

A soldier in camouflage gear is kneeling in a forest, operating a drone. The drone is flying in the air, and the soldier is holding a remote control. Another soldier is visible in the background, also in camouflage gear. The scene is set in a wooded area with tall trees and a grassy ground.

Canadian Landpower

Mobilization & Modernization

March 26-27 2026
MacEwan Ballroom



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

About

“The Canadian Army is at an inflection point: the Army we have is not the Army we need.” Inflection Point 2025: Canadian Army Modernization.

This sobering observation made by the Canadian Army is reflective of a rapidly changing international security environment. As a result, the Canadian Government has committed to an extensive program of rearming committing to reach the new NATO goal of spending 3.5% plus 1.5% of GDP on defence expenditure. The focus of this conference will be to ask what are the roles and needs of the Canadian Army in meeting these goals? What does the Army need to do in its efforts to modernize and mobilize to protect the Canadian Arctic, Canada, and North America? How does it navigate the transforming international security environment with the heightened strategic competitions and new geopolitical alignments to ensure the security of Canadians? As part of the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies “Power Series” - Canadian Landpower 2026 seeks to understand, prepare for, and explore these questions.



Col. Christopher Hunt, International Fellow, United States Army War College



Dr. Rob Huebert, Director, Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies (CMSS)



Ms. Mary Anderson, Coordinator, CMSS



Dr. John Ferris, Fellow, CMSS



Dr. Ian Brodie, Fellow, CMSS

Sponsors

This project is supported by the Department of National Defence's Mobilizing Insights in Defence and Security (MINDS) program. Thank you to our generous sponsors.



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Centre for Military, Security
and Strategic Studies



Full Conference Schedule

Time	DAY ONE
0730 0815	Doors Open Conference Keynote
0900	Break
0910	Panel 1
1020	Break
1040	Panel 2
1150	Lunch
1240	Panel 3
1350	Panel 4
1500	Break
1515	Panel 5
1630	End of Day One
	Venue closed
1730	BANQUET Doors open (separate ticket)
1835	Call to Dinner
1945	Banquet Keynote
2045	Reception
2200	End of Evening

Time	DAY TWO
0800	Doors open
0840	Panel 6
0950	Panel 7
1100	Break
1120	Panel 8
1230 1255	Lunch Lunch Keynote
1330	Panel 9
1440	Panel 10
1550	Closing Remarks
1610	End of Conference

DRESS CODE: Conference and Banquet
Civilian - Business Casual
CAF - DEU with Ribbons

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Schedule

Time	Day One - Thursday March 26, 2026
0730 0800	Doors open Welcome Remarks
0815	Conference Keynote » Lieutenant-General Michael Wright, Commander of the Canadian Army » CWO Christopher Robin, Canadian Army Sergeant-Major
0900	Break
0910	Panel 1: Historical Overview Canada and Global Power Politics Chair: Dr. John Ferris, Professor Emeritus, History, University of Calgary » Gen (Ret'd) Walt Natynczyk » Dr. David Bercuson, History, University of Calgary
1020	Break
1040	Panel 2: Practitioners Landpower's Role in an Age of Strategic Competition Chair: BGen Wade Rutland, Commander 3rd Division » TBA » Dr. Troy Bouffard, Assistant Professor Arctic Security, University of Alaska Fairbanks (V) » LGen Greg Smith, Canada's Military Representative to NATO

Time	Day One cont'd - Thursday March 26, 2026
1150	Lunch
1240	<p>Panel 3: Canadian Interests Canada's Critical Resources, Sovereignty, and Alliances</p> <p>Chair: TBA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot, MacDonald-Laurier Institute » Dr. Elizabeth Steyn, Professor of Law, University of Calgary » Dr. Whitney Lackenbauer, Trent University (V)
1350	<p>Panel 4: the "Donroe Doctrine" Implications of the 2025 US National Security Strategy for Canada</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Terry Terriff, Professor of Political Science, University of Calgary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dr. Phillippe Lagassé, Carleton University » Dr. John Ferris, Professor Emeritus, History, University of Calgary » Gitane De Silva, former Head of Canadian Energy Regulator & former Alberta Special Representative to Washington DC
1500	Break
1515	<p>Panel 5: Technologies & Operational Concepts What Tech and Operational Concepts are Reshaping Modern Land Warfare?</p> <p>Chair: BGen (Ret'd) Chris Ayotte</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » William F. Owen, Author & Editor, Military Strategy Magazine » Dr. Rebecca Jensen, Canadian Forces College » LCol Jan Strbik (Czech Army), DIANA UAS Challenge Manager
1630	End of Day

