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Military Procurement for a Purpose: Refreshing Canada's Defence Strategy

December 1, 2015

Military procurement is a very complex business; understood in detail by few, scrutinized and criticized by many. As parts of the world remain dangerous and unstable, Canada's overall security is tied to our ability to project power if and when needed and that means a well-equipped and modern military. But recent high-profile setbacks in military procurement threaten Canada's ability to get the new kit needed to make our military strong, and responsive. Moreover, the election of a new Liberal government means that Canadian foreign and defence policies will be reviewed, as well as current capital projects, to realign defence requirements with a new tone and substance in our foreign policy. Please join The School of Public Policy and the Canadian Global Affairs Institute as we explore how all this may unfold with a new government and how it may have an impact on defence procurement policy.

LOCATION

Governor General Ballroom I/II
The Westin Ottawa
11 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4

Tuesday, December 1st

10:00 a.m.

Registration

10:30 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

10:40 a.m.

Panel 1: The opportunity to refresh Canada's defence policy

The last time Canada's defence and defence procurement policies were overhauled was in 2008 with the Canada First Defence Strategy (CFDS). It was supposed to be reviewed after three years, however it is now seven years later and there has still not been a review. In this panel, we examine whether military procurement priorities have remained aligned with the strategic underpinnings of the 2008 CFDS. Have the strategic drivers of that plan changed? What are the implications for the priority capability investments set out in 2008? This panel will focus on the process of reviewing our defence policy.

Chair: **Rob Fonberg**, Former Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, and Executive Fellow, The School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

Discussants: **Jean-Christophe Boucher**, Assistant Professor and Discipline Advisor, Political Science, MacEwan University
Mike Day, Former Lieutenant-General, Deputy Commander, Allied Joint Force Command, Naples
Mike Kalms, Lead Partner, Defence Industry, KPMG Australia

12:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

12:30 p.m.

Keynote Address
Details coming soon!

1:00 p.m.

Break

1:15 p.m.

Panel 2: Updating Canada's defence policy: where do we go from here?

An overview of the strategic foreign and defence policy issues that should underpin a capability review and a reset of procurement priorities. This panel will focus more on the context of Canada's defence policy moving forward.

Chair: **Jean-Sébastien Rioux**, Co-Director, International Policy, The School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

Discussants: **David Perry**, Senior Analyst, Canadian Global Affairs Institute
Hon. David Pratt, Former Minister, Department of National Defence, and Principal, David Pratt & Associates

More discussants to be announced.

2:30 p.m.

Break

2:45 p.m.

Panel 3: How should a new defence policy tie into Canada's manufacturing base?

The 2012 Defence Procurement Strategy attempted to leverage more value by changing the old Industrial and Regional Benefits and requiring that companies instead meet “value propositions.” How are the new value propositions coming along? What are the costs and benefits of adopting an industrial policy tied to defence procurement, rather than saving tax dollars by buying off-the-shelf?

Chair: **Christyn Cianfarani**, President, Canadian Association of Defence and Security Industries

Discussants: **Mike Kalms**, Lead Partner, Defence Industry, KPMG Australia

More discussants to be announced.

4:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks