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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Canadian ASW in the Future Strategic Environment

JUNE 2023



CANADIAN GLOBAL AFFAIRS INSTITUTE
INSTITUT CANADIEN DES AFFAIRES MONDIALES

Making sense of our complex world.

PROGRAM

07:45 - 08:30 Registration and Coffee

08:30 - 09:00 Keynote: How Does ASW feature in the CAF's future?

Gen Wayne Eyre, Canadian Chief of the Defence Staff

09:05 - 09:50 ASW: What is the Problem?

Moderator: Dr. Timothy Choi, CGAI

- Jennifer Parker, ASPI
- Dr. Rebecca Pincus, The Wilson Center
- Capt (N) John Strunk, U.S. Navy

09:50 - 10:20 Break – brought to you by Vancouver Shipyards

10:20 - 11:05 How Can Digital Transformation and New Technology Enhance ASW?

Moderator: Julia Scouten, Women in Defence and Security

- Warren Connors, Defence Research and Development Canada
- Capt (N) (ret'd) Lloyd Hewitt, Microsoft
- VAdm (ret'd) Ron Lloyd, Accenture and CGAI

11:10-11:50 What Are We Already Doing Operationally?

Moderator: Prof. Rob Huebert, University of Calgary and CGAI

- MGen Iain Huddleston, Royal Canadian Air Force
- RAdm Brian Santarpia, Royal Canadian Navy

11:50-13:00 Lunch – brought to you by IMP Aerospace & Defence

12:20-12:50 How Will ASW Shape the Future of the RCN?

VAdm Angus Topshee, Commander, Royal Canadian Navy

PROGRAM

13:00 - 13:45 **How Can Canada Leverage International Industry Expertise?**
Moderator: Dr. David Perry, CGAI

- Cmdre (ret'd) Jamie Clarke, Lockheed Martin Canada
- Cmdre (ret'd) Mike Knott, BAE Systems
- MGen (ret'd) Michel Lalumiere, General Atomics

13:50 - 14:45 **What Does the CAF's ASW Future Look Like?**
Moderator: Prof. Rob Huebert, University of Calgary and CGAI

- Capt (N) Blair Brown, Royal Canadian Navy
- Dr. Michel Couillard, Defence Research and Development Canada
- Col Peter Saunders, Royal Canadian Air Force

14:45 - 15:15 **Break** – *brought to you by Bombardier*

15:15 - 15:55 **How Do We Work Best With Allies?**
Moderator: VAdm (ret'd) Mark Norman, CGAI

- Gp Capt Richard Berry, Royal Air Force
- Cmdre Micheal Jacobson, Australian Navy

15:55 - 16:15 **Break**

16:15 - 17:10 **How Can Canada Best Leverage Canadian Industry?**
Moderator: Dr. David Perry, CGAI

- RAdm (ret'd) Chris Earl, Seaspan
- Col (ret'd) Jason Kenny, IMPAAD
- Col (ret'd) Jeff Tasseron, CAE
- Col (ret'd) Patrick Thauberger, General Dynamics – Mission Systems

17:10- 19:00 **Reception** – *brought to you by CAE*

Event Master of Ceremony

Dr. David Perry is the President of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. He is the host of the weekly Defence Deconstructed podcast and author of multiple publications related to defence budgeting, transformation and procurement. He is also 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."

Morning Keynote: How Does ASW Feature in the CAF's Future?

Gen Wayne Eyre joined Army Cadets at age 12 and has been in uniform ever since. Gen Eyre attended Royal Roads Military College (RRMC) Victoria and Royal Military College of Canada (RMC) Kingston. Upon commissioning in 1988 he joined Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, and has had the great privilege of spending the majority of his career in command or deputy command positions, including commanding 3rd Battalion PPCLI, 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, 3rd Canadian Division and Joint Task Force West, Deputy Commanding General – Operations for XVIII (US) Airborne Corps, Deputy Commander Military Personnel Command, Deputy Commander United Nations Command in Korea, and for a short time Commander of Military Personnel Command. He became Commander Canadian Army on 20 August 2019 and was appointed as Acting Chief of the Defence Staff on 24 February 2021. General Eyre was appointed Chief of the Defence Staff on 25 November 2021. His decorations include the Order of Military Merit in the rank of Commander, the Meritorious Service Cross, the Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation, the Chief of Defence Staff Commendation, the Order of National Security Merit from South Korea and was three times awarded the U.S. Legion of Merit, including at the rank of Commander.