Banquet

Time	Evening - Thursday March 26, 2026
1730	Doors open
1835	Dinner
1945	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Dr. Ed McCauley, President, University of Calgary» Erin Gibbs van Brunschot, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Arts» Colleen Potter, Canada Company» Col Chris Hunt, Conference Organizer
2000	Banquet Keynote <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Gen (Ret'd) Wayne Eyre, Former Chief of Defence Staff
2045	Reception
2200	End of Evening



Banquet sponsored by Canada Company: Many Ways to Serve

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Schedule

Time	Day Two - Friday March 27, 2026
0800	Doors open
0840	<p>Panel 6: Canadian Industry The Role of Canadian Industry in Building and Sustaining Landpower</p> <p>Chair: David Perry, President & CEO, Canadian Global Affairs Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Jim Landon, President, ATCO Frontec » Ryan Greer, Senior Vice President, Public Affairs and National Policy, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) » Eliot Pence, CEO, Dominion Dynamics
0950	<p>Panel 7: Canadian Army Ethos & Culture</p> <p>Chair: Charlotte Duval-Lantoine, VP Ottawa Operations, CGAI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » BGen Marc Parent, Director General - Canadian Joint Operations Command Headquarters » Col Evelyn Kotzer, Commander, 38 Canadian Brigade Group » CWO Joel Pedersen, CWO 38 Canadian Brigade Group Sergeant Major » Dr. Andy Knight, Professor International Relations, Political Science, University of Alberta
1100	Break
1120	<p>Panel 8: Personnel Force Generation</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Rebecca Jensen, Canadian Forces College</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » MGen Josh Major, Chief of Staff - Plans, Policy & Modernization, Military Personnel Command » Charlotte Duval-Lantoine, Vice President of Ottawa Operations, Fellow, CGAI » BGen (Ret'd) Tod Strickland

Time	Day Two cont'd - Friday March 27, 2026
1230	<p>12:55 Lunchtime Keynote - Polish Defence Transformation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » LtGen Krzysztof Krol, Advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Polish Armed Force
1330	<p>Panel 9: Mobilization and Sustaining Large-Scale Combat Operations</p> <p>Chair: Col Chris Hunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » BGen Shawn Bindon, SJS DG Mobilization » LtGen Krzysztof Krol, Advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Polish Armed Forces » Dr. Amox Fox, Professor of Practice, Arizona State University's (ASU) Future Security Initiative (FSI)
1440	<p>Panel 10: Political Considerations Generating Canadian Landpower</p> <p>Chair: TBA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dr. Ian Brodie, Professor Political Science, University of Calgary, » Dr. Rob Huebert, Professor Political Science, University of Calgary » Alex Ruff, MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound » LGen (Ret'd) Hon Andrew Leslie (V)
1550	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Closing Remarks/End of Conference



Conference Keynote



Lieutenant-General Wright enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1990 and joined Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) in 1994. In July 2024, he was appointed as the Commander of the Canadian Army. Operationally he has deployed to Bosnia, Afghanistan, and the Middle East, and served on domestic operations in support of the 2010 Winter Olympics and the 2011 Manitoba floods. LGen Wright has served in staff positions as the Chief of Staff of CFINTCOM, J3 of the Canadian Joint Operations Command, Executive Assistant to the Chief of the Defence Staff, Chief of Staff and G3 of 1 CMBG, as well as positions at the Canadian Army Headquarters and the Canadian Forces Joint Headquarters. LGen Wright holds an Honours Degree in History and Political Science and a Masters of Defence Studies from RMC, is a graduate of the National Security programme, and has completed the Joint Force Land Component Commander Course at the US Army War College.

Banquet Keynote



Gen Wayne Eyre retired in 2024 as Canada's Chief of the Defence Staff. As the commander of the Canadian Armed Forces and military advisor to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, he led Canada's military through an unprecedented confluence of international and domestic crises and rapidly evolving security stressors. In his 40-year military career, he has commanded at all levels, from an infantry rifle platoon to Commander of the Canadian Army. He led numerous domestic operations in Canada, and commanded overseas in Cyprus, Croatia, Bosnia, Afghanistan (twice), and South Korea, where he was the most senior Canadian officer ever stationed in the Asia Pacific region. A graduate of Royal Military College, the US Army War College, and the US Marine Corps School of Advanced Warfighting, he holds a BSc and three master's degrees. Since retirement he has been writing, teaching, speaking and advising.

