ASIA PACIFIC FOUNDATION OF CANADA | FONDATION ASIE PACIFIQUE DU CANADA

CANADA-IN-ASIA CONFERENCE
CANADA-EN-ASIE CONFÉRENCE
Singapore | Singapour

CANADA-IN-ASIA CONFERENCE 2027
PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Location:
Shangri-La Singapore

<u>**Wednesday, March 3**</u>

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. **SPECIAL SESSIONS**

9:00 a.m. -10:15 a.m. **OPENING PLENARY:**

New Prospects for Canada-Asia Co-operation Amid Geopolitical Rupture?
(Island Ballroom)

CIAC2027 takes place a little over one year after Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's January 2026 speech at the World Economic Forum Meeting in Davos. There he remarked that we are in the midst of a rupture of the international system, not a transition. In order for countries to develop greater strategic autonomy in the contemporary reality, he urged us all to build "coalitions that work, issue by issue, with partners who share enough common ground to act together." In large part, this is the impetus motivating CIAC2027: building resilience and co-operative networks in energy, food, critical minerals, investment and finance, and supply chains. Since Prime Minister Carney's speech, how have Canada's priorities vis-à-vis Asia changed, are the foreign and trade policies of economies in the Indo-Pacific changing, and what does the near future hold for Canada-Asia co-operation?

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. **POST-PLENARY NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Sector: Energy Security | Theme: Trade Diversification and Supply Chains
Location: Azalea I

All to play for: Canada Should Supply the Indo-Pacific with More LNG, LPG, and Oil
The on-again, off-again closure of the Strait of Hormuz has demonstrated the vulnerability of much of Asia to Middle East energy shocks while making clear that Canada's opportunity to become a trusted energy supplier to the region is real yet time-limited, and will require the construction of infrastructure

at speed. Will Canada be able to move quickly enough to capitalize? This session examines the Canadian supply side of the Canada-Asia energy security equation, incorporating new energy infrastructure projects, and the participation of First Nations in developing Canada's energy export economies, to propel Canada as the energy supplier of choice to partners in the Indo-Pacific.

Sector: Food Security / Theme: Canada-Asia Two-Way Investment
Location: Azalea II

Are Transformational Investments in Canada's Food Systems Helping Food Security in Asia?
Canada's National Food Security Strategy envisions an agricultural powerhouse that processes a far higher proportion of output and supplies global markets with higher-value products. What investments is Canada planning to bring this vision to reality, and where are the opportunities for investors from the Indo-Pacific? How is the Strategy likely to affect investment in and trade with Asia?

Sector: Defence Industries | Theme: Middle Power Collaboration
Location: Azalea III

Why and How Are Middle Powers Shaping Indo-Pacific Security Policy and Industry Co-Operation?
This session explores middle power security co-operation in the Indo-Pacific and efforts by ASEAN member economies, Canada, Australia, Japan, South Korea, India, and others to expand defence co-operation, as well as capability co-development and co-production as strategic defence partners. Canada's expanding defence arrangements with the Philippines and Indonesia, its purchase of 'over-the-horizon' radar capabilities from Australia, and heightened Indo-Pacific deployments provide a foundation; additional steps include solidifying security alignment and complementary industrial capability.

12:00 p.m.- 12:30 p.m. **POST-SESSION NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

12:30 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. **LUNCH PLENARY:**
Investing in Major Infrastructure, Mining, and Energy Projects in Canada
(Island Ballroom)

2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. **POST-PLENARY NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **CANADA-ASIA SHOWCASES**

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **POST-SESSION NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **SPECIAL SESSIONS**

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **PRE- GALA RECEPTION**
(Island Foyer)

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. **GALA DINNER**
(Island Ballroom)

Thursday, March 4

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. **SPECIAL SESSIONS**

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **POST-SESSION NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **MORNING PLENARY:**
Keynote or Armchair Discussion (TBC)
(Island Ballroom)

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **POST-PLENARY NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Sector: Energy Security | Theme: Middle Power Collaboration
Location: Azalea I

How Can We Build Critical Minerals Processing and Refining Capacity in Canada and the Indo-Pacific?
Critical minerals and rare earth elements are indispensable for a broad range of clean energy technologies and industrial processes and applications, yet supply chains for many critical minerals are concentrated, with processing and refining – dominated by China – being a particular chokepoint. Diversifying critical minerals supply chains will require complex multinational co-operation supported by government incentives to crowd in private investment and facilitate specific supply chain functions. This panel puts mining companies, processors, refiners, investors, and government leaders in the same room to test a specific question: is there a real appetite to expand strategic processing and refining capabilities for select critical minerals in Canada, Indonesia, Australia, Malaysia, Japan, and elsewhere? What complementary capabilities already exist? And what are some short-term steps to speed this process?