Lunch Keynote: How Will ASW Shape the Future of the RCN?

VAdm Angus Topshee is the 38th Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy. VAdm Topshee joined his first ship, HMCS Winnipeg, in 1997. He completed a succession of very rewarding tours and operational deployments as a Navigating Officer, Operations Officer, and Combat Officer on Canada's Pacific coast. In 2005, he attended the "NSC 10" course at the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, after which he was appointed Executive Officer (XO) of HMCS St. John's in 2006 and then HMCS Toronto in July 2007. In July 2009, he was given command of HMCS Algonquin and served on Op Podium (security for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics), and Op Pacific Amistad (a five-month deployment in the Central and Western Pacific). He served in Afghanistan as part of the NATO Training Mission where he spent a year based in Kabul as the Director of Afghan National Police Training Operations. His other roles included Deputy Director of the Strategy, Policy and Plans Directorate at NORAD and USNORTHCOM, Command of Canadian Fleet Pacific, and Command of Maritime Forces Pacific and Joint Task Force Pacific.

ASW: What is the Problem?

Jennifer Parker is the Deputy Director Defence of ASPI's Defence, Strategy and National Security program. Jennifer has served for more than 20 years with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). During her time in the RAN Jennifer specialised as a Principal Warfare Officer, including undertaking deep specialist training with the Royal Navy in Anti-Submarine Warfare. Jennifer has extensive operational experience from the Middle East to the Caribbean, and most areas in between. She has undertaken a series of naval appointments nationally and internationally in areas including force design strategy, career management, international exercise planning and operations. That included service as an exchange officer with the Royal Navy. Before joining ASPI, Jennifer's last appointment in the RAN was as Director of Operations in Bahrain of the Combined Maritime Forces, a 38-nation coalition promoting national security in the Middle East and Indian Ocean region.

Dr. Rebecca Pincus is Director of the Polar Institute at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC. Previously, she was on the faculty at the US Naval War College, in the Center for Naval Warfare Studies, where her research focused on Arctic security and geopolitics. She also worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy, as Arctic and Climate Strategy Advisor. In 2015, she was a Fulbright Fellow in Iceland, conducting research on Arctic small states and security. She also worked on polar strategy and policy issues for the US Coast Guard, at its Center for Arctic Study and Policy, and served on the faculty at the US Coast Guard Academy. She is currently a contributing author for the 5th National Climate Assessment. She has testified before Congress and the US-China Commission on security and defense in the polar regions, and her research has been published widely in peer-reviewed and popular outlets.

Capt (N) John Strunk is the Director of Maritime Operations, COMSUBGRU Two. His tours at sea included as Commanding Officer of USS WYOMING (SSBN-742), the completion of five deterrent patrols on USS TENNESSEE (GOLD), and as Weapons Officer and Navigator on USS SPRINGFIELD. He served as Executive Officer of USS VIRGINIA from 2012 to 2014, completing a European Command deployment. Captain Strunk's shore duties include tours as Operations Officer at Submarine Squadron TWO, Executive Officer of Naval Submarine School, and Operations Officer for Commander, Submarine Forces Atlantic. Captain Strunk's personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He has served on three boats awarded the Navy's Battle Efficiency award.

Moderator: Dr. Timothy Choi holds a PhD from the University of Calgary's Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies. While working on his dissertation, he sailed with Danish and Norwegian patrol vessels to gain deeper insights into the tactical level of peacetime naval activities. He is a former Smith Richardson Predoctoral Fellow at Yale University, is a Research Fellow at the North American and Arctic Defence and Security Network and a Fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. He serves on the editorial board of and is the photo editor at the Canadian Naval Review. He was also recently a consultant for the British American Security Information Council. He has co-authored an article in the Journal of Strategic Studies with Adam Lajeunesse on Chinese submarine prospects in the Arctic, and has spoken on Canada's submarine history and prospects to DND.

How Can Digital Transformation and New Technology Enhance ASW?

Warren A. Connors started his career with MDA in Halifax, working in robotics and space systems. In 2007 he left industry and joined Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC), working in autonomy and perception for maritime robotic systems. In 2013, Warren was invited to join the NATO Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation in La Spezia, Italy, as a defence scientist leading efforts in naval mine countermeasures planning and evaluation, multi-agent autonomy and techniques for autonomous naval mine countermeasures until 2017. Upon his return, Warren was appointed as the group leader for the Mine Warfare group at DRDC Atlantic Research Centre, focused on the application of robotics to naval mine countermeasures. In 2021, Warren led formulation efforts within DRDC to develop a cross-domain autonomous systems program, which led to him being appointed as the section head of the Underwater Warfare Section at DRDC.

Capt (N) (ret'd) Lloyd Hewitt joined Microsoft in December 2020 following an extensive career in Defence, serving as a logistics specialist in both the Royal Navy and Royal Australian Navy. His early military career included a first sea draft to the Type 21 Frigate HMS AVENGER. Thereafter he volunteered for Service in Submarines, where during the tail-end of the Cold War (and at the height of sub-surface hostilities) he completed a host of patrols in the nuclear attack submarines SPLENDID, SCEPTRE and SPARTAN. On completion of his time at sea he served on the staff of Captain Submarine Sea Training, which included work-ups for the introduction into service of each of the UPHOLDER Class (now Victoria Class) submarines. Lloyd is the Director Business Strategy (Defense) for Microsoft's World Wide Public Sector (Defense & Intelligence) organization. He is charged with empowering militaries to improve operations and protect national security through ensuring a dedicated focus from Microsoft subsidiaries and Partners on Defense customers' unique needs, thought leadership across the sector and the spread of innovation and opportunities throughout the global network.

VAdm (ret'd) Ron Lloyd was the 35th Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy from 2016-2019. During that time he was also "double hatted" as the acting Vice Chief of the Defence Staff for almost half a year and as the first Chief Data Officer for the Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces for a full year. During his 38 year career in the RCN, he was privileged to have commanded HMCS CHARLOTTE-TOWN, HMCS ALGONQUIN, the Pacific Fleet and the Atlantic Fleet. He has extensive operational experience having deployed on numerous occasions globally. Lloyd has over a decade of experience at National Defence Headquarters having also served as the Deputy Commander of the RCN, Chief of Force Development, RCN Director General of Force Development, and Executive Assistant to the Commander of the RCN. He now serves as Strategic Advisor for Accenture.

Moderator: Julia Scouten is the President of Women in Defence and Security (WiDS) with a mandate to promote and support women in these fields. Through this volunteer role, the WiDS team holds events throughout the year to foster a community of support, create networking opportunities and recognize talent. Julia is also a military veteran, having served nearly 10 years, including a tour on a Navy ship to the Persian Gulf. When Julia is not volunteering, she works as the Director of the Joint Defence Cloud Program at the Department of National Defence.

What Are We Already Doing Operationally?

MGen Iain Huddleston enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1989, graduating with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from the Royal Military College in 1994. After completing wings training in 1995, he flew with both 415 Maritime Patrol and 404 Maritime Patrol and Training Squadron flying the CP-140 Aurora at 14 Wing Greenwood in Nova Scotia. In late 2002, he was posted on exchange with the Royal Air Force (RAF) in Scotland, where he flew the Nimrod MR2 with 206 and then CXX Squadron. Promoted to Major in 2003, MGen Huddleston deployed to the Middle East twice with the RAF, operating from Muscat, Oman and Basrah, Iraq in an Overland Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance role. Returning to Canada in August 2006, he was selected as aide-de-camp to the Chief of the Defence Staff, General (retired) Rick Hillier. In July 2022 MGen Huddleston assumed command of 1 Canadian Air Division in Winnipeg.