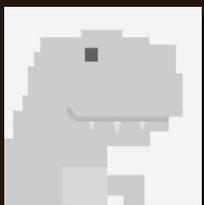
Panel Chairs



Panel 1
Dr. John Ferris, History (emeritus), University of Calgary



Panel 2
TBA



Panel 3
TBA



Panel 4
Dr. Terry Terriff, Political History, University of Calgary



Panel 5
BGen (ret'd) Chris Ayotte, National Security and Defence, AWS Canada



Panel 6
David Perry, President, Canadian Global Affairs Institute



Panel 7
Charlotte Duval-Lantoin, VP Ottawa Operations, CGAI



Panel 8
Dr. Rebecca Jensen, Canadian Forces College



Panel 9
Col. Chris Hunt, International Fellow, U.S Army War College



Panel 10
TBA

Panelists



Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Robin was appointed as the Canadian Army Sergeant-Major on 12 July 2024. He enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in December 1990 as an infantry soldier and joined the Royal 22e Régiment (R22eR) also known as the VanDoos following completion of his basic and battle school training. CWO Robin's out-of-country deployments brought him to serve in Somalia, in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in Haiti (twice), and in Afghanistan (twice). He also participated in several domestic operations. At the rank of Chief Warrant Officer he served at unit, Formation, Division and Command levels. He has held secondary duties as Regimental Sergeant Major of the R22eR and as the Royal Canadian Infantry Corps Sergeant Major.

Dr. David Bercuson is a history professor at the University of Calgary, and the founding Director of the Centre for Military, Security, and Strategic Studies. He continued to spearhead its development for more than fifteen years and remains an active member. His research focuses primarily on modern Canadian politics, Canadian defence and foreign policy, and Canadian military history.



Gen (Ret'd) Walter Natynczyk served Canada for over 45 years as a soldier and a public servant. His military service included NATO duty in Germany, United Nations operations in Cyprus and Bosnia Hercegovina and a combat tour in Iraq on exchange with the US Army. Appointed the Chief of Defence Staff in 2008, he commanded the Canadian Armed Forces during operations in Afghanistan, Libya, Haiti, and the 2010 Olympics. He became President of the Canadian Space Agency in 2013 and Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs from 2014 until his retirement in 2021.

Panelists

Brigadier-General Wade Rutland joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1995 as a primary reservist. Following transfer to the Regular Force and infantry officer training, he joined the Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in 1999, where he served as a rifle platoon commander. In 2006, he was posted within the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering Degree and two Masters Degrees (Defence Studies and Strategic Studies). He is a graduate of the US Army Ranger Course. BGen Rutland was appointed Commander 3rd Canadian Division and Joint Task Force (West) on 27 June 2024.



Lieutenant-General Greg Smith is an Infantry Officer born in Oshawa, Ontario. He has served in each of the battalions of the Royal Canadian Regiment. Throughout his career he has been fortunate to command and serve in diverse positions including the Infantry (Mechanized, Parachute, and Director Royal Canadian Infantry Corps), Canadian Special Operations Forces (Canadian Special Operations Regiment), teaching institutions, NATO, Intelligence, and Policy. He is a graduate of the Transitional Command and Staff Course at the Canadian Army Command and Staff College, the Joint Command and Staff Programme at the Canadian Forces College (CFC) Toronto, the National Security Programme at CFC Toronto.

Dr. Troy Bouffard has been a full-time faculty instructor at UAF in the UAF HSEM program since 2015. He is the designer and instructor for the Arctic Security graduate concentration and graduate certificate in the Masters of Security and Disaster Management program. Troy is also the co-investigator and program manager of the USNORTHCOM/ALCOM Arctic Defense and Security Orientation (ADSO) program started in 2014. ADSO is the primary educational program to responsible for baselining DOD knowledge of the Arctic region through an operational focus. Troy is also a Russian linguist (advanced beginner - 4th year/C1), published as well as cited in Russian outlets.



Panelists



Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot is a Senior Fellow and Director of Energy, Natural Resources and Environment at the Macdonald-Laurier Institute in Ottawa, Special Advisor to the Business Council of Canada, Managing Editor of the Arctic Yearbook, and Research Advisor to the Indigenous Resource Network. Her current research focuses on the politics of resource development, energy security, Arctic security, and Indigenous economic development. She has a PhD in Political Science from the University of Calgary.

Dr. Elizabeth Steyn is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Calgary, where she teaches courses including Critical Minerals, Regulatory Frameworks and Geopolitics, and Business and Human Rights. She is a board member of the Canadian Institute of Resources Law (CIRL), an international committee member of the Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law (FNREL) and a member of the Natural Resources Law Teachers Institute (NRLTI). Her research focuses on critical minerals, responsible mining, environmental justice, impacted communities, and deep-sea mining.



