

MARITIME SECURITY CHALLENGES 2022

**Pacific Seapower:
Strategic Competition in the Indo-Pacific**

DRAFT - Updated 04 Oct 2022

Hosted by the Navy League of Canada
in association with The Royal Canadian Navy
and the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center
for Security Studies



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The sea has long been the basis of prosperity and security. A stable and secure ocean commons has been the foundation of the massive expansion of trade, communications, and wealth across the world. This expansion has seen a significant accumulation of seapower in the Indo-Pacific region, a progression that has been accompanied by new challenges brought about by strategic, political, environmental, and technological change. Change is expected, but not predictable. It is therefore critical for lawmakers, naval planners, academics, and industry operators to reflect on the past, assess the present, and think critically about the future in terms of the evolution and application of seapower. Are maritime stakeholders prepared to anticipate, adapt and respond to the challenges and opportunities presented by an increasingly dynamic maritime environment?

SUNDAY, 13 NOVEMBER (ARRIVALS AND INTRODUCTIONS)

All day - Conference Delegates Arrive in Victoria

- See Joining Instructions for conference registration desk timings

MONDAY, 14 NOVEMBER (PROCEEDINGS, DAY 1)

0800 – 1500 - Royal Canadian Navy Familiarization Event – Daysail on board HMCS Edmonton

- Meet outside conference hotel for bus transport to Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt

1900 – 22100 - Welcome Reception – Legislative Assembly of British Columbia (TBC)

TUESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER (PROCEEDINGS, DAY 2)

0715 – 0755 - Continental Breakfast – Fairmont Empress Hotel

0800 – 0805 – Opening Remarks

- Representative, Navy League of Canada

0805 – 0815 - Welcome Remarks

- Representative, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies

0815 – 0835 - Welcome Address

- Vice-Admiral Angus TOPSHEE, Commander Royal Canadian Navy

0835 – 1035 - PANEL - Challenges to the Strategic Commons

- **Regional Perspective on Rules and Norms** – Speaker TBC

- **The Challenge of Climate Change** – Rear Admiral (US Navy ret) David TITLEY

- **Trade Tensions and Global Decoupling: Strategic and Maritime Considerations** – Dr. Kerry NANKIVELL, Director, Strategic Assessments, Canada Department of National Defence

The relative stability of the post-Cold War era has given way to increased strategic competition and global uncertainty. The legal and normative regimes that were once foundations of global stability are now seen by some as unfair checks on national ambitions, while further collective actions to forestall catastrophe – both between states, and between humans and our increasingly fragile natural environment – are threatened and undermined by similar impulses. How do these trends impact the maritime commons and its need for collaborative solutions, and how can we create a cooperative future amidst growing mistrust?

1035 – 1105 - COFFEE BREAK



TUESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER (PROCEEDINGS, DAY 2) CONTINUED

1105 – 1235 - PANEL - Great Power Competition and the Spaces Between

- **Prospects and Implications of Sino-Russian Cooperation** - Dr. Michael PETERSEN, Director, Russia Maritime Studies Institute, US Naval War College
- **Future Paths in US Indo-Pacific Diplomacy** – Speaker TBC
- **The Role of Middle Powers** - Commodore Peter LEAVY, Commandant, Australian Defence Force Academy

Perceptions of power dominate international politics, with recent events in Eurasia reinforcing this state. The United States –the lone superpower for much of the modern era – is faced with intensifying challenges to its strategic, economic, and political dominance. Growing cooperation between nations opposed to Washington’s global leadership could accelerate these trends, while the United States itself wrestles with how to adapt to its changing role in the world. Can Beijing and Moscow work together to offer a counterweight to US influence? Meanwhile, how can the “middle powers” navigate the emerging multipolar order while pursuing their own interests?