RAdm Brian Santarpia enrolled in the Canadian Forces, as a Naval Officer, in 1986. After completing his training, he served in a succession of operational postings at sea in Her Majesty's Canadian Ships and in numerous training billets, including as a Navigation Instructor, Head of the Warfare Training Division, Operations Officer of Sea Training Pacific, and in 2008, Commanding Officer of Sea Training Atlantic. His command appointments include HMCS ST JOHN'S, Sea Training Atlantic, Canadian Forces Base Halifax, Combined Task Force 150 in Bahrain, and in 2020, Maritime Forces Atlantic / Joint Task Force Atlantic. Additionally, he has filled several staff positions including Special Advisor to the Vice Chief of Defence Staff, Director General Navy Strategic Readiness, Chief of Staff to the Vice Chief of Defence Staff, Director General Plans at the Strategic Joint Staff and Chief of Staff in the Joint Operations Command.

Cmdre (ret'd) Kelly Williams served for a decade (2012 – 2022) as the Senior Director Strategy and Government Relations at General Dynamics Mission Systems - Canada after a 36 year career with the Royal Canadian Navy. In this role, Kelly was responsible for strategy development, planning and implementation as well as developing, managing and sustaining relationships with key stakeholders across government. Kelly also provided executive oversight for corporate communications and outreach. Kelly brought to these roles extensive operational experience gained from over 36 years of service with the Royal Canadian Navy, over 15 years of sea time - including two extended Persian Gulf deployments. Additionally, Kelly has also served internationally with the U.S. Navy and as the Canadian Defence Advisor to the Canadian High Commissioner in the United Kingdom.

How Can Canada Leverage International Industry Expertise?

Cmdre (ret'd) Jamie Clarke was a third generation Canadian Armed Forces member. His sea-going experience includes qualifying as a Bridge Watchkeeper aboard Canada's flag ship during the first Gulf War, navigating ships on both coasts and then finally, seeing the light and volunteering for service in submarines. Jamie's Command experience includes two submarines, a frigate, The Fourth Maritime Operations Group and the Canadian Submarine Force. Jamie is a graduate of the Canadian Forces College and the United States Naval War College's international Naval Command College. He retired from the Royal Canadian Navy after 34 and a half years of service in July 2021 and has been with Lockheed Martin since.

Cmdre (ret'd) Mike Knott joined BAE Systems as the Maritime Capability Advisor in March 2023, where he is responsible for providing informed future maritime capability advice as well representing the BAES Land & Maritime Sector. A former Royal Navy Commodore, Mike is a Navigator and Principal Warfare Officer by background and spent many years at sea on operations in a total of 14 warships including Minehunting and Patrol vessels, Frigates, Destroyers and an Aircraft Carrier. This included Command of the Patrol Vessel HMS SPEY and the Anti-submarine Warfare Frigate HMS PORTLAND. Most recently Mike spent 2 years as a Head of Future Business Development for the maritime technical consultancy BMT. Here Mike led the company's future business development for Defence in UK & Europe, which included forming and leading BMT's Global Maritime Autonomy campaign.

MGen (ret'd) Michel Lalumiere manages International Strategic Development for Canada at General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc. Lalumiere joined GA-ASI after 36 years of distinguished service in the Canadian Armed Forces. He led the Defence Space Program and Operations in the CAF, the procurement efforts in the Royal Canadian Air Force, and served as the Chief Fighter Capability in RCAF, retiring at the rank of Major-General. Mr. Lalumiere is a committed advocate for innovation in institutions, as well as within professions. He is Vice-Chair (Air & Space) of the Conference of Defence Associations (CDA).

Moderator: Dr. David Perry is the President of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. He is the host of the weekly Defence Deconstructed podcast and author of multiple publications related to defence budgeting, transformation and procurement. He is also 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."

What Does the CAF's ASW Future Look Like?

Capt (N) Blair Brown enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces Regular Officer Training Program in 1997, graduating from the Royal Military College in Kingston in 2001 with a degree in Civil Engineering. He joined the East Coast fleet of the Royal Canadian Navy the same year specializing in Above Water Warfare. Capt (N) Brown has alternated between operational and force development posts throughout his career. Surface ship commands have included HMCSs EDMONTON, PROTECTEUR, and FREDERICTON, while memorable shore posts include having been a member of the project staff for both the Halifax Class Modernization and Canadian Surface Combatant projects. Before assuming command of the Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre in May 2023, Capt (N) Brown served as the Director of Naval Requirements.

