

CANSEC 2018 Day 1 Breakfast

Opening Remarks

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May 30th, 2018 08:00, Ottawa, ON

Check Against Delivery

Honoured guests and dignitaries from nations abroad, honorables invités et dignitaires des pays voisins, Monsieur le Ministre Sajjan, Minister Sajjan, distinguished members of the Canadian Armed Forces, membres distingués des Forces armées canadiennes, Government Partners, partenaires du gouvernement, mesdames et messieurs, Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning. I am Christyn Cianfarani, President and CEO of CADSI - the Canadian Association of Defence and Security Industries- your host, and it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to CANSEC 2018. Je vous souhaite la bienvenue à CANSEC deux mille dix-huit 2018.

As I came into the building this morning, walking down the soon-to-be packed aisles of our trade show floor, I couldn't help but feel inspired and excited by our growth and potential as an industry. Someone in this room, out on that show floor, or working back home in your facility, is going to be part of the next big thing - the next Canadarm, the next Walkie Talkie, or the next "G" suit. Nous vivons un moment historique pour les Forces armées canadiennes et les industries de la défense et de la sécurité qui les soutiennent et leur fournit de l'équipement et des services. We are in the early stages of the opportunity of a generation which will shape the Canadian Armed Forces for years to come and our industry along with it.

You may recall last year's CANSEC when we celebrated a history of 100 years of defence innovation. Today, we celebrate the next 100 years.

With close to 35% of our jobs in STEM related fields, and a research and development intensity that is more than four times the national manufacturing average, and largely funded by you, industry, the future is bright.

The future is bright because we will make it bright, because we have the knowledge, technology, people and passion to make this country shine as a world leader in defence technology, products, services and skills and we have some of the most talented sailors, soldiers and airmen/and women to carry out the tasks our country sets out for them. Nous sommes dans ce projet ensemble. Nous voulons tous la même chose: un Canada plus sûr, un Canada plus fort.

Looking at all of this from our vantage point at CADSI, this, ladies and gentlemen, is the lens through which we see our bright future.

To the employees of our member companies who shared their stories with us to kick off My North, My Home - I believe that some of you are in this room. Thank you. Thank you for choosing to make this industry a part of your career, and for being so passionate about what you do and for agreeing to share that

with us.

Building a stronger and safer Canada really is all our duty, and a strong industry-government partnership will get us there. That's the reason why we were so pleased to see an innovative defence industry listed as a top five domestic priority in Strong, Secure, Engaged. And Minister Sajjan, we are ready to deliver.

Whether it's remote piloted vehicles, Surface Combatants or surveillance and reconnaissance systems, Canadian industry is up for the challenge, and our people have the skills to set our Armed Forces up for success.

Just as we will re-build and transform our Armed Forces and our industrial base together, so too have we built and transformed CANSEC together. Over the next two days it will be our absolute pleasure to be joined by our Minister of National Defence, Mr. Harjit Sajjan, Mr. Dominic Barton, Chair of the Minister of Finance's Advisory Council on Economic Growth, our Minister of Public Services and Procurement, Ms. Carla Qualtrough and our Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Mr. Navdeep Bains who will join me in conversation.

But it is not only about who comes to CANSEC - over 11,000 people, 5000 public servants, military and coast guard personnel, RCMP and policing forces, and on average 40 delegations from countries around the world - it is the investments you have made in your Association and this show that have brought us to where we are today. We are grateful to our member companies that lend their support towards making CANSEC such a great success. Significant support comes from CAE, our Platinum Sponsor. C'est la troisième année de leur commandite et le soutien de CAE a été essentiel à la croissance de CANSEC.

We are also pleased to have L3 Technologies join us this year as a Diamond Sponsor. I would also like to thank our Gold Sponsors: the Canadian Commercial Corporation, PAL Aerospace, Cougar Helicopters, and Lockheed Martin who is also our Evening Networking Reception Sponsor.

Lastly, to each and every one of our exhibitors - it has not gone unnoticed that you have invested in your exhibits this year. To participants and engaged members we thank you for coming and for sharing your thoughts with us so that we can support you better. Your success is our success.

Before I conclude, I would like to take a moment to recognize Mr. Michael Crockatt, the President and CEO of Ottawa Tourism who has joined us this morning. Michael, thank-you for your leadership in recognition of the contribution CANSEC brings to the city of Ottawa and its local economy.

I now invite everyone to begin their breakfast. At 8:30 Mr. Jake Trainor of PAL Aerospace, one of our sponsors of today's breakfast, will take the stage to introduce our first keynote speaker, Minister Sajjan.

Following the keynote address, we will welcome to the stage Mr. Jerry McLean from Thales Canada, our second breakfast sponsor to give a few words of appreciation.

Thank you. Merci beaucoup, and please enjoy your breakfasts.