Dr. P. Whitney Lackenbauer is Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in the Study of the Canadian North and Professor in the School for the Study of Canada at Trent University. He was Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of 1st Canadian Ranger Patrol Group based in Yellowknife, with patrols across Canada's three northern territories, from 2014-2020 and 2022-2025. A former Killam Visiting Scholar (2017) and graduate of the University of Calgary (MA 1999, PhD 2004), he specializes in Arctic security, sovereignty and governance issues, modern Canadian military and diplomatic history, and Indigenous-state relations.

Panelists

Dr. Philippe Lagassé is associate professor and Barton Chair at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University.



Dr. John Ferris is a Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Calgary, and a Fellow of both the Royal Society of Canada and the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies. He provides expert commentary on intelligence, war, and international security issues in Canadian and global media. He has published extensively on intelligence, strategy, and is the author of *Behind the Enigma: The Authorized History of GCHQ, Britain's Secret Cyber-Intelligence Agency*.

Gitane De Silva is a public policy leader with experience at the provincial, national and international levels with expertise in the areas of energy and environment, intergovernmental relations and Canada-U.S. relations. Gitane was CEO of the Canada Energy Regulator from 2020 to 2023, Canada's national energy regulator responsible for regulating interprovincial and international pipelines and powerlines to ensure the safe and efficient delivery of energy to Canada and the world, while also protecting the environment, advancing Reconciliation, and providing relevant and timely energy information and analysis.

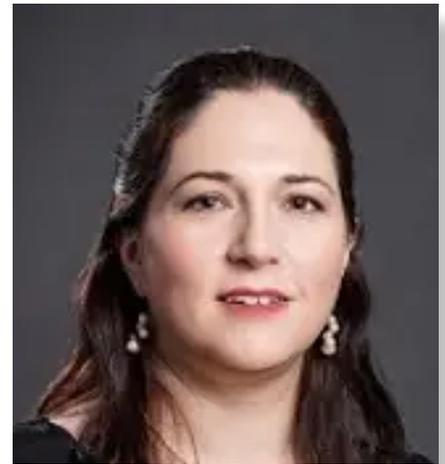


Panelists



William F. Owen (Wilf) served for 12 years in the British Army in regular and reserve Infantry and Intelligence units. He then worked on defence advisory and security projects in West Africa and the Far East before moving to writing and editing on defence matters. In 2010, he co-founded Military Strategy Magazine, for which he is currently editor. He also worked as a consultant and contractor for the British Army and several defence agencies and companies worldwide.

Dr Rebecca Jensen is an assistant professor at the Canadian Forces College, where she teaches courses related to operational art, military operations, and military strategy at the Joint Command and Staff Programme and the National Security Programme. Prior to joining the Canadian Forces College in 2020, she was a Fulbright Visiting Fellow at the Johns Hopkins University's School for Advanced International Studies, a Pre-Doctoral Fellow at the George Washington University's Elliot School of International Affairs, a Dissertation Fellow at Marine Corps University, and an Adjunct Analyst at the RAND Corporation. Her current research interests include operational art, large scale combat operations in the 21st century, military change and innovation, and institutional adaptation and learning.



Lieutenant Colonel Jan STRBIK is a senior Czech Army officer with more than 26 years of military experience, serving across the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. He began his career in the Air Force, spending 10 years as a fighter pilot, before joining the Land Forces in 2015 as the Flight Safety Inspector for all UAS categories. He has been deployed four times, later commanding a UxS Battalion, where he advanced unmanned systems integration into land operations. He currently serves as NATO DIANA Challenge Manager for Autonomy, Unmanned Systems, and Counter UxS, shaping Allied innovation efforts and bridging operational needs with emerging technologies. Jan holds a Master's degree in International Relations – Security Management and continues to represent the Czech Republic in multinational defence innovation initiatives.

Panelists

Jim Landon leads ATCO Frontec, the Operational Support Services Division of ATCO which delivers Facilities Operations and Maintenance and Workforce Housing Camp Services to government and commercial clients across North America, as well as for NATO in Europe. Frontec has many Indigenous business partners including Nasittuq which operates and maintains the North Warning System and Inuvialuit Frontec Services who are building a Polar Over The Horizon Radar for DRDC. A former British Army officer with multiple operational deployments worldwide, he was educated at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and has a Bachelor's degree in Law and a Masters in International Liaison and Communication.



