



## Reference Guide

### The Arctic and Canadian North in Defence White Papers – 1964-2024

#### NAADSN Emerging Leaders' Node Reference Guide

Daniel Alaniz

NAADSN Research Fellow

April 2026

#### 1964 – WHITE PAPER ON DEFENCE

Formal government document cover. Simple, centered, black-and-white layout, entitled "WHITE PAPER ON DEFENCE" and lists the ministers: "HONOURABLE PAUL HELLYER Minister of National Defence" and "HONOURABLE LUCIEN CARDIN Associate Minister of National Defence." Dated "MARCH 1964". It also includes the Coat of Arms of Canada.

**Link:** [https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection\\_2012/dn-nd/D3-6-1964-eng.pdf](https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D3-6-1964-eng.pdf)

Page	Direct quotes	Summary	Theme
	No relevant quotes		

## Reference Guide

### 1971 - WHITE PAPER “DEFENCE IN THE 70S”

The cover includes a photograph of three soldiers wearing winter military camouflage, snow rackets, and other cold-weather equipment. The environment shows snow and ice, suggesting it may be an Arctic area. A military aircraft can be seen in the background. This cover is titled "DEFENCE IN THE 70s".

Link: <a href="https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D3-6-1971-eng.pdf">https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D3-6-1971-eng.pdf</a>			
Page	Direct quotes	Summary	Theme
1	“Defence responsibilities required re-examination as a result of Government decisions to regulate the development of <b>the North</b> in a manner compatible with environmental preservation, and with legislation enacted to prevent pollution in the <b>Arctic and the Northern</b> inland waters.”	Northern development laws prompted defence review.	Northern environmental protection
8	“ <b>The North</b> , in a sense the last frontier of Canada, has a unique physical environment presenting special problems of administration and control. Modern industrial technology has in recent years stimulated a growth of commercial interest in the resource potential of the area, and contributed to a major increase in oil and gas exploration in the Territories, especially on the <b>Arctic</b> Islands. These activities, in which foreign as well as Canadian companies are involved, have brought with them a need to ensure that exploitation of the resources is carried out in	Canada has enacted strict regulations to protect its northern environment, especially the Arctic Islands, from industrial activity and pollution, including rules on land use, resource exploitation, and extended pollution control up to 100 miles from the mainland and islands.	Arctic/northern environmental protection



## Reference Guide

	<p>accordance with Canada's long-term national interests. There is a danger that this increased activity with its inherent danger of oil or other pollution might disturb the finely balanced ecology of the region. The Government therefore decided to take special measures to ensure the environmental preservation of this uniquely vulnerable area, and to ensure that these measures are fully respected. Strict regulations governing land use and mineral exploration and exploitation are being brought into effect. Legislation provides for the exercise of pollution control jurisdiction in an area extending generally 100 miles from the mainland and islands of the Canadian <b>Arctic</b>.”</p>		
<p><b>12-13</b></p>	<p>“The Canadian Forces have made a major contribution to the development of the <b>North</b>. The Northwest Territories and Yukon Radio System, established in 1923, pioneered development of communications in the <b>North</b>. Both before Second World War and in the post-war years, the Forces carried out extensive aerial photographic and survey activities which played a key part in mapping the <b>Arctic</b> and in opening it up for air transportation.</p> <p>The construction of defence installations in the <b>North</b> developed new techniques for dealing with permafrost and other <b>Arctic</b> conditions which have been invaluable to subsequent</p>	<p>The Canadian Forces have significantly contributed to northern development through pioneering communications, mapping, and Arctic navigation. They built defence infrastructure and developed techniques for operating in permafrost and extreme conditions.</p>	<p>Canadian forces contribution to northern development</p>



