

“2015 OTTAWA CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE”

5 March 2015 (02-2015)

On 19 and 20 February 2015, the CDA and CDA Institute organized the highly successful 2015 Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence at the Fairmont Château Laurier. This event would not be the same without its many active and engaged participants, so my heartfelt thanks to the many participants who came from far and wide to attend this event – some of whom hailed as far afield as Australia, France, the United Kingdom, Germany, and of course our great neighbour the USA.

This year’s event proved to be especially timely, with the Honourable Jason Kenney providing his first public address in his new role as Minister of National Defence. Minister Kenney used his time at the Ottawa Conference to hint publicly that the Canadian mission to Iraq – Operation Impact – will be extended. Indeed, on 24 February, soon after the conclusion of this conference, Canadian CF-18s taking part in coalition operations



Panel 2: New Cyber Challenges in the 21st Century. (Photo courtesy of 45eNord)

under Joint Task Force-Iraq struck Islamic State positions north of Mosul. Moreover, it was also revealed that Canadian military trainers on the ground have come under attack by and exchanged fire with Islamic State militants, and also played a role in directing airstrikes on ground targets.

Le ministre Kenney a également souligné la législation antiterroriste proposée par le gouvernement dans le projet de loi C-51, qui était en instance lors de la conférence et qui fait toujours l'objet de débats à la Chambre. Le projet de loi C-51 promet d'accroître les pouvoirs des agences de sécurité du Canada,

y compris l'élargissement des pouvoirs du SCRS pour perturber ces activités (par opposition à la simple collecte de renseignements). La présence du ministre Kenney - y compris son écoute de la présentation par l'amiral William Gortney, le Commandant de NORAD et du Northern Command des États-Unis, ainsi que sa participation au déjeuner, puis à la réception - parrainée par GD - furent grandement appréciées.

We were also very pleased to have a number of other notables as keynote speakers, including Minister of Veterans Affairs Erin O’Toole; Associate Defence Minister Julian Fantino; US Admirals William Gortney and Mike Rogers, heading NORAD/Northern Command and US Cyber Command/NSA, respectively; CEO of the Center for a New American Security Michèle Flournoy; UK Lieutenant-General Gordon Messenger, Deputy Chief of Defence Staff; France’s Vice Chief of Defence Staff, General Gratien Maire; and Canada’s own VCDS, Lieutenant-General Guy Thibault.

Lieutenant-General Thibault was at the event representing the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Tom Lawson, who owing to other commitments could not attend the Ottawa Conference. Incidentally, on 3 March, General Tom Lawson announced he would not be seeking an extension to his term as CDS beyond his current 3-year term. Observers close to the selection process for a new CDS note that the search for his replacement has already begun and the name should be released in the coming weeks.

Les Panels de conférenciers ont exploré diverses régions et questions variées lors de cet événement, y compris la sécurité et la politique de défense canadienne, la cyber-sécurité, le Moyen-Orient, l'Asie-Pacifique, et la stratégie russe de « l'étranger proche », incluant l'Ukraine. Ce dernier Panel s'est avéré particulièrement opportun, étant donné le déploiement actuel des troupes canadiennes, pour une période de trois mois, à un exercice de formation avec l'OTAN en Pologne et en Lettonie pour répondre à la récente posture belligérante de la Russie. Le gouvernement du Canada envisage d'envoyer des conseillers militaires et des armes à l'Ukraine.

The CDA/CDA Institute's Ottawa Conference could not have been accomplished without the generous support of our many sponsors, including: **Platinum Sponsor** CIGI; **Gold Sponsors** General Dynamics,

NATO and the Department of National Defence; and **Silver Sponsors** ADGA Group, Boeing Canada, Ernst and Young, Porter, Rheinmetall, United Technologies, AUG Signals. All our sponsors deserve our sincerest thanks for ensuring that **this signature event does not fall silent in today's uncertain fiscal climate.**

The CDA/CDA Institute's Ottawa Conference is the largest, most prestigious public security and defence conference in Canada, existing in one form or another since 1932 when it was launched by the CDA. This event also saw for the first time the presentation of the Ross Munro Media Award, which was previously done in conjunction with the Vimy Award presentation. This year's award was given to Canadian documentary photographer Louie Palu. We were also pleased to have a special presentation by Darrell Bricker on the Ipsos Survey on Canadian Security and Defence, and the presentation by the Merchant Navy of the Colonel John Gardam Lifetime Achievement Award to Vice-Admiral Ron Buck (Ret'd).