Dr. Michel Couillard is the Centre Director of the Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) Atlantic Research Centre (ARC). Dr. Couillard was previously Head of the Underwater Warfare Section at DRDC ARC. Before joining ARC, he was Acting Head of the DRDC Centre for Operational Research and Analysis Land and Operational Command Section in Ottawa. Prior to this assignment, he was Project Director under the DRDC All Domain Situational Awareness (ADSA) S&T Program where he led the ADSA stream of the 2016 DRDC Innovation Call for Proposals. He subsequently led a joint ADM(DRDC) and Public Services and Procurement Canada team to deliver the first Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS) Competitive Projects solicitation process. Dr. Couillard has received multiple awards, including the 2021 ADM(DRDC) Leadership Excellence Award and the 2018 DND Deputy Minister/Chief of Defence Staff Innovation Award.

Col Peter Saunders enrolled in the Canadian Forces in March 1990. Over the span of his somewhat atypical and discontinuous career, Col Saunders has enjoyed operational postings flying and instructing on Sea King Helicopters at 443 (MH) Sqn in Pat Bay, British Columbia; 423 (MH) Sqn, and 12 Wing Operations in Shearwater, Nova Scotia; culminating in Command of 406 (M) OTS. Throughout this period, he has served in HMCSs ANNAPOLIS, IROQUOI, FREDERICTON, and TORONTO and has deployed throughout the Middle East. Staff postings to date include two stints in the Career Management shop, the last being a two year sojourn as DMilC4. He also spent three years on a self-imposed educational posting (yes, self-posted) to the Chief of Programme office. For the past six years, Col Saunders has ensconced himself in the Air Staff responsible for the management and development of a number of contracted training solutions for the RCAF. In his current role, Col Saunders retains oversight of RCAF contracted training programs whilst standing up and leading the RCAF component of NORAD modernization.

Moderator: Prof. Rob Huebert is a professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Calgary. He also served as the associate director of the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies and, from 2010 to 2015, was a member of the Canadian Polar Commission (now renamed Canada Polar Knowledge) for a term lasting from 2010 to 2015. He is also a fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. His research interests include international relations, strategic studies, arctic security, sea power, the Law of the Sea, maritime affairs, Canadian foreign and defence policy, and circumpolar relations. He publishes on the issue of Canadian Arctic Security, Maritime Security, and Canadian Defence. His work has appeared in many scholarly, peer-reviewed journals, and he is the author, co-author, and co-editor of multiple books. He also comments on Canadian security and Arctic issues in both the Canadian and international media.

How Do We Work Best With Allies?

Gp Capt Richard Berry joined the RAF in 1994 and on completion of flying training he was posted to the Nimrod MR2 at RAF Kinloss, serving on 206 Squadron. During his first tour, he flew operational missions around the world in maritime and overland roles. Following a tour as a qualified flying instructor on the Tucano T1 at RAF Linton-on-Ouse, he returned to the Nimrod MR2 at RAF Kinloss as a flight commander on 120 ('CXX') Squadron. He then served at Air Command in operational planning for Ops TELIC and HERRICK before attending the Advanced Command and Staff Course at the Defence Academy and taking command of 45(Reserve) Squadron in 2011. After a tour in MOD Operations Directorate on the UK Operations Team, he served as the Programme Manager for the introduction to Service of the RAF's new Poseidon MRA Mk1 maritime patrol aircraft, before promotion to group captain in January 2020 when he became the Programme Director for both Poseidon and Wedgetail AEW Mk1 airborne early warning & control aircraft programmes. In March 2023, Berry was appointed as the Deputy Force Commander for the RAF's Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) Force, based at RAF Waddington.

Cmdre Micheal Jacobson joined the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in 1995. In 2000, Jacobson qualified as a submariner in HMA Submarine FARNCOMB before joining the commissioning crew of HMAS DECHANEUX as the Electronic Warfare Officer. Following his successful completion of the Submarine Warfare Officers Course in 2002, Jacobson undertook an exchange with the Canadian Navy to serve as the Navigator of HMCS VICTORIA for just under three years. During this period, he assisted with the conduct of class trials and change of homeport to Esquimalt. On his return to Australia, Jacobson assumed duties as the Operations Officer in both HMAS DECHANEUX and HMAS FARNCOMB. Jacobson was selected as an Executive Officer in 2010, serving as such in both HMAS COLLINS and HMAS FARNCOMB during which he was awarded the Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM). In 2023 Jacobson became Director Submarine Policy and Plans.