## Reference Guide

	<p>northern development. Much has been done to understand and deal with the special problems of communications and navigation in the <b>Arctic</b>. An icebreaker operated by the Forces was the first large ship to navigate the Northwest Passage. The Forces, with the help of the Defence Research Board (DRB), have been in the forefront of the opening of the <b>North</b> and have pioneered in finding solutions to the problems of its development. This role will be enhanced in the future, particularly where National Defence engineering and construction resources can be utilized.</p>		
13	<p>“The Forces will make a major contribution to the preservation of an unspoiled environment and an improved quality of life by supporting the civil agencies in exercising pollution control in the <b>North</b> and off Canada's coasts. The Forces and the Canada Emergency Measures Organization will continue to play an important part in providing relief and assistance in the event of natural disasters or other civil emergencies, including those resulting from oil spills or other forms of pollution.”</p>	<p>The Forces assist civil agencies with environmental protection and provide disaster relief, including responses to oil spills and other emergencies.</p>	<p>Northern environmental protection and disaster response</p>
18	<p>“Maritime and Land: A substantial capability for surveillance over Canada's waters in the temperate zone is currently available. Surveillance over <b>Arctic</b> land and waters can be</p>	<p>Canada has strong surveillance in temperate waters, but Arctic monitoring is limited. The government is evaluating</p>	<p>Arctic surveillance limitations</p>



## Reference Guide

	<p>carried out by long-range patrol aircraft but at present is limited by light and weather conditions. Surveillance by ships is restricted to ice-free periods of the year. Because of the areas involved, general ground surveillance by land forces is not practicable. The Department of National Defence is assessing the challenges that might be expected in the Canadian <b>North</b> and, if warranted, will increase surveillance.”</p>	<p>these gaps and may expand northern surveillance.</p>	
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p>“Although Canada has a good capability to detect submarines in its waters in the temperate zone, it has only very limited capability to detect submarine activity in the <b>Arctic</b>. It might be desirable in the future to raise the level of capability so as to have subsurface perimeter surveillance, particularly to cover the channels connecting the <b>Arctic</b> Ocean to Baffin Bay and Baffin Bay to the Atlantic. The Government is therefore undertaking research to determine the costs and feasibility of a limited subsurface system to give warning of any unusual maritime activity. The Defence Research Board is playing an important role in these studies. If found to be desirable, the system could be operated as part of the overall surveillance of North America against unknown submarines.”</p>	<p>Canada has strong submarine detection in temperate waters but limited capability in the Arctic. The government is researching a subsurface surveillance system to monitor key Arctic channels.</p>	<p>Arctic submarine surveillance</p>



## Reference Guide

19	<p>“Some of the activities identified are:          (e) surveillance when needed of Canadian waters off the East and West coasts and in the <b>North</b> to detect pollution at sea;          (g) surveillance of sites of mineral exploration and exploitation projects in the <b>North</b> when verification of their location and status is required; and          (h) during the appropriate seasons, provision of observer space on aircraft engaged in northern surveillance operations to permit wildlife observation.”</p>	<p>Identified activities include monitoring waters for pollution, overseeing mineral exploration sites, and providing aircraft space for wildlife observation.</p>	<p>Northern environmental and resource surveillance</p>
20	<p>“The Government will keep under review the options available for using mobile surveillance radars, either airborne or air portable, so that airspace control can be instituted where and when needed. For example, protection of Canadian interests may, in the future, require air-traffic controlled air- space in certain parts of the <b>North</b>.”</p>	<p>The government is assessing mobile airborne and portable radar systems to strengthen surveillance.</p>	<p>Northern airspace control</p>
24	<p>“The three combat groups within Canada are air transportable and the Canadian Airborne Regiment provides a parachute-drop capability well suited for operations in the <b>North</b>.”</p>	<p>Canada’s three combat groups are well suited for northern operations.</p>	<p>Northern airspace operations</p>
24	<p>“More emphasis is being placed on training the Armed Forces to live and operate in the <b>Arctic</b>. A Northern Region</p>	<p>Canada is strengthening Arctic readiness by expanding training, establishing a</p>	<p>Arctic operational training</p>



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

Headquarters has been established at Yellowknife, and there is a military liaison staff at Whitehorse. Consideration will be given to establishing other small bases in the **North**, particularly in the **Arctic** Islands, and to the desirability of reconstituting the Canadian Rangers. National Defence is also examining the desirability of establishing a special training school for all personnel assigned to the **North**. The adequacy of existing equipment is also being studied, with particular emphasis on over-snow vehicles.”

headquarters in Yellowknife and liaison staff in Whitehorse, while considering new bases.