1245 – 1405 - Lunch at the Union Club of British Columbia

Luncheon Address: State of Affairs in the South China Sea

- Mr. Greg POLING, Director, Southeast Asia Program and Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative, Center for Strategic and International Studies

1415 – 1615 – PANEL – New Old Theatres: Renewed Strategic Focus on the Pacific Islands

- **The Pacific Islands in National Maritime Strategies** - Rear Admiral David PROCTOR, Chief of Navy, Royal New Zealand Navy (TBC)
- **The Pursuit of Political Influence** - Dr. Tarcisius KABUTAULAKA, Associate Professor, University of Hawaii at Moana
- **A Regional Perspective on Geopolitics in the Pacific Islands** - Ms. Darshana BARUAH, Associate Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Great Power competition has re-emerged in the Pacific Islands. Once the scene of the largest naval conflict in human history, competing nations are placing renewed emphasis on the political, geographic, and natural resource advantages of the vast Pacific archipelagos. This growing strategic interest is also prompting the re-evaluation of operations for regional maritime forces, including in terms of patrol, logistics, and amphibious capabilities. What is driving these factors, and how might these islands and nations feature in future maritime considerations? How do islanders view these developments, and how can they ensure that their interests are protected?

1500 – 1530 - COFFEE BREAK

1800 – 2100 - Conference Banquet Dinner at the Union Club of British Columbia

Banquet Address

- Royal Navy flag officer (invited, TBC)

WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER (PROCEEDINGS, DAY 3)

0715 – 0755 - Continental Breakfast – Fairmont Empress Hotel

0800 – 0900 - PRESENTATION – Geopolitics, Security, and the Shipping Industry

- Dr. Sal MERCOGLIANO, Associate Professor of History, Campbell University



WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER (PROCEEDINGS, DAY 3) CONTINUED

0905 – 1035 - PANEL - Innovation to Meet Maritime Challenges

- The Return of Marine Mines - Speaker TBD
- What Can AI Do for You? – Captain (US Navy ret) George GALDORISI, US Naval Information Warfare Command
- Cybersecurity in the Maritime Domain – Dr. Gary KESSLER, Gary Kessler Associates

Navies have always been reliant on complex technologies, though this relationship is evolving at an accelerated pace. Innovation and the ability to integrate new technologies effectively can provide a tactical or strategic edge, and increase the efficiency of platforms, logistics, and support infrastructure. How have navies approached the development of new systems and skillsets, and how might these proficiencies – or deficiencies – impact future operations? What technologies – like artificial intelligence or cyber – might impact, complement, or outright replace established capabilities, and how might they be employed in the maritime realm?

1035 – 1105 - COFFEE BREAK

1105 – 1235 - PANEL - Building the Fleets of Tomorrow

- Canada's Shipbuilding Campaign - Mr. Tim CHOI, PhD Candidate, University of Calgary
- Naval Shipbuilding in Northeast Asia – Speaker TBC
- Submarine Fleets in the Indo-Pacific - Dr. Collin KOH Swee Lean, Research Fellow, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

As the list of national tasks given to maritime services expands, the fleets being built to address them are shrinking. Warships and personnel costs are not decreasing, and innovative solutions are required to meet ongoing and new challenges. Planning future fleets to address future challenges is a task laden with both risk and opportunity; while untested concepts could prove ineffective, they also provide an opportunity to reassess established practices. To that end, how do modern navies approach the opportunities for change presented by large-scale recapitalization projects?

1245 – 1405 - Lunch at the Union Club of British Columbia

Luncheon Address: Indo-Pacific Fisheries and Interstate Tensions

- Dr. Daniel PAULY, Sea Around Us, Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries & Department of Zoology
University of British Columbia

1415 – 1455 - Presentation: The Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship: New Platform, New Operations

- Cdr Corey GLEASON, former Commander HMCS *Harry DeWolf*, Royal Canadian Navy

The Harry DeWolf-class Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship will expand the Royal Canadian Navy's ability to operate in the high Arctic. The ships represent the introduction of a new capability, as well as a new set of ideas about how to operate in this challenging region. How will the RCN integrate these vessels and address the challenges of operating this new capability, and how will these ships help to expand RCN operations elsewhere?

1500 – 1700 - PANEL - 5 Eyes Perspectives on the Indo-Pacific

- Moderator: Mr. Jonathan BERKSHIRE-MILLER, Director, Indo-Pacific Program, MacDonald-Laurier Institute

1540 – 1610 - COFFEE BREAK

1700 – 1715 - Closing Remarks

- Dr. James BOUTILIER, Special Advisor (ret), Maritime Forces Pacific, Royal Canadian Navy

– ADJOURN –