Moderator: VAdm (ret'd) Mark Norman retired from the Royal Canadian Navy in the rank of Vice-Admiral in August of 2019 after over 39 years of service. Norman started his naval service as a reserve diesel mechanic in 1980 and rose through the ranks to be the Vice-Chief of Defence. His military career has seen him serve at sea domestically and internationally, command a warship, the Canadian Atlantic Fleet, and ultimately the Royal Canadian Navy itself. He also has extensive experience in a variety of appointments training & educating sailors, leading operations, strategic planning and managing major procurement projects. Since retirement, Norman has applied his energy to a variety of pursuits including as Champion for the Royal Canadian Benevolent Fund, Senior Defence Strategist at Samuel Associates, contributing to the important debate about security and defence issues in Canada as both a fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute and as a member of the Conference of Defence Associations Board.

How Can Canada Best Leverage Canadian Industry?

RAdm (ret'd) Chris Earl is the Vice President, Project Delivery at Seaspan Victoria Shipyards. During his last four years in uniform, RAdm (ret'd) Earl served as the Chief Engineer of the Royal Canadian Navy and was appointed as the Chief of Staff (Material). During his tenure, RAdm(Ret'd) Earl led the Material group procurement and sustainment effort to support operations and the Government of Canada response during the COVID-19 pandemic and was recognized with a Vice Chief of Defence Staff commendation. Following 35 years of service to Canada, Chris joined Seaspan Shipyards in 2021 and assumed leadership of several important strategic initiatives for the company. In July 2022, he assumed his current role and has responsibility for all Naval maintenance programs and National Shipbuilding Strategy build support activities conducted at Victoria Shipyards.

Col (ret'd) Jason Kenny is the Director of Business Development for IMP Aerospace & Defence where he provides a focal point for IMP's activities in the Canadian defence sector. Jason joined IMP in 2019, after 26 years of distinguished service in the Canadian Armed Forces which included several leadership and command appointments. Jason's extensive RCAF background specialized in CP-140 Aurora operations across multiple leadership roles, culminating as the RCAF's Director of Air Requirements at the rank of Colonel. Highlights from his military career include selection for an exchange position with the Royal Australian Air Force, command of 407 Long-Range Patrol Squadron and appointment as Canada's Air Task Force Commander responsible for national air effects in the Middle East.

Col (ret'd) Jeff Tasseron is the Director of Strategic Growth & Acquisitions at CAE D&S Canada. A retired Naval Aviator and former RCAF Colonel, Jeff is trained as an Air Navigator and Tactical Coordinator. His extensive operational background includes deployed sea time with the Royal Canadian Navy, flying the CH-124 Sea King helicopter in antisubmarine and surface warfare roles. In addition to positions such as NATO Fleet Air Officer and 12 Wing Operations Officer, he commanded 423 Maritime Helicopter Squadron in Halifax. When not flying, Jeff held a variety of senior staff appointments during his 26-year career, including Director Canadian Forces Transformation, Director Joint C4ISR (Force Development), and as Special Advisor to Canada's Chief of Defence Staff. Upon retirement from the RCAF, Jeff worked for General Dynamics Mission Systems Canada, KPMG, and the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

Col (ret'd) Patrick Thauberger joined General Dynamics Mission Systems-Canada in 2019 following a 32-year career in the Royal Canadian Air Force, most notably as Wing Commander of 14 Wing Greenwood and leading Canada's Long Range Patrol Force. In addition to a suite of operational deployments over the course of his career, Col Thauberger held a variety of strategic level appointments, including posts in the staff of the Prime Minister's National Security and Intelligence Advisor, in the CAF Strategic Joint Staff, and in RCAF Strategic Plans, where he initiated the Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft concept. At GDMS-C, Mr Thauberger has led all aspects of the Aurora Program. Concurrently, he is the Director of the Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft program for GDMS-C.

Moderator: Dr. David Perry is the President of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. He is the host of the weekly Defence Deconstructed podcast and author of multiple publications related to defence budgeting, transformation and procurement. He is also a columnist for the Canadian Naval Review. 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."



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