## Reference Guide

### 1987 – WHITE PAPER “CHALLENGE AND COMMITMENT”: A Defence Policy for Canada

The cover features a world map in which the Arctic appears at the center of the planet, with Canada highlighted in white and reflecting its territory into space. It is titled “Challenge and Commitment: A Defence Policy for Canada.” It also includes the Government of Canada logo and National Defence.

<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D2-73-1987-eng.pdf">https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D2-73-1987-eng.pdf</a>			
<b>Page</b>	<b>Direct quotes</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Theme</b>
6	“The <b>Arctic Ocean</b> , lying between the two superpowers, is also an area of growing strategic importance. In the past it served as a buffer between the Soviet Union and North America. Technology, however, is making the <b>Arctic</b> more accessible. Canadians cannot ignore that what was once a buffer could become a battleground.”	The Arctic Ocean is increasingly strategic as technology makes it more accessible, potentially turning it into a future battleground.	Arctic strategic importance
10	“More recently. Soviet bombers have gained new importance with the development and production of new models equipped with air-launched, long-range, land-attack cruise missiles (ALC.Ms). These cruise missiles could be launched in airborne nuclear strikes against North America from points well off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and from the <b>Canadian Arctic</b> . Anticipated improvements in cruise	Soviet bombers with long-range cruise missiles pose a greater threat to North America, including from Arctic launch points.	Arctic strategic threat



## Reference Guide

	missile performance will make defending North America even more difficult.”		
11	“ <b>Canadian Arctic waters</b> could well provide an alternate route for Soviet submarines to move from the <b>Arctic Ocean</b> to the Atlantic to reach cruise missile firing positions further south or to operate in more traditional roles against vital Allied shipping.”	Canadian Arctic waters may serve as a route for Soviet submarines to reach the Atlantic for missile strikes.	Arctic submarine threat
23	“Canada is not universally recognized as being sovereign in all of the areas that we claim. At the moment, the United States considers the <b>Northwest Passage</b> to be an "international strait". We regard it as "internal waters" and are engaged in discussions to see whether a solution can be reached based on mutual respect for sovereignty and our common security and other interests. In peacetime the enforcement of Canadian laws throughout our territory is the responsibility of the civil authorities. This includes Canadian legislation on navigation and pollution in ice-covered waters, game laws in the <b>Arctic</b> , the regulation of fisheries and the control of air traffic in Canadian airspace. In this respect the Polar 8 Icebreaker will make a significant	Canada’s Arctic sovereignty is challenged by the U.S., with the Polar 8 Icebreaker supporting presence and control.	Arctic sovereignty enforcement



## Reference Guide

	contribution to the maintenance of a Canadian presence and the exercise of sovereignty in <b>Arctic waters.</b> ”		
43	“Modernization programs have not kept pace with obsolescence. The maritime forces have too few operational vessels, very limited capacity to operate in the <b>Arctic</b> and no capability to keep Canadian waterways and harbours clear of mines.”	Canada’s maritime forces are outdated, with too few vessels, limited Arctic capability, and no mine-clearance capacity.	Arctic naval limitations
49	“We will provide the navy with modern, capable vessels for operations in the three oceans contiguous to our territory: the Atlantic, the Pacific and the <b>Arctic</b> . Our ability to survey and defend Canadian territory will be bolstered.”	Canada will equip its navy with modern vessels for Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic operations.	Arctic naval modernization
50	“Over the past two decades, with the development of nuclear power, the <b>Arctic</b> has become an operating area for submarines. Deep channels through the Canadian Arctic offer a means of passing between the <b>Arctic</b> and Atlantic oceans. In a period of tension or war, Soviet submarines could seek to operate off the deep channels of the Canadian Archipelago to intercept Allied submarines entering the <b>Arctic</b> . Moreover, the Soviets might use these channels in war to reach patrol areas in the North Atlantic, including the Labrador Sea. In	The Arctic as a key submarine operating area, but the Canadian navy lacks the capability to monitor or deter under-ice activity. Mine warfare is impractical, underlining the need for new Arctic naval capabilities.	Arctic submarine threat



