Second North America Division of the North America Bureau, where he gained experience in Japan–North America relations. He later pursued advanced studies at Georgetown University, earning a Master of Science in Foreign Service.



Throughout his diplomatic career, Mr. Ishii has held a variety of positions in Japan and abroad. His overseas assignments include serving as Second Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines, as well as Counsellor in the Political Sections of the Embassies of Japan in Russia and Australia. Within the Japanese government, he has contributed to a broad range of portfolios, including international affairs, financial policy, Oceania affairs, overseas establishment management, arms control and disarmament, European policy, non-proliferation, science and nuclear energy, and public diplomacy strategy.



JEEHYE KIM

Senior Program Manager, Northeast Asia

Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada



Dr. Jeehye Kim is the Senior Program Manager of Northeast Asia at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, and oversees the research program related to Japan, Mongolia, North and South Korea, and Taiwan.

She has a PhD in Government from Harvard University, specializing in International Relations. Prior to joining the APF Canada, she was a postdoctoral fellow and Director of the Centre for Korean Research at the University of British Columbia.



MAJOR-GENERAL DAVE YARKER

Department of National Defence

Major General (MGen) Dave Yarker joined the Canadian Forces in 1989, graduating from the Royal Military College of Canada (RMC) Kingston in 1993. Following completion of Graduate studies and Signals officer Training in 1996 he served with 2 Bde as a Signals Officer in both 427 Tactical Helicopter Squadron and 2 Combat Engineer Regiment.

He has been employed as staff in project management, joint, operational and strategic communications planning and deployed as the Canadian J6 to both Kosovo and Afghanistan. He has had the honour of command at 2 Canadian Mechanised Brigade Group Headquarters and Signals Squadron, the Canadian Forces Network Operations Centre, and the Canadian Forces Information Operations Group.



Since 2010, he has had the good fortune to have been employed in the cyber operations field, commanding at Unit and Formation levels as well as holding key staff and liaison positions including with United States Cyber Command and Canada's Communications Security Establishment.

In 2022, he was then appointed as Director General Information Management Operations and the Joint Force Cyber Component Commander which became the Director General Cyber and Command and Control Information System Operation in 2024.



VINA NADJIBULLA

Fellow

Canadian Global Affairs Institute

Vina Nadjibulla is a fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. Vina has more than two decades of experience in international relations, diplomacy and policymaking. Her work focuses on Canadian foreign policy, economic security, great-power competition, emerging technologies, and Canada's relationships with China, India, and the wider Indo-Pacific.

She is a Co-Founder and CEO of the Centre for Strategic Statecraft, where she is building a new independent, nonpartisan policy institution to strengthen Canada's capacity to think and act strategically in a more competitive and uncertain world.

Previously, Vina has served as Vice-President, Research & Strategy at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, where she led the Foundation's research, policy agenda, and programs and strategic partnerships focused on Canada's engagement with Asia and the Indo-Pacific.



Vina is also a Balsillie Scholar at the Balsillie School of International Affairs, Senior Research Fellow at The Soutan Center, and contributing writer for Policy Magazine.

She regularly writes and speaks on international affairs and has appeared on CNBC, Deutsche Welle, CBC, CNA, Al Jazeera, and other Canadian and international media outlets.

Born in the Soviet Union, raised in Afghanistan, and educated in the United States, Vina is proud to call Canada home.



DR. ALEXANDER SALT

Fellow

Canadian Global Affairs Institute

Dr. Salt is a senior researcher and a fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute



Dr. Salt has a PhD from the University of Calgary's Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies and an MA in Political Studies from the University of Manitoba. His dissertation explores to what extent has the battlefield experience of the U.S. military influenced post-war organizational innovation. His research has been awarded the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Joseph-Armand Bombardier Doctoral Award, as well as a General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. Memorial Dissertation Fellowship.

He has published research relating to international security and defence policy with *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Military and Strategic Studies*, *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*, and *The Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security, and Society*. Previously, he was a Visiting Political Science Instructor with Macalester College and has also held positions with the Centre for Defence and Security Studies, as well as the Consulate General of Canada in Dallas, Texas, and the Consulate General of Canada in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



GIOVANNI D'ALIESIO

Senior Director Business Development

MDA Space

Giovanni D'Aliesio joined MDA in 1999 as a Digital Engineer. During his first decade with MDA, Mr. D'Aliesio worked on many of the electronics designs on Canada's flagship space programs. From PCB and FPGA design to lead unit engineer, Mr. D'Aliesio was involved in the end-to-end electronics design cycle from design and qualification to testing and in-orbit operations. Over the last 13 years he has worked in the front end of the business as Product Development Manager, Director of New Business and currently as the Director of Business Development.