My sincerest thanks to General Ray Henault (Ret'd) and Lieutenant-General Richard Evraire (Ret'd) for kindly acting as the MCs for the Ottawa Conference. I also wanted to give my warmest wishes to General Henault, who is completing his three-year position as CDA Institute President. His steadfast support and helpful advice during this time of transition has been greatly appreciated. It is

also my pleasure to welcome Major-General Daniel Gosselin (Ret'd) as the new President of the CDA Institute starting 1 April 2015. I look forward to working closely with him over the next few years.

It was my pleasure to oversee this major event for the first time in my capacity as the CDA/CDA Institute Executive Director. We were delighted that this year's great event upheld the highest standards set by previous Conferences over the years (even as we remain always receptive to constructive critique and new ideas). Much is owed to the tireless effort of our small staff, led by our Conference Organizer Denise Lemay, with the support of Meaghan Hobman, Gord Metcalfe, Peter Forsberg, David McDonough, and the current crop of Junior Policy Analysts and volunteers with the Institute, Lindsay Coombs, Melissa Hawco, Andres Gallacher, Rob Cook and David Merritt.

Lastly, save the date for next year's CDA/CDA Institute Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence, which will take place 18 and 19 February 2016. I hope to see everyone at this event!



Tony Battista

2015 OTTAWA CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

The CDA/CDA Institute 2015 Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence took place 19 to 20 February 2015. This event proved highly successful, with extensive corporate sponsorship, high-level keynote speakers and panelists, and well over 500 attendees, many of whom came from different backgrounds, experiences, and age groups. Summaries, images, and audio recordings will be available on our website shortly.

The next Ottawa Conference will take place on **18 and 19 February 2016** – so save the date!

This year's event featured the release of the **2015 Strategic Outlook for Canada: The Eclipse of Reason**. This well-received study was authored by CDA Institute Executive Vice-President Ferry de Kerckhove, who was also interviewed on [CPAC](#) on the subject of the Strategic Outlook and provided a short

Keynote speaker Admiral William Gortney, Commander, NORAD and US Northern Command. (Photo courtesy of 45eNord.)



summary of this study in the recent issue of [Frontline Magazine](#).

The Ottawa Conference also generated **extensive media coverage**. Amanda Connolly in [IPolitics](#) (subscribers only) wrote about instability in the Middle East, and pointed to how former Canadian diplomats and policy-makers at the event recommended minimizing our involvement in that volatile region.

[Murray Brewster](#) from the Canadian Press provided coverage of Minister of National Defence Jason Kenney's remarks on homegrown jihadist attacks, and also documented Dave Perry's comments on [DND, CSIS, and RCMP's difficulty in spending their entire budgets](#) - a fact also caught by Canadian Press' [Jim Bronskill](#). David Pugliese in the [Ottawa Citizen](#) also wrote about the Defence Minister's hints that the

Canadian mission in Iraq may be extended.

Benoît Maraval in 45eNord, our Media Partner for this event, summarized keynote speeches and panels from the Ottawa Conference ([here](#) and



Special Guest Darrell Bricker on the Ipsos Survey on Canadian Security and Defence. (Photo courtesy of 45eNord.)

[here](#)), while 45eNord also kindly took numerous photos from the two-day proceedings that are available on their Twitter feed. We recommend searching **#TheOC2015 on Twitter** for lively social media coverage, including our own live tweeting of much of this event.

Video recordings of the Ottawa Conference can be watched on [CPAC](#).

