

CANSEC 2017 Day 2 Breakfast

Remarks

June 1st, 2017 08:00, Ottawa, Ontario

Check Against Delivery

Honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Day 2 of CANSEC 2017. I am Christyn Cianfarani, President of CADSI. I would like to recognize our CANSEC Platinum sponsor, CAE, and the Gold sponsors, Canadian Commercial Corporation, PAL Aerospace and Lockheed Martin who was also our Evening Network Reception sponsor. I would also like to thank our breakfast sponsor Seaspan and our breakfast reception sponsor CLS Lexi-Tech.

I now invite everyone to please begin your breakfast. We have a packed program this morning which will start just before 8:30 and will include a keynote address by General Keith Alexander, CEO and President, IronNet Cybersecurity, former Commander, U.S. Cyber Command and former Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service. Following the address, Tim Page, Vice President of Government Relations at Seaspan, our breakfast sponsor this morning, will take the stage to thank our speaker. In addition, I will return to award this year's Paddy O'Donnell Award.

[BREAKFAST IS SERVED]

In this ever changing world, "cyber-threats" are not just stories for science fiction novels but real and present dangers requiring strong and fast cyber defence capabilities. It was with this in mind that we invited today's keynote speaker, a man very well versed in the complexities of securing a nation, General (Ret) Keith Alexander, CEO and President, IronNet Cybersecurity, former Commander, U.S. Cyber Command and former Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service.

At IronNet Cybersecurity, General Alexander provides strategic vision to corporate leaders on cybersecurity issues through development of cutting-edge technology, consulting and education/training. He is reinventing how industries mitigate cybersecurity threats with IronDefense, a patented solution designed to detect and alert on anomalous enterprise network behaviors through fine-tuned analytics. His goal is to bridge communication systems between private and government sectors to create the next level of intelligence sharing and protect the nation against cyber threats on a global stage.

General Alexander is a four-star general with an impressive 40-year military career, culminating in the role of Director of the National Security Agency (NSA) and Chief of the Central Security Service (CSS) from 2005- 2014. He holds the distinction of serving in this role longer than any other director. During this time, he was also appointed by Congress to be the first Commander to lead the U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) from 2010-2014, establishing and defining how the U.S. is protected against cyber attacks.

As Commander, USCYBERCOM, General Alexander was responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting operations, and defending Department of Defense computer networks--as well as the defense of the nation--from cyber threats. As the Director of NSA, he was responsible for national foreign intelligence requirements, military combat support, and the protection of U.S. national security information systems.

Prior to leading USCYBERCOM and the NSA/CSS, General Alexander served as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army; Commanding General of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command at Fort Belvoir, VA; and the Director of Intelligence, United States Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, FL., and the Deputy Director for Requirements, Capabilities, Assessments and Doctrine, J-2, on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Serving as a member of the President's Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity, General Alexander developed key recommendations to create a defensible national cyber architecture to protect national security by promoting rapid innovation and close public-private collaboration while preserving privacy and civil liberties.

General Alexander is the recipient of the 2016 United States Military Academy (USMA) Distinguished Graduate Award. He holds a Bachelor of Science from the U.S. Military Academy, as well an Master of Science in Business Administration from Boston University; an Master of Science in Systems Technology and an Master of Science in Physics from the Naval Post Graduate School; and an Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University.

Please join me in welcoming to the stage, General Keith Alexander.