During his time as an engineer, Giovanni worked primarily on electronic units for the International Space Station. He has lead projects for the Special Purpose Dexterous Manipulator (SPDM), Space Station Remote Manipulator System (Canadarm2), Robotics Workstation (RWS), Microgravity Vibration Isolation System (MVIS), as well as the S-band (ACRFG) and Ku-band (SGANT) communication systems.



In 2011, Mr. D'Aliesio became the Electronics Product Manager responsible for generating new business in the space electronics market and developing solutions to customers' electronics needs. During this time, Giovanni was also responsible for managing electronics R&D projects and overseeing the development of new electronic products in order to meet advancements in customer requirements. As a result, MDA developed key technologies in avionics, digital signal processing and motor control which enabled many key missions and customers from around the globe. In 2019, Mr. D'Aliesio became the Director of New Business, Electronics, responsible for the front end of the business for all electronics bids and proposals.

RAY TOWNSEND

Canadian Public Sector Lead

Cohere

Ray Townsend is the Canadian Public Sector Lead at Cohere. Previously he served as the Growth Head of Strategy at Lockheed Martin, bringing expertise in strategic planning and operational leadership within the aerospace and defence sectors.

At Lockheed Martin, he also served as Chief of Operations (Canada), contributing to operational efficiency and resource management. His background reflects a strong focus on military leadership and air operations, cultivated through extensive experience in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

Within the CAF, Ray served as Director of Air Readiness RCAF, overseeing air operations and readiness protocols. Earlier, he held the role of Commanding Officer, demonstrating leadership competencies in managing personnel and resources. His tenure with the CAF also included service as an RCAF Pilot.



Ray's academic background includes a Master of Arts from the Royal Military College of Canada/Collège militaire royal du Canada, a Bachelor of Science from Université Laval / Laval University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Royal Military College of Canada/Collège militaire royal du Canada.



ALEX WILNER

Fellow

Canadian Global Affairs Institute

Dr. Alex Wilner is an Associate Professor at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) and the Director of the Infrastructure Protection and International Security (IPIS) graduate program, at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

He is a leading scholar of contemporary deterrence theory and practice. His research – which explores the nexus between deterrence theory and emerging security considerations, domains, and environments. Among his over two dozen journal publications, his articles on the subject of deterring terrorism and cyber/AI deterrence have been published in top-ranked IR journals, including *International Security*, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, *Security Studies*, and *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*.

He is also Co-director of Triple Helix, a Department of National Defence MINDS-funded Network jointly run with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute.



Since joining NPSIA in 2015, his broader scholarship has been awarded over \$2.2M (CAD) in research funding. His current projects include an assessment of how deepfake technologies serve as tools of statecraft, strategic communication, and coercion; the manner in which AI shapes, informs, and influences deterrence in contemporary conflict; surveys of Canadian attitudes towards national defence and civil service; and empirical evaluations of strategic foresight within Canadian public, defence, and intelligence policy and decision-making.



CLARE MCKENDRY

PhD Candidate

University of Waterloo

Clare Helene McKendry is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Political Science at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and a former Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute for National Defence and Security Research (INDSR) in Taipei, Taiwan.

Her dissertation focuses on the evolution of Taiwan's policy in the South China Sea disputes. With a focus on the Indo-Pacific as an emerging professional in international affairs and defense policy, she writes extensively on China's use of maritime infrastructure as a grey-zone tactic, autocratic regimes' use of shadow fleets, and cross-Strait relations.

Elsewhere, she has published with the Canadian Network for Research on Security, Extremism, and Society (CANSES) on researcher safety and research trauma recommendations for universities, supervisors, and researchers.



Currently on a year's long co-op term working under a Senior Defence Scientist on defence and security issues related to China and Indo-Pacific affairs based on DND/CAF priorities.

She holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's in Political Science.



JOFFRE LEBLANC

Deputy Director for the Indo-Pacific and Middle East

Global Affairs Canada

Joffre LeBlanc is Deputy Director for the Indo-Pacific and Middle East with Global Affairs Canada's Regional Security and Defence Relations Division, where he leads efforts to strengthen Canada's defence and security partnerships across the Indo-Pacific and provides strategic advice on regional security and geopolitical affairs.



Since joining GAC in 2008, he has served in a range of foreign policy, security, and crisis response roles, including diplomatic assignments in Qatar and Afghanistan. He holds a Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management, specializing in International Studies, from Carleton University.