Ryan Greer is Senior Vice President, Public Affairs and National Policy at Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME), where he leads national policy development, advocacy, and communications on behalf of Canada's manufacturing sector. With nearly two decades of experience in Ottawa, Ryan brings deep expertise in federal policy frameworks and the political dynamics that shape them. He has held senior roles in government, consulting, and business advocacy, including at Hill & Knowlton Strategies and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Ryan began his career in the federal government, serving in the Prime Minister's Office and as a senior advisor to multiple federal ministers.

Eliot Pence is a builder of frontier defense and industrial companies. He is the founder of Dominion Dynamics, a defense firm working to establish sovereign capability in aerospace, autonomy, and command-and-control. From 2018-2022, Eliot led global growth at Anduril Industries, joining as one of the company's very first business development hires and playing a central role in building it into one of America's most consequential defense technology companies. He created Anduril's international go-to-market strategy from scratch, bootstrapped overseas growth, and built teams across three continents—shaping how Anduril scaled as a global defense prime. Eliot earned his M.A. from Yale University and his B.A. from the University of Victoria.

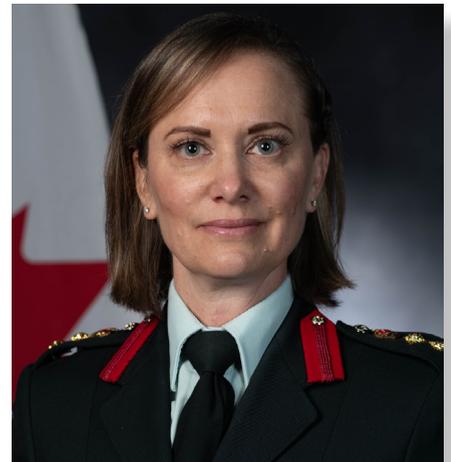


Panelists



Brigadier-General J.N.M. Parent joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 2000 through the Direct Entry Officer Program as a Logistics Officer. Over his career, he has served in a wide range of operational and leadership roles across the Canadian Armed Forces and the U.S. Department of Defense. In January 2026, he assumed new responsibilities as a Director General within Canadian Joint Operations Command Headquarters. He is a graduate of the Joint Command and Staff Program and holds degrees from the University of Sherbrooke, the Royal Military College of Canada, and the Eisenhower School.

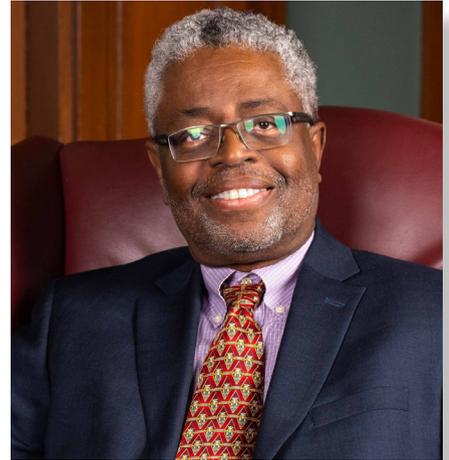
Colonel Kotzer, Commander 38 Canadian Brigade Group (38 CBG), enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1994, served 15 years in the Regular Force then transferring to the Primary Reserves in 2009. Colonel Kotzer commanded 38 Signal Regiment, was Deputy Commander 38 CBG and A5 Plans in 2 Canadian Air Division. She has a Mechanical Engineering degree from the Royal Military College of Canada and deployments on domestic and international operations. In 2020, Colonel Kotzer launched the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee to champion culture growth throughout 38 CBG and supported the implementation of the Trusted to Serve Course for the Royal Canadian Air Force.



CWO Joel Pedersen is currently a Senior Operations Manager Indigenous Engagement Team with Veterans Affairs Canada; Director Indigenous Engagement Business Development and Training with GardaWorld Security. CWO Pedersen joined the Canadian Forces Army Reserves while still in High School at 17 years of age. He went on to deploy on a United Nations Peace Keeping mission in Cyprus; NATO training in Norway; and NCO leadership training in Italy. Over the past 39 years in the Army Reserve Joel has served as a combat arms soldier. He is A graduate of the Canadian Emergency Preparedness college; Canadian Forces Leadership School; Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College; Canadian Police College; Saskatchewan Police College.

