

## **2016 Canadian Armed Forces Outlooks (Air Force)**

### **Navigating a Year of Transition**

Welcome Remarks

April 7th, 2016 08:20, Ottawa Shaw Centre, 55 Colonel By Dr. Ottawa, Ontario

#### **Check Against Delivery**

Welcome to day three of the CAF Outlooks. Both the Army and Navy Outlooks were busy and productive events and I am sure everyone is anxious to get down to business today.

Before I get things started, I would like to take this opportunity to thank David Jurkowski, the Air Force Outlook Chair, and our Air Force liaison Major Christian Beese. These two individuals played a leading role in bringing the Air Force Outlook together this year.

The Outlooks, along with CANSEC, are CADSI's annual flagship events. They provide a platform for the senior leadership of the Army, Navy and Air Force to give our industry their frank perspectives on the capital priorities of the services over the short and medium term. In a sense, the Outlooks put the real flesh on the bone of the Defence Acquisition Guide. Exposure to the details of the Capital program provide innovative Canadian companies the opportunity to see where there might be a need for new technology and for potential supply chain entry points.

In the case of the Air Force, the Outlooks also provide us with an opportunity to engage in the on-going dialogue between our industry and the Department of National Defence around sustainment of our fleets, in-service support and maintenance repair and overhaul - an essential conversation considering that the air platforms we purchase are not made in Canada.

As such the Outlooks serve the mutual interests of the Canadian Armed Forces and Canada's defence industrial community, and CADSI is proud to host them again this year.

I want to thank the Army, Navy and Air Force leadership for taking the time to speak to and network with us over the next few days; we know that you must be busy in the lead-up to the Defence Review and that "pulling chocks" might have been easier.

This year National Defence will be moving and shakin'. With a new government comes some changes in defence priorities. We eagerly await the Defence Review and our committees are already preparing for our eventual contribution. On pense que nos connaissances et l'expertise de l'industrie dans le cadre de ce processus est importante. Plus particulièrement, nous croyons pouvoir enrichir le dialogue sur la manière d'améliorer l'efficacité du système d'approvisionnement en défense, ce qui est essentiel pour garantir l'efficacité de la politique du gouvernement en matière de défense. Next year at this time we will likely have in front of us a new defence white paper, articulating this government's defence policy which will probably

have implications for the capital program.

We in industry are particularly interested in the government's commitment to "modernize procurement practices so that they are simpler, less administratively burdensome...and support the government's economic policy goals". This translates nicely into the conversations we are having around the sustainment initiative and the costing and profit policies.

So we are in a period of change and most certainly some uncertainty about where things will land. This is why the Outlooks are particularly important this year. In order for us to be ready when you need us, our industry needs to hear the priorities of the Army, Navy and Air Force as you head into the Defence Review process.

We have a comprehensive program for you today on the Air Force. In response to some feedback from you over the course of the year, we will hear about RCAF Force development, CAF Space Force development (the Joint projects) as well as science and technology in the air portfolio and aerospace equipment program management. Then we go into a series of detailed break-out sessions on a wide range of topics, including aircraft vehicle and equipment projects; air simulation and training; radars, command, control and communications projects, and science and technology air portfolio projects, and space capabilities. I hope you find the presentations, discussions and networking opportunities informative and profitable.

Before I leave you today, I'd like to take a minute to tell you about some communications you may have seen over the last year in trade publications, policy magazines and even in digital ads. Over the past year, we have been taking a more public stance on the capabilities that we bring to our Canadian Armed Forces and our Nation's Industrial base which is important for all of our prosperity.

You might have seen the slideshow playing as you sat here waiting for the Outlook to begin. That is a small part of what we've been doing. We've also been working towards a new, modern image and story for CANSEC.

The inspiration for our new CANSEC brand is two-fold: the shield, symbol of security, pride and forward vision; and the chevrons, symbols of military and police rank, authority and our connection to those who protect us. Finally, if you look closely at the logo, you will see hidden inside the letters C and S from CANSEC. This new logo is now the official symbol of Canada's global defence and security tradeshow.

Given that many of you in this audience in uniform join us each year at CANSEC, I'm happy to present to you the CANSEC 2016 website. When you visit the website, you will see a tab that is dear to your hearts - the Paddy O'Donnell Mentorship Award. A relative "giant" in the Royal Canadian Air Force family and known for his mentorship of younger officers, we have decided to commemorate his contributions to our country, both in uniform and in industry, by honouring a Canadian defence or security business mentor recognized for having provided valuable advice and support to the next generation of industry leaders. We will do this at CANSEC. And on that note, Ladies and Gentlemen, we're not only taking names for the award, but registration is now open so you can be highly efficient and multi-task.

Thank you and enjoy the day.