

## **CANSEC 2017 Day 1 Breakfast**

Opening Remarks

May 31st, 2017 08:00, Ottawa, Ontario

### **Check Against Delivery**

Honored guests and dignitaries from nations abroad, Minister Sajjan, General Vance, distinguished members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Government Partners, Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning. I am Christyn Cianfarani, President of CADSI and it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to CANSEC 2017.

At this year's CANSEC we are marking two important milestones.

First, we are highlighting one hundred years of Canadian defence industrial innovations--from the battle of Vimy Ridge in the First World War to today. From Donald Hings's first Walkie Talkie; to Dr. Wilbur Frank's Anti Gravity Suit or "G" suit, the foundation technology for today's fighter pilot and astronaut pressure suits; to the Alouette satellite, which paved the way for Canada to become among the world's largest satellite providers.

Our rich technological history tells us that the Canadian defence industry has always been highly innovative. In typical Canadian fashion we seem to be understated about our many achievements. So this year we are highlighting some of those past achievements, in addition to showcasing your current innovations, to remind our guests just how innovative and leading-edge our industry has been and continues to be. Sur le Mur de l'innovation dans le lobby qui sera inauguré plus tard dans la matinée, et tout le long du couloir vers le kiosque d'inscription, vous verrez des images de certaines des importantes technologies et créations en matière de défense. Je m'en voudrais de ne pas mentionner que la recherche commanditée par le gouvernement a été la clé de notre réussite.

Second, this year marks the 20th anniversary of CANSEC. Both the industry and the show have come a long, long way in twenty years, and we should celebrate this achievement.

The first CANSEC was held in March of 1998. This is the official guide from that show (hold up show guide from 1998)--a bare bones, black and white document, produced out of the old Canadian Defence Industries Association offices over at 100 Gloucester Street. Consisting of a total of 52 exhibiting companies, CANSEC 98 fit easily into the old Ottawa Congress Centre's 70,000 square feet of exhibit space. This year, by contrast, we have nearly 300 exhibitors that are impossible to contain in the EY Centre's 135,000 square feet of exhibit space.

That impressive growth is testament to the success and steady improvement of CANSEC over the years. Your products and services need no Red-Bull-crashed-ice Canada 150 gimmick to draw a multitude of countries here. They are the stars of the show.

C'est aussi grâce à nos amis du gouvernement et à nos partenaires qui considèrent que CANSEC est un élément essentiel de leur calendrier annuel. Je vous remercie de nous consacrer votre temps et votre énergie afin de produire cet évènement de premier ordre.

I am pleased to announce that this year's CANSEC boasts some 11,000 registrants, including some 4,000 public servants and military personnel in attendance, as well as 40 foreign delegations present. Here with us today are the Minister of National Defence and our Chief of Defence staff. We will also welcome the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development to unveil our aforementioned Innovation Wall and later at lunch the Acting Vice-Chief of Defence Staff will join us. Tomorrow we will have a keynote address from the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Services and Procurement.

Rounding out the keynotes, and reflecting a renewed focus on the growing security challenges and business opportunities associated with cyber defence, we have arranged for an address from Retired General Keith Alexander, former Director of the US National Security Agency and former Commander of United States Cyber Command.

In Canada, our private sector has world leading full spectrum cyber capabilities from proactive cyber defence operations to protection, detection and incident response. Working in partnership, industry can bring to bear emerging capabilities essential if the Canadian Armed Forces is to meet the cyber threats, those of today and well into the future. As the government looks to unveil its new defence policy where peace operations are expected to play a prominent role, we think Canada's cyber defence companies could help round out what Canada has to offer in theatre which now goes beyond the traditional land, sea and air to include a cyber component. But as we consider the future of operations, let us not forget that we have strong traditional defence expertise resident right here in Canada that can play a key role across the spectrum of operations notwithstanding our ability to foster innovation through defence investment and procurement.

I can't leave this stage this morning without showing our gratitude to the member companies that lend their support towards making CANSEC such a great success. Our biggest support comes from CAE, our Platinum Sponsor. Now in the second year of our three-year sponsorship, CAE's support has been integral to the growth of CANSEC. I would also like to thank our Gold Sponsors for CANSEC 2017 the Canadian Commercial Corporation, PAL Aerospace, and Lockheed Martin who is also our Evening Networking Reception Sponsor, and Mannarino Systems and Software who sponsored our Breakfast Reception.

I now invite everyone to begin their breakfast. At 8:30 Mr. Mark Halinaty, President and CEO of Thales Canada, one of our sponsors of today's breakfast, will take the stage to introduce our first keynote speaker. Following the keynote address, we will welcome to the stage Michael Sangster, Chief Commercial Office of PAL Aerospace, our second breakfast sponsor to give a few words of appreciation.

Thank you. Merci beaucoup.