Panelists

Dr. W. Andy Knight is Professor of International Relations in the Political Science Department, University of Alberta, and past Chair of the Department. He is the former Director of the Institute of International Relations (IIR), The University of the West Indies (UWI), Trinidad & Tobago, and co-founder and the former head of the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean (DAOC). Professor Knight serves as Co-editor in Chief of both African Security journal and International Journal -- two globally prestigious peer-reviewed academic publications. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (FRSC), Professor Knight was named by Venture Magazine among Alberta's top 50 most influential people



Major-General Josh Major joined the 12e Régiment blindé du Canada in 1999 commanding at the troop and squadron level, as well as occupying the position of Regimental Second-in-Command. On January 23rd 2014, Brigadier-General Major became a proud member of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) and was appointed Commanding Officer in June 2014. Major-General Major holds a B.A. from the Royal Military College of Canada, a Masters degree in International Relations from Webster University, and a Masters degree in Military Art and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Major-General Major was appointed COS PPM in July 2024.

Charlotte Duval-Lantoine is Vice President of Ottawa Operations and a fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, as well as Triple Helix's Executive Director and Gender Advisor. She is a PhD candidate at Deakin University, researching Canadian army culture during the 1990s and its influence on operations, and is the author of *The Ones We Let Down*, which explores the impact of toxic leadership on gender integration in the Canadian military. Her research interests include questions of military culture, leadership, and personnel policy, topics she writes about on her Substack, DND/CAF 101.

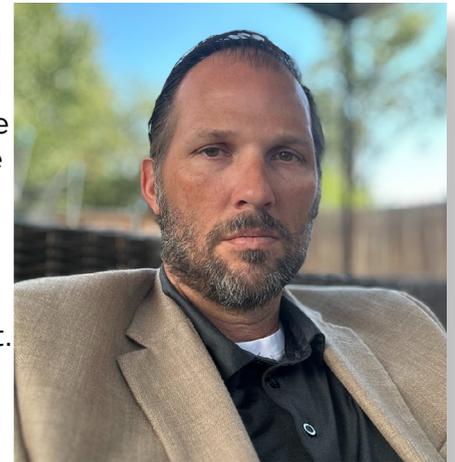


Panelists



Brigadier-General (retired) Tod Strickland joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1988 and served for 37 years. After conducting four operational tours in the Balkans and Afghanistan, he was privileged to command the Third Canadian Division Training Centre, the Canadian Army Command and Staff College, and the Canadian Forces College. He also served as Deputy Commander of the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre, as an instructor at the United States Army's School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS), and on the staff of United Nations Command in the Republic of Korea. He is now pursuing a PhD in history at Queen's in Kingston.

Dr. Amos Fox is a Professor of Practice at Arizona State University's (ASU) Future Security Initiative (FSI). Amos teaches war, strategy, security, and the future of conflict in FSI's Masters in Global Security program. Amos' books include *Multidomain Operations: The Pursuit of Battlefield Dominance in the 21st Century* (co-edited with Franz-Stefan Gady), *Maneuver is Dead: Land Warfare in the 21st Century*, and *Conflict Realism: Understanding the Causal Logic of Modern War and Warfare*. Amos is the Managing Editor of *Small Wars Journal* and he hosts the *Revolution in Military Affairs* podcast. Amos is also a retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel.



Brigadier General Shawn Bindon joined the Canadian Army in 1988 as a military engineer in the Reserve Force. His staff assignments included brigade Assistant Chief of Staff and deputy commander, Army Director for Civil-Military Cooperation and Chief of Staff (Reserves) at the Canadian Army Doctrine and Training Centre. His service outside of Canada includes service with the U.S. Armed Forces in Kabul, Afghanistan and as the Canadian Defence Attaché in Moscow, Russia. Upon promotion, he was then appointed DG Mobilization August 2025. He holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc. degree, and is a graduate of the National Security Program.

Panelists

Lieutenant General Krzysztof Król* is a distinguished senior officer currently serving as Advisor to the Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces since 2023. LTG Król holds a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, followed by Postgraduate Studies at the National Defence Academy in Warsaw. He served as Chief of Staff at NATO Joint Force Command Brunssum, and Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces. LTG Król's military service spans operational and strategic roles, including deployments in Lebanon with UNIFIL, Iraq, and Kosovo. He completed the National Security Program at the Canadian Forces College and earned a PhD from the National Defence Academy.

***Lunch Keynote Day Two March 27**



LGen Hon Andrew Leslie is a retired Canadian Forces Lieutenant-General and politician who served as the Chief of the Land Staff from 2006 to 2010 and as a Member of Parliament representing the riding of Orléans in the House of Commons, from 2015 until 2019. Leslie joined the 30th Field Regiment whilst at the University of Ottawa. As a graduate student in London, he was attached to the Honourable Artillery Company, before transferring to the Regular Force in 1981. He went on to be commanding officer of 1st Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in Shilo, Manitoba. Leslie retired in September 2011 after 35 years in uniform.