## Reference Guide

	<p>light of these circumstances, the Canadian navy must be able to determine what is happening under the ice in the Canadian <b>Arctic</b>, and to deter hostile or potentially hostile intrusions. At present, the Canadian navy cannot carry out in the <b>Arctic</b> these roles essential to our security and sovereignty. Some have suggested that the use of mines would be sufficient to counter the submarine threat. Canada, however, has no stocks of mines and no infrastructure to support mine warfare. Moreover, Western nations have no mines designed specifically for the <b>Arctic</b>. Such capabilities could be acquired, but they would be costly and, in light of their specialized purpose, neither flexible nor cost-effective. Even then, how would mines be laid in channels which are covered with ice? Once there, could control over them be maintained in light of the ever-present danger that ice movement would alter their location? When necessary, could they be removed, as is required by the 1907 Hague Convention? Could any Canadian government responsibly accept the risk of inadvertently sinking a neutral or friendly vessel?"</p>		
<p>51</p>	<p>“While there is little to recommend the use of mines defensively in the <b>Arctic</b>, an enemy could use them against us to good effect in our more southern waters. Canada's ports and</p>	<p>Canada’s ports and waterways are vulnerable to mines, lacking effective clearance capabilities, making modernization essential.</p>	<p>Arctic mine vulnerability</p>



## Reference Guide

	internal waters are vulnerable to closure or disruption in war by mines laid by enemy ships, submarines or aircraft. Because Canada has no effective means of clearing mines. even a small number could close a port or waterway. Modern mines could be easily and surreptitiously laid just prior to hostilities, and activated when needed. Our current inability to meet this threat must be rectified.”		
51	“The goal will be greater flexibility, a more appropriate balance among air, surface, and underwater assets and the reorientation of Canadian naval forces toward effective operations in the Atlantic, the Pacific and the <b>Arctic</b> oceans.”	Modernization of its navy with balanced air, surface, and underwater capabilities.	Naval modernization objective
51	“In all three oceans, underwater surveillance is essential to monitor the activities of potentially hostile submarines. Greater emphasis will be placed on underwater detection by continuing to develop Canadian sonar systems, by acquiring array towing vessels to provide an area surveillance capability in the northeast Pacific and northwest Atlantic, and by deploying fixed sonar systems in the <b>Canadian Arctic</b> .”	Canada will strengthen underwater surveillance in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic through sonar development, array-towing vessels, and fixed Arctic sonar systems.	Underwater surveillance



## Reference Guide

52	<p>“Submarines are essential to meet current and evolving long range ocean surveillance and control requirements in the Atlantic and Pacific as well as in the <b>Arctic</b>. Nuclear-powered submarines (SSNs) are uniquely capable anti-submarine platforms.”</p>	<p>Submarines (particularly nuclear-powered ones) as a vital tool for long-range ocean surveillance and anti-submarine operations.</p>	<p>Underwater/Submarine surveillance</p>
53	<p>“A program of 10 to 12 will permit submarines to be on station on a continuing basis in the Canadian areas of responsibility in the northeast Pacific, the North Atlantic and the Canadian <b>Arctic</b>. There they will be employed in essentially the same role now assigned to our diesel submarines. A fleet of nuclear-powered submarines is the best way to achieve the required operational capabilities in the vast Pacific and Atlantic oceans. In addition, the SSN is the only vessel able to exercise surveillance and control in northern Canadian ice-covered waters. SSNs will complement aircraft, destroyers and frigates in a vivid demonstration of Canadian determination to meet challenges in all three oceans.”</p>	<p>A fleet of 10–12 nuclear-powered submarines, supported by aircraft, destroyers, and frigates, will maintain continuous patrols in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Arctic to ensure surveillance and control.</p>	<p>Arctic submarine operations</p>
55	<p>“The North American Air Defence Modernization Program involves several new radar systems. The North Warning System, replacing the Distant Early Warning Line, will stretch from Alaska across the <b>Canadian Arctic</b> at approximately the</p>	<p>The North American Air Defence Modernization Program will deploy the North Warning System across the Canadian Arctic and East Coast.</p>	<p>Arctic air defence</p>