Sector: Food Security | Theme: Trade Diversification and Supply Chains
Location: Azalea II

Responding to Disruption: Where Next for Canada-Indo-Pacific Food Supply Chains?
As food systems become increasingly uncertain and more complex, how are companies managing simultaneous commercial partnerships in China, ASEAN, the Middle East, India, Japan, South Korea, North America, and beyond? Canadian producers are seeking to broaden commercial relationships in the Indo-Pacific while many in the region see Canada as a dependable, high-quality partner – for agricultural commodities, agri-food products, agri-tech, fertilizer and more – in their pursuit of food security. Free trade agreements are helpful in addressing complexity and uncertainty, as are expanding logistics capabilities, mutual recognition of food safety standards, and building relationships based on trust. How

are new strategies and market support mechanisms – corporate-led and government-led – in Canada and across Asia bringing predictability to Indo-Pacific agri-supply chains? What bottlenecks are slowing or limiting diversification, and how should we overcome them?

Sector: Defence Industries | Theme: Canada-Asia Two-Way Investment
Location: Azalea III

Beyond Red Tape: Navigating the Canada-Asia Defence and Dual-Use Investment Landscape
In June 2025, Prime Minister Mark Carney announced that Canada aims to achieve a target of 5 per cent of GDP for total defence-related spending by 2035. Canada's Defence Industrial Strategy puts forward a plan for implementing this major increase in military expenditure, including partnering with allies when Canada does not have the capability to build domestically. Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and others in the Indo-Pacific have announced or intend significant increases in defence expenditures. But investing in companies that make military or dual-use technologies is tightly restricted in Canada and across the Indo-Pacific through national security provisions in legislation governing foreign investment. What legal and co-operative structures are in play for facilitating foreign investment in military or dual-use technology companies across the Indo-Pacific and in Canada? What is required for Asia-Canada 'trusted investor' pathways? And what can we learn from companies that are already active in these spaces?

12:15 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. **POST-SESSION NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. **LUNCH PLENARY: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF CANADA-ASEAN RELATIONS**
(Island Ballroom)

1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. **POST-PLENARY NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **INVESTOR FORUM**

Invitation-only (led by APF Canada's WES team)

2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Sector: Energy Security | Theme: Canada-Asia Two-Way Investment
Location: Azalea I

Building Two-Way Canada–Asia Energy Investment Partnerships: How Can Strategic Demand be Converted into Concrete Deals?
With Asian economies exposed to Middle East energy shocks and Canada seeking deeper energy

partnerships with China, India, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and ASEAN, a central question is how to convert strategic demand into closed deals. What makes projects financeable at scale? This session examines long-term offtakes, Indigenous partnerships, permitting certainty, and Asian capital participation in Canadian energy infrastructure, while also looking at Canadian capital participating in the development of Asian energy opportunities such as the ASEAN Power Grid and other systems-scale projects.

Sector: Food Security | Theme: Middle Power Collaboration
Location: Azalea II

Are We at the Table or on the Menu? Middle Power Co-operation for Food Security
While the world's largest markets offer the potential of accessing broad consumer bases, they also present downside risk amid tariff vulnerability and the imposition of non-tariff barriers. How can Canada, ASEAN partners, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and others enhance food system resilience that relies less on access to superpower markets? How can we deepen and broaden co-operation among middle-power agri-food ecosystems, including in emerging food technology and AI, throughout our food systems?

Sector: Defence Industries | Theme: Trade Diversification and Supply Chains
Location: Azalea III

What is the Future for Defence Supply Chains? Next-Gen Tech, Cyber, Sensors, and Space…As the Canadian government and many Indo-Pacific governments initiate step changes in military spending, defence and dual-use companies are looking to grow their presence in expanding defence supply chains. And as hybrid threats and grey zone activities – coercive actions that blend military and non-military methods – proliferate, military readiness must evolve apace. However, Canadian firms remain marginal suppliers to Indo-Pacific militaries, just as Asian producers are largely absent from supply chains serving the Canadian Armed Forces. This session examines next-generation capabilities such as cyber, autonomous systems, sensors, space-based assets and critical infrastructure protection, as well as more traditional defence procurements, such as armaments and materiel, and asks where commercial opportunities and partnership models actually lie in the evolving Canada-Asia context, including in procurement programs, technology co-development and the Canada-headquartered Defence, Security and Resilience Bank.

3:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. **POST-SESSION NETWORKING AND TRANSITION**

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. **CLOSING PLENARY:**
What Does Successful Canada-Asia Co-operation Look Like in 2030?
(Island Ballroom)

4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	**CLOSING RECEPTION** (Island Foyer)