Dr. Ian Brodie is Professor in the Department of Political Science and a Fellow at the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies. He is also Program Director at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, a Fellow of the Halifax International Security Forum, and until recently was Chair of the Research Committee at the Institute for Research on Public Policy. Ian Brodie was Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of Canada from 2006 to 2008. Prior to that, he worked as Executive Director of the Conservative Party of Canada and as Chief of Staff to the Opposition Leader.

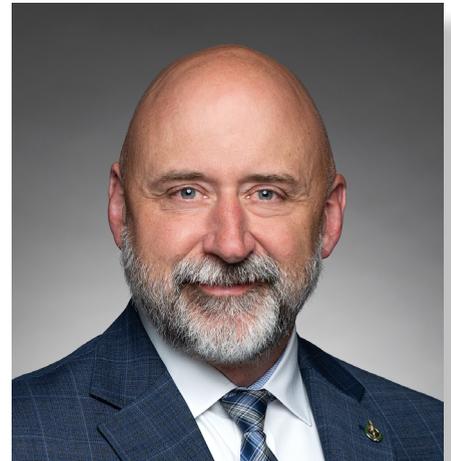


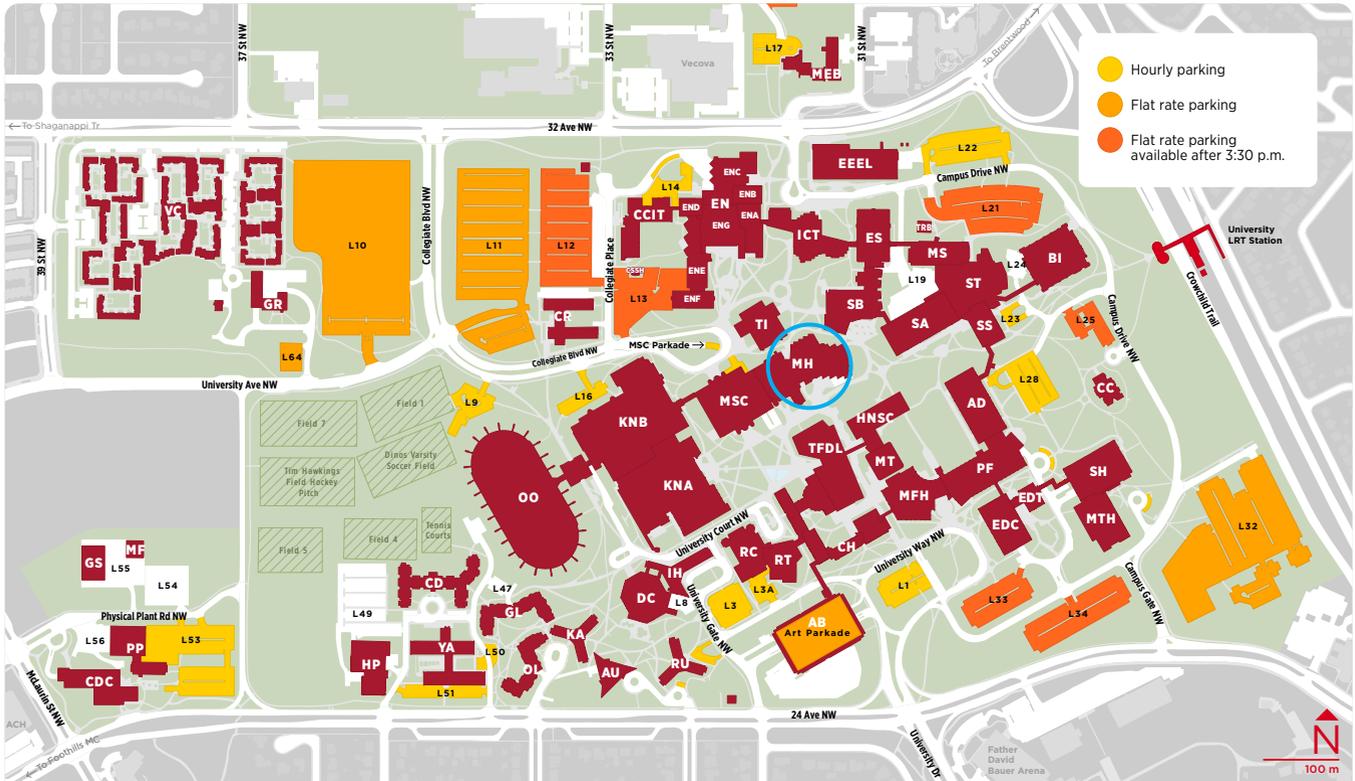
Panelists



Dr. Rob Huebert is a professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Calgary. He also is the Director of the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies. He was appointed as a member to the Canadian Polar Commission (now renamed Canada Polar Knowledge) for a term lasting from 2010 to 2015. He is senior fellow with the Laurier MacDonald Institute; a fellow with the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies; a research fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute; and a senior fellow with the Conference of Defence Associations Institute. He publishes on the issue of Canadian Arctic Security, Maritime Security, and Canadian Defence.

Colonel (Ret'd) Alex Ruff is a Canadian politician who was elected to represent the riding of Bruce—Grey—Owen Sound in the House of Commons of Canada in the 2019 federal election and re-elected in both the 2021 Canadian federal election and 2025 Canadian federal election. He has been a member of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) since 2022 and sits on the executive of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association. He is a retired Colonel in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) with operational deployments in Bosnia, Afghanistan and Iraq. Ruff graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada in 1997 with an honours degree in space science.





AB Art Building & Parkade	CH Craigie Hall Blocks C-G (University Theatre)	ES Earth Sciences	KNA Kinesiology Block A	MTH Mathison Hall	SH Scurfield Hall
AD Administration	CR Crownsnest Hall	GL Glacier Hall	KNB Kinesiology Block B	OL Olympus Hall	SS Social Sciences