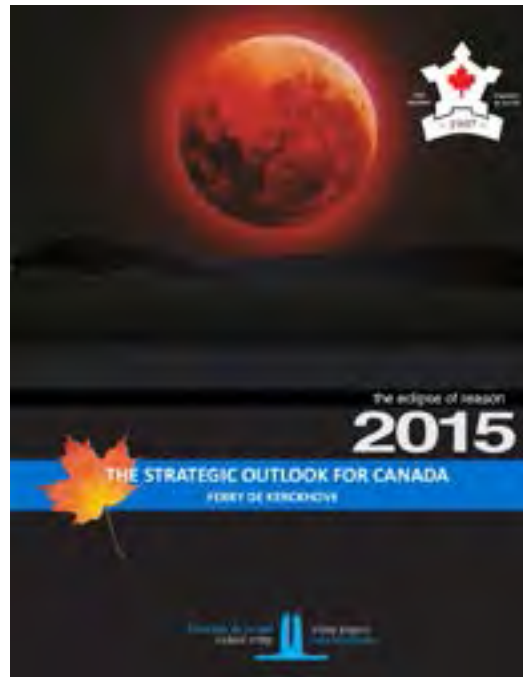
The 2015 Ottawa Conference could not be held without the generous support of our many sponsors:

- **Platinum Sponsor:** CIGI;
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2015 STRATEGIC OUTLOOK FOR CANADA

On 17 February 2015, the CDA Institute was pleased to release **Vimy Paper 22 – The Strategic Outlook for Canada 2015: Eclipse of Reason**, authored by CDA Institute Executive Vice-President Kerry de Kerckhove.

The study calls on the Government of Canada to articulate a full and integrated national security vision and framework encompassing foreign, trade, development and defence policies. A key element of this process needs to be a coherent defence policy, specifically an end to the



underinvestment and procurement process challenges that have plagued the Canadian Armed Forces. Particular attention needs to be paid to the capital portion of the defence budget.

The 2015 Strategic Outlook was presented at the opening of the CDA/CDA Institute 2015 Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence on 19–20 February at the Fairmont Château Laurier Hotel.

[READ IT HERE](#)

ON TRACK

On 6 February 2015, the CDA Institute released its latest issue of *On Track*, featuring the top three papers from its 17th Annual Graduate Student Symposium as part of its Vimy Papers collection. The three authors featured – all graduate students – worked with our research advisors and staff to develop their presentations into fine quality research articles:

- **Vimy Paper 23:** “Canada’s Quest for Submarines” by Rob Burroughs;
- **Vimy Paper 24:** “The Canadian Response to Radicalization to Violence” by Dashiell Dronyk;
- **Vimy Paper 24:** “Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism” by Tannuva Akbar.

The 17th Annual Graduate Student Symposium was held 16–17 October 2014 at the Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC) in Kingston, Ontario. The 18th Annual Graduate Student Symposium will take place on 16–17 October 2015 at RMCC in Kingston, Ontario.

In addition to this collection, this issue of *On Track* also features a selection of thoughtful articles further exploring the Graduate Student Symposium event as well as different aspects of Canadian national security and defence.

[READ IT HERE](#)



FROM THE BLOG

LGen Richard Evraire's (Ret'd) Presentation to the RMC Club of Canada

M. le Président, merci de m'avoir invité à vous adresser la parole à l'occasion de ce magnifique Dîner Gala 2015 du Chapitre de Québec du Club des CMR du Canada, dans ce splendide Cercle de la Garnison qui revêt tant d'histoire et une longue association de près de 135 ans avec la ville de Québec, avec la région et plusieurs endroits au Canada et avec les militaires du Canada et de l'étranger. Je vous félicite, vous, les membres du Chapitre de Québec pour votre vitalité et votre succès à répandre la bonne nouvelle que véhiculent nos collègues militaires. Vous en conviendrez, il reste beaucoup à faire en ce qui concerne le CMR Saint-Jean, dont le Commandant du Collège, le Colonel Carignan vous a parlé, l'an dernier à pareille date, et votre apport aux efforts actuellement déployés et visant le retour au statut universitaire de l'Institution demeure très important. Bien chers Amis (ies), permettez-moi de vous parler, ce soir, d'un sujet connexe qui me tient à cœur depuis très longtemps; un sujet qui a retenu mon attention pendant au moins le dernier tiers de ma carrière militaire et depuis ma retraite en 1997. Il s'agit de "l'Avenir du développement professionnel militaire au Canada". Vous me direz qu'un tel sujet ne peut que susciter l'ennui et le sommeil. J'espère ne pas contribuer davantage à l'effet soporifique de cet excellent repas si bien accompagné de vins que nous venons de partager dans une ambiance des

plus chaleureuses. J'ai, malgré tout, toujours aimé les défis.

