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 October 29, 2026.

TIME	DETAILS
8:00am-9:00am HATCH	Registration & Networking Breakfast
9:00am-9:30am	Opening Remarks • Julianne Griffin, CEO – Labrador North Chamber of Commerce • Philip Earle, Member of Parliament, Labrador – Government of Canada • Lieutenant Colonel William Brake, Commander – CFB 5 Wing Goose Bay
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	
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 Group 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 – MCW Consultants Ltd.
12:00pm-1:20pm PAL	*Keynote speaker and details to be announced soon!*
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, Interim President & CEO – College of the North Atlantic • Government of Newfoundland & Labrador – Speaker TBA

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HEALTH BREAK	
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. Panelists: • Laura Twigge-Molecey, Defence Managing Director – Hatch • Speakers TBA
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 HATCH	**Registration & Networking Breakfast**
8:30am-8:35am	**Opening Remarks** • Julianne Griffin, CEO – Labrador North Chamber of Commerce
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**, 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* • Simon Carroll, President – PAL Aerospace • Jo-Ann Purcell, Chief of Staff to the CEO & Director General of Operations – Defence Investment Agency • Victoria Belbin, CEO – Atlantic Canadian Aerospace & Defence Association

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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. Presenter: • Carole Garrett, Project Director – NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure, NORAD Modernization Infrastructure Projects Delivery, ADM (Infrastructure & Environment)
11:50am-12:00pm	Closing Remarks • Julianne Griffin, CEO – Labrador North Chamber of Commerce
END OF FORUM	

Thank you to our partners!

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PAL

HATCH