AU Aurora Hall	CSSH Conovus Spo'pi Solar House	GR Grounds Building	MEB Suncor Building (Mechanical Engineering)	OO Olympic Oval	ST Science Theatres
BI Biological Sciences	DC Dining Centre	GS General Services Building	MF Materials Handling	PF Professional Faculties	TFDL Taylor Family Digital Library
CC Child Care Centre	EDC Education Classrooms	HNSC Hunter Student Commons	MFH Murray Fraser Hall	PP Physical Plant	TI Taylor Institute for Teaching & Learning
CCIT Calgary Centre for Innovative Technology	EDT Education Tower	ICT Information & Communications Technology	MH MacEwan Hall	RC Roza Centre	TRB Trailer B
CD Cascade Hall	EEEL Energy Environment	IH International House	MS Mathematical Sciences	RT Reeve Theatre	VC Varsity Courts
CDC Child Development Centre	EN Schulich School of Engineering	KA Kananaskis Hall	MSC MacEwan Student Centre	RU Rundle Hall	YA Yamnuska Hall
			MT MacMimmie Tower	SA Science A	
				SB Science B	

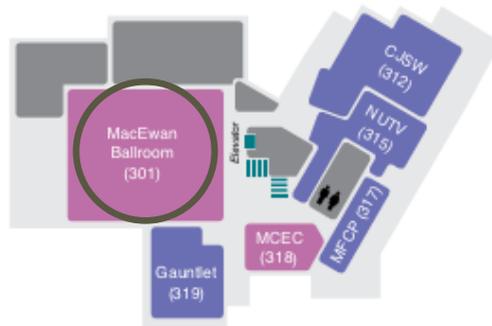
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Third Floor (East)

Access by the stairs or elevator at the east end of the building.

Legend

- Entrance/Exit
- Washrooms
- Stairs
- Fast Food
- Students' Union
- Event Venues
- Restaurant / Bar
- Services
- Retail Shopping



MacEwan Hall Ballroom can be found on the third floor of the MacEwan Student Centre (MH) - East. Elevator accessible.

Parking is available on campus, ucalgary.ca/ancillary/parking/parking-permits/find-parking

Or you can arrive by C-Train via the University Station.

Power Series

The Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies created the “Power Series” of events focused on examining, challenging, and exploring Canada’s defense and security position in a changing world. The insights gathered from each event will be published into an open-access collection with University of Calgary Press. The goal of these events is to expand Canada’s knowledge, make connections across transdisciplinary fields, and serve to better protect Canada’s interests. If you wish to engage, participate, or support future events like these, contact

cmss@ucalgary.ca.

- » RCAF Centennial Conference (November 2024)
- » Cyber Threats to Canadian Democracy (August 2025)
- » Canadian Seapower (September 2025)
- » Canadian Landpower | Mobilization & Modernization (March 2026)
- » Arctic Security - TBA
- » Seapower International -TBA
- » Critical Minerals Summit - TBA
- » Space Security - TBA

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