[READ IT HERE](#)

Roundtable Summary: Improvements to the New Veterans Charter and the Successful Transition from Military to Civilian Life

By Andres Gallacher

A lot of attention and, in some cases scrutiny, has been recently directed towards the Department of Veteran Affairs. The New Veterans Charter (NVC) hopes to remedy some of the issues surrounding veterans and their transition from military to civilian life. However, the NVC is not a flawless document and recent discussions have focused upon the need to improve the NVC and review the challenges for CAF members transferring from military to civilian life. The Office of Veterans Ombudsman (OVO) receives about 7,000 calls a year – which translates to approximately 2,000 files opened, which shows a pressing need to inform veterans of all the services available to them in a more effective manner and to talk to them directly in order to resolve these systemic issues. Veterans need to understand what is being offered to them and how they can access it.

[READ IT HERE](#)

The Struggle Against ISIS

By John Scott Cowan

On the eve of the outbreak of the Second World War, and even for a while in its early stages, many in Canada were opposed to going to war. While amongst them there were a few proto-Nazis and Nazi sympathizers, the vast majority were merely isolationists, pacifists and some on the left who viewed the entire conflict as a collision of capitalist regimes, and unworthy of their attention. These folks wished Canada to avoid the great tragedy of another European war, and saw events an ocean away as beyond our concern. The reaction of the left had also been complicated by the Hitler-Stalin Pact, which for a time put the majority of the Canadian communists (but not all) in the anti-war camp, and some socialists followed suit.

[READ IT HERE](#)

IN THE MEDIA

Many of our members remain actively engaged with the media and continue to inform Canadians on important aspects of Canadian Security and Defence. Here are some examples.

CDA/CDA Institute Executive Director

Tony Battista was quoted in an [IPolitics article](#) on the Middle East and also spoke on [CTV News](#) about the threat of ISIS.

CDA Institute Executive Vice-President

Ferry de Kerckhove contributed to University of Ottawa's Centre for International Policy Studies blog – one exploring [John Baird's legacy at DFATD](#), the other looking at [Israeli-American relations](#). He was also cited by CBC on multiple occasions ([here](#) and [here](#)) on the situation in Egypt, and was also interviewed by [Radio Cogeco 104.7](#) on

Russia, and Radio-Canada on [John Baird's departure](#) and [the new King of Saudi Arabia](#).

Vice-Admiral Drew Robertson (Ret'd)

wrote an op-ed with the [National Post](#) on the problems facing the Royal Canadian Navy, owing to the recent retirement of its two supply ships and its urgent need for an at-sea replenishment capability.

Before his recent departure from the CDA Institute, **Dave Perry** wrote an article on the need to streamline Canada's military procurement process for [Frontline Magazine](#). He also presented to the [House Committee on National Defence](#) regarding the Defence of North America on 28 January 2015, where he discussed the findings of [Vimy Paper 21](#). He was also cited in a [Globe and Mail article](#) on Canadian military engage-

ments with the Islamic State.

George Petrolekas published an article in Frontline Magazine on "[The Rise of ISIS](#)," as well as an op-ed with the Globe and Mail: "[Why a media war against Islamic State is good strategy](#)." Petrolekas was also featured in [TVO's The Agenda](#) on 27 February 2015, where he spoke about Russian President Vladimir Putin and the situation in Ukraine.

Jeffrey Simpson contributed an op-ed to the [Globe and Mail](#) titled "The military of 'all things' is a battle lost," which highlighted the CDA/CDA Institute 2015 Ottawa Conference and the jointly produced CDA Institute/MacDonald-Laurier Institute's [Vimy Paper 21](#).

EVENTS

The CDA Institute held a successful Roundtable on "Improvements to the New Veterans Charter and the Successful Transition from Military to Civilian Life," featuring Ombudsmen Guy Parent and Gary Walbourne on 2 February 2015.