CAPTAIN ROBERT WATT

Director of Naval Strategy

Royal Canadian Navy

Captain (Navy) Watt joined the Regular Force as an officer cadet in 1986, graduating from Royal Roads Military College in Victoria in 1990. Upon successful completion of Naval officer training he volunteered for Submarine service, and served in the Oberon-class submarines ONONDAGA, OJIBWA, and OKANAGAN from 1991 to 1994. He successfully challenged the Clearance Diving preliminary course in 1994 and was selected for training as an EOD Diving Officer, graduating in 1995.

In 2007 he was appointed Commanding Officer of Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific), and served two years during a busy period of international training commitments, as well as security preparations for the Vancouver Winter Olympics. From 2009 to 2010 he was deployed to Afghanistan as part of the ISAF Counter-Improvised Explosive Device team, leading four teams carrying out counter-IED network operations throughout the country.

Capt(N) Watt was promoted to his current rank in 2021 and served as Canadian Defence Attaché in Tokyo from 2022-2025. He is assumed his current position as RCN Director of Naval Strategy in 2025.



Upon his return to Canada he served with the Counter-IED Task Force at National Defence HQ, and then completed the year-long Joint Command and Staff Programme at Canadian Forces College in Toronto. In 2014 he was selected to return to the Fleet and assumed Command of the guided-missile destroyer HMCS IROQUOIS. In 2015, he was posted to South Korea, serving for three years as Chief of Staff of UNCMAC, monitoring the Demilitarized Zone and the 1953 Korean Armistice. While serving there in 2016 he was selected by UN Command to be the first Allied officer to conduct direct negotiations with North Korean military officials in over four years. Following his deployment to Korea, he returned to Canada and assumed duties as the Asian Pacific and Latin America region J3 at the Canadian Joint Operations Command in Ottawa



CHARLOTTE DUVAL-LANTOINE

VP Ottawa Operations

Canadian Global Affairs Institute

Charlotte is the Vice President, Ottawa Operations and a Fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, as well as Triple Helix's Executive Director and Gender Advisor. She is also a PhD Candidate at Deakin University, researching Canadian army culture during the 1990s and its influence on operations.

She published her MA research on toxic leadership and gender integration in the Canadian military in 2022. The resulting book, *The Ones We Let Down*, was named among *The Hill Times'* Best Books of 2022.

For her work, Charlotte was recognized as a 2022 Women in Defence and Security Emerging Leader,



received the CDA Institute's 2024 Captain Nichola Goddard Award, was listed amongst the 20 in their 20s by Women in Defence and Security, and was awarded a King Charles III Coronation Medal.

She regularly participates in consultation organized by the Department of National Defence and has given talks to various military institutions in Canada, the U.S., and Australia.



JULIE KIM

Fellow

**The Canadian Global Affairs
Institute**

Dr. Julie (Jung-eun) Kim is a Post-Doctoral Fellow leading the Korea Program at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute (CGAI) and a Country Expert on North Korea for the Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI). She received a PhD in Political Science from Heidelberg University as a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) scholar. Her dissertation explores the social control system and autocratic regime stability in North Korea. She has a Master of Arts in North Korean Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in German Language and Literature from Ewha Womans University.



Julie has previously worked as a Research Intern at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and a Global Asia Fellow at the East Asia Foundation. She has published various articles and a book chapter, including in the Journal of East Asian Studies, BTI Country Report – North Korea, and Global Asia. Her research interests include authoritarian regimes, geopolitics with a regional focus on the Korean Peninsula, and Canada-Korea defence cooperation.

DANIEL LAUZON

Vice-President, Global Public Policy

CAE INC

Daniel Lauzon is the Vice - President, Global Public Policy , responsible for leveraging CAE 's international footprint as it develops and executes strategic plans for business development, communications, and advocacy. He is responsible for overseeing engagement efforts, building relationships with stakeholders and contributes to the identification and mitigation of political and geopolitical risk to the business. As such, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian American Business Council and Vice - Chair of the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada .

Daniel joined CAE in 2022 after a 20 - year career in public service, including as Chief of Staff to Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Economic Development, Director of Communications to the Minister of Finance , and National Campaign Director of Communications and Policy for Canada's Prime Minister.



Daniel holds undergraduate degrees in Communications and Political Science as well as a Masters in International and Comparative Politics from the University of Ottawa. He makes his home in Ottawa with his spouse and two wonderful and (very) busy children