5 WING GOOSE BAY DEFENCE FORUM

Procurement, Partnerships and Readiness at 5 Wing Goose Bay

November 24-25, 2026 | St. John's, NL | Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland

Theme: *Positioning Labrador as Canada's Northern Defence Hub*

DAY 1 – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Sessions are subject to change. Last updated November 22, 2026.

TIME	DETAILS
8:00am-9:00am	Registration & Networking Breakfast *Sponsored by Bird Construction*
9:00am-9:10am	Opening Remarks • Wyman Jacque, Chairperson – Labrador North Chamber of Commerce
9:10am-9:25am	 Keynote Address with Mr. Philip Earle Member of Parliament, Labrador – Government of Canada The Government of Canada continues advance its plan to rebuild, rearm and reinvest in the Canadian Armed Forces to defend Canada's North and strengthen its Arctic sovereignty. Beyond enhancing military readiness across the North, the historic defence investment for 5 Wing Goose Bay is driving potential for significant economic growth for communities and industry. Learn more from MP Earle during his keynote address.
9:30am-10:30am	Session 1 – 5 Wing Goose Bay Contractor Presentations Supporting operations at 5 Wing Goose Bay, local 5 Wing contractors will highlight how businesses can position themselves for partnership, subcontracting, and future procurement opportunities. Presenters: • Julie Russell, Program Director, 5 Wing Serco Site Manager – Serco Canada & Rob Pilgrim, Engineering Manager, 5 Wing Goose Bay Contract – BGIS
HEALTH BREAK *sponsored by the Royal Inn + Suites*	
10:45am-11:45am	Session 2 – Procurement Readiness with MCW Consultants Ltd. In 2026, the federal government awarded a $187M energy performance contract to MCW Custom Energy Solutions to modernize the Central Heating Plant at 5 Wing Goose Bay. During this session, participants will have an opportunity to engage directly with MCW to learn more about partnership opportunities to support the delivery of this significant infrastructure project. Presenter: • Jeff Provost, Leader, Indigenous Relations & Jud Mullen, Project Manager – MCW Custom Energy Solutions
12:00pm-1:20pm PAL	 Keynote Luncheon with Lieutenant Colonel William Brake Commander – 5 Wing/ CFB Goose Bay With the recent announcements for 5 Wing Goose Bay, there is significant interest, excitement, and optimism in the strong future of 5 Wing and opportunities for local business growth and procurement. During his address, LCol Brake will outline 5 Wing operations supported by the various ongoing infrastructure activities, and highlight how partnership with industry

	will directly support important both capacity and readiness for Defence activities and overall Canadian Armed Forces missions and our allies.
1:30pm-2:30pm	**Session 3 – Workforce Readiness: Strengthening Newfoundland & Labrador's Talent Pipeline** Workforce development is a strategic national capability for the defence industry, driven by the broader Canada Defence Industrial Strategy. Increased defence spending has accelerated the need for talent and workforce readiness in the sector, and strengthening talent pipelines and expanding apprenticeships must be viewed as a vital component of the sector's sustainability and success. *Moderated by: Victoria Belbin, CEO – Atlantic Canadian Aerospace & Defence Association* Panelists: • Bob Fiander, Executive Director – Trades NL • Fergus O'Brien, Acting President & CEO – College of the North Atlantic • Clifford Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Apprenticeship & Skilled Trades Department of Education & Early Childhood Development – Government of Newfoundland & Labrador – Speaker TBA
HEALTH BREAK *sponsored by the College of the North Atlantic*	
2:45pm-3:45pm	**Session 4 – From Defence Investment to Community Resilience: The Power of Dual-Use Infrastructure** Intentional infrastructure has the ability to not only support industry but transform and strengthen communities adjacent to major projects. As we enter a period of major defence investment, we must consider how major project development can help build the foundation to support multiple industries and sustainable communities. *Moderated by: AnnMarie Boudreau, CEO – Board of Trade* Panelists: • Laura Twigge-Molecey, Defence Managing Director – Hatch • His Worship Bert Pomeroy, Mayor – Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay • Peter Woodward, President & CEO – Woodward Group
4:00pm-4:45pm	**Session 5 – Information Session: DND & CAF Security Clearance Process** An overview of the Contract Security Program (CSP), including security screening requirements, the organization clearance process, application procedures, timelines, and how businesses can position themselves to participate in defence-related contracts and procurement opportunities. This session is ideal for organizations that are new to government security requirements or are preparing to pursue opportunities within the defence sector. *Presenter: Natalie Robinson, Senior Client Relations Officer* *Public Services & Procurement Canada, Contract Security Program*
6:30pm-8:30pm	 **Meet & Greet** Join us at **Sláinte** for an evening of networking and connection with music from the very talented Karla Jane Pilgrim!

DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

TIME	DETAILS
7:30am-8:30am	**Registration & Networking Breakfast** *Sponsored by MCW Custom Energy Solutions*
8:30am-8:35am	**Opening Remarks** • Julianne Griffin, CEO – Labrador North Chamber of Commerce

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8:35am-9:30am	**Session 6 – Built for Defence: Newfoundland & Labrador's Role** Welcoming remarks from **The Honourable Lin Paddock, Minister of Jobs, Growth & Rural Development**, and **The Honourable Lela Evans, Minister of Labrador Affairs**. Remarks will be followed by a presentation by provincial representatives on its *Built for Defence* strategy.
9:30am-10:30am	**Session 7 – Strengthening Defence Readiness for Newfoundland & Labrador** Moderated by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, this discussion will bring together government and industry for a discussion on Canada's defence strategy, emerging priorities and the environment required for businesses to contribute to a stronger and more resilient defence industrial base. *Moderated by David Pierce, Vice President, Government Relations – Canadian Chamber of Commerce* • Joseph Galimberti, Senior Vice President Public Affairs – PAL Group of Companies • Jo-Ann Purcell, Chief of Staff to the CEO & Director General of Operations – Defence Investment Agency • Victoria Belbin, CEO – Atlantic Canadian Aerospace & Defence Association
HEALTH BREAK	
10:45am-11:50am	**Session 8 – Defence Procurement Session: NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure Team** Hosted by the Department of National Defence, this session will highlight the NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure (NNBI) projects, specifically infrastructure investments anticipated for 5 Wing Goose Bay. A Q&A session will follow the presentation. Presenters: • Carole Garrett, Project Director – NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure, NORAD Modernization Infrastructure Projects Delivery, ADM (Infrastructure & Environment) • Tom Murphy, Project Manager & Deputy Team Lead - Arctic and Northern Infrastructure, ADM (Infrastructure & Environment) • Vince Wawryk, Manager Project Development - NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure, Royal Canadian Air Force • Keltie Léger – Procurement Specialist (Operations), Atlantic Regional Office, Defence Construction • Carlos Marques - Manager, Site Operations - Defence Construction Canada
11:50am-12:00pm	**Closing Remarks** • Wyman Jacque, Chairperson – Labrador North Chamber of Commerce
END OF FORUM	

Thank you to our partners!

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