We are pleased to present **our next Roundtable with the Chief of Military Personnel Lieutenant-General David Millar**, which will take place on 19 March 2015. The CDA Institute would like to thank Lockheed Martin Canada for its generous sponsorship

of this event under the 2015 Roundtable Discussion Series. Event announcement and registration page will be coming soon.

Executive Director Tony Battista and Executive Vice-President Kerry de Kerckhove were panelists at the [2015 Public Policy Conference](#) that took place 28 February to 1 March 2015. This student-led event, titled "Moving Canada Forward," was organized by the International, Political and Policy Studies Student Association and its Public Administration Committee.

The 25th anniversary of the Vimy Award will be held at a gala dinner on 6 November 2015 at the Canadian War Museum. **Please save the date and contact Denise Lemay at denise.lemay@cdaainsitute.ca to reserve your seat/table!**

The CDA Institute could not host Conferences, Symposiums, and Roundtables without the generosity of its numerous sponsors and donors. We are seeking sponsorship for our 2015-2016 activities. Further information can be found on [our website](#).

MEDIA ROUND-UP

Kenney hints that Canadians might help Ukrainian forces ([Macleans](#)): Minister of National Defence Jason Kenney stated on CBC's Power and Politics that "all options are on the table" when it comes to opposing Russian interference in Eastern Ukraine.

Canada's Other Northern Lights ([NATO Council of Canada](#)): The Lockheed CP-140 Aurora is a success story in military procurement; the Aurora Incremental Modernization Project (AIMP) was recently completed, extending the operational life of the aircraft until 2020.

Parliament Hill Shooter Video Barely a Minute Long, to be released Friday ([CBC](#)): Michael Zehaf-Bibeau's cellphone video will be released Friday, will there be enough there for Canadians to decide whether Zehaf-Bibeau's thoughts reveal the actions of a jihadi terrorist.

The ultimate insult: DND won't say how it will respond to report on Afghanistan veteran's suicide ([National Post](#)): In an unprecedented move, the Department of National Defence has slapped a "secret" order on its response to the high-profile Military Police Complaints Commission report into the 2008 suicide of Afghanistan war veteran Cpl. Stuart Langridge.

Veterans Affairs morale plunged alongside staffing levels: survey ([CBC](#)): A recent survey of federal employees shows Veterans Affairs Canada is an increasingly unhappy place with plunging morale and a frazzled workforce.

Canadian Military Predicted Chaos in Libya if NATO helped overthrow Gadhafi ([Ottawa Citizen](#)): Canadian military intelligence officers predicted in 2011 that Libya could descend into a lengthy civil war if foreign countries provided assistance to rebels opposing the country's dictator Moammar Gadhafi, according to documents obtained by the Citizen.

Foreign Affairs Minister to speak about secret trip to Iraq ([CTV](#)): The minister will speak to reporters from neighbouring Amman, Jordan later today about his travels, according to a statement from his office.

Top soldier stepping down at critical time for Canadian Forces ([Globe and Mail](#)): Changing of the guard comes at a critical time for the Canadian Armed Forces, which are grappling with a budget squeeze, difficulties buying new equipment and the challenge of managing a peacetime army that, aside from a detachment of special forces troops in Iraq, is largely out of the fight.

Federal process underway to replace Canada's top soldier Gen. Tom Lawson ([Global News](#)): The government has finished interviewing prospective candidates to take over the role of Canada's top soldier as Gen. Tom Lawson prepares to leave his post later this year. A source close to the process told Global News that with the interviews completed, a panel is now tasked with looking over the results and offering recommendations for the next chief of defence staff.

Canada's military gets new bosses, same old problems ([CBC](#)): The problem is simple: the rusting out of the existing stock of military hardware. The solution is hard: years go by, and the replacement for an aging fleet of fighter planes is nowhere in sight.

Canadian Pastor being held in North Korea ([CTV](#)): Rev. Hyeon Soo Lim went missing in February and is now being held in North Korea, his family says. They say they have been informed by the Canadian government that he is now in North Korean custody.

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