## Reference Guide

	70th parallel and extend down the East Coast to Labrador. It will consist of minimally manned, long range radars and unmanned short-range, gap-filler radars.”		
56	“We will be upgrading five existing airfields in the <b>North</b> to function as Forward Operating Locations for interceptors from Cold Lake and Bagotville. As recently announced, the new Forward Operating Locations will be Yellowknife, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet, Kuujjuaq and Iqaluit, where preconstruction preparations will begin this summer, with construction following in 1990. In addition, other airfields will be upgraded to serve as Dispersed Operating Bases for the Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft.”	Five northern airfields (Yellowknife, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet, Kuujjuaq, and Iqaluit) will be upgraded as Forward Operating Locations for interceptors.	Northern/arctic air defence
57	“Our surveillance of the <b>Arctic</b> has increased, but we are still only able to launch a three-day patrol approximately once every three weeks. To remedy this situation we shall acquire at least six additional long range patrol aircraft and will modernize our fleet of Tracker medium-range aircraft.”	Canada will acquire aircraft to improve Arctic surveillance.	Arctic surveillance capacity



## Reference Guide

<p>58</p>	<p>“Although technologically more challenging, these systems will, in time, replace the ground-based radars of the <b>North Warning System</b> to provide a detection capability adequate against the bomber and cruise missile forces of the future. Only space-based surveillance has the potential for complete coverage of Canadian territory and adjoining air and sea space.”</p>	<p>Space-based surveillance will eventually replace ground-based North Warning System radars.</p>	<p>Northern/arctic air defence</p>
<p>60</p>	<p>“Aside from the quick response capability of the Canadian Airborne Regiment, and the valuable but limited surveillance in the Arctic provided by the Canadian Rangers, there is insufficient trained manpower or suitable equipment earmarked specifically for these missions.”                  “We are seeking a location that comprises all the essential elements for our military purposes and for support of sea, land and air training in <b>Arctic</b> conditions. The selection of the site for the centre will take into account the views of native peoples, existing facilities and local land uses.”</p>	<p>Canada lacks sufficient personnel and equipment for Arctic missions and plans to establish an Arctic training centre while considering Indigenous perspectives and existing land use.</p>	<p>Arctic defence capacity</p>
<p>66</p>	<p>“However, while the role of the Canadian Rangers will remain basically unchanged, its significance as a surveillance force and as a visible expression of Canadian sovereignty in the</p>	<p>Canada will expand and equip the Rangers to strengthen Arctic sovereignty.</p>	<p>Rangers and Arctic sovereignty</p>



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

	<p><b>North</b> requires its expansion and an improvement in the equipment, training and support it receives.”</p>		
<b>89</b>	<p>“We will create a modern navy capable of operating in the Atlantic, the Pacific and the <b>Arctic</b>. We will bolster our capacity for surveillance and defence of Canadian territory. We will revitalize and enlarge the Reserves so that they can assume a greater role in the defence of Canada.”</p>	<p>Canada will modernize the navy and strengthen territorial defence.</p>	<p>Military modernization</p>



## Reference Guide

### 1992 - CANADIAN DEFENCE POLICY

The design is simple and text-based, featuring a geometric graphic, the Badge of the Canadian Armed Forces, the Government of Canada logo and National Defence. It is dated April 1992.

<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D3-7-1992-eng.pdf">https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D3-7-1992-eng.pdf</a>			
<b>Page</b>	<b>Direct quotes</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Theme</b>
18	<p>“Canadian companies have developed recognized expertise in niche markets which include aircraft, simulation, drones and remotely-piloted vehicles, as well as military equipment designed for use in the <b>Arctic</b>.”</p> <p>The objectives of National Defence, with respect to the North, are to uphold Canadian sovereignty by exercising surveillance, demonstrating presence, helping civilian agencies cope with non-military contingencies and advising government on measures to deal with new challenges. These objectives will be pursued in various ways. National Defence will expand the Rangers. It will retain an airborne battalion capable of reacting to short notice emergencies in remote areas. It will conduct research and develop systems of particular applicability to the <b>North</b>. It will coordinate its activities and plans with other departments and governments, assisting civil authorities in public welfare emergencies, including search and rescue</p>	<p>Canadian Forces aim to uphold Northern sovereignty through surveillance, presence, emergency response, coordination with agencies, and specialized training and research in Arctic conditions</p>	<p>Northern sovereignty operations</p>

# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node



## Reference Guide

	operations. The Canadian Forces will continue to carry out surveillance of the North and its air and sea approaches. They will develop and maintain maritime, land and air plans, and carry out training exercises in the <b>North</b> .”		
18-19	“A number of specific initiatives are improving the ability of the Canadian Forces to contribute to sovereignty and security in the North. The acquisition of three Arctic and Maritime Surveillance aircraft will make possible an increase in northern air surveillance patrols. The completion of the North Warning System will significantly enhance the capability of the Canadian Forces to monitor the use of Canadian airspace. The upgrading of northern airfields and the acquisition of Hercules aircraft with an air refuelling capability will enable the air force, for the first time in Canadian history, to deploy fighters anywhere across the Canadian <b>North</b> . The installation of a sub-surface acoustic detection system to monitor movements at a number of strategic choke-points in the Canadian Archipelago, and to monitor activity in the Arctic basin, will give Canada an unprecedented detection and surveillance capability in the North. Plans to develop a facility in northern Quebec will also expand the Canadian Forces' presence in the <b>North</b> and facilitate training in Arctic conditions. Northern Region,	Canadian Forces are enhancing Arctic sovereignty and security through surveillance aircraft, airfield upgrades, Hercules refuelling, detection systems, and expanded northern presence and training.	Arctic security enhancement



## Reference Guide

	encompassing the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, is headquartered in Yellowknife. It will be renamed Canadian Forces <b>Northern Area</b> and remain under the command of the Chief of the Defence Staff.”		
22-23	<p>“In structuring the maritime forces, we will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase our surveillance capability in the <b>Arctic</b>.</li> </ul> <p>The following air assets will provide maritime air support for both East and West coasts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arctic</b> and Maritime Surveillance aircraft; [...]”</li> </ul>	Enhanced Arctic surveillance	Enhanced Arctic surveillance
25-26	<p>“In light of Canadian geography, we also require these capabilities over the widest possible area of Canadian jurisdiction, including the <b>North</b>.”</p> <p>“The air forces will need airlift and air-to-air refuelling sufficient to support the forward deployment of fighters in the <b>North</b> and for international contingency Operations.”</p>	Canada requires broad Arctic coverage and air capabilities for northern deployments and international operations.	Arctic air capability
28	“The air forces will provide support to the maritime forces for anti-submarine warfare, surveillance, search and rescue, and other national tasks. Three maritime patrol squadrons, as well as a training unit, will be equipped with long-range patrol	Air forces will support maritime operations with patrol and helicopter aircraft.	Maritime air support



## Reference Guide

	aircraft and Arctic and Maritime Surveillance aircraft. Two maritime helicopter squadrons and a training squadron will be equipped with shipborne helicopters.”		
30	“At anytime, four CF-18s are on alert somewhere in Canada. They could, in an emergency, be tasked for national missions, to do visual reconnaissance or searches for vessels. Other fighter aircraft could be prepared for short-notice alert in approximately 12 hours. Air Transport Group maintains one C-130 on two hours' standby in Edmonton as a contingency for a major air disaster in the North. This aircraft could be used in an emergency situation, and it is normally possible to provide other Hercules aircraft within two hours at either Trenton or Edmonton.”	CF-18s and Hercules aircraft remain on alert across Canada to respond quickly to emergencies and national missions, including the North.	Rapid northern response

### 1994 - WHITE PAPER ON DEFENCE

This publication does not have a cover. It begins directly with the title and the table of contents, without logos or coats of arms

## Reference Guide

**Link:** [https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection\\_2012/dn-nd/D3-6-1994-eng.pdf](https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/dn-nd/D3-6-1994-eng.pdf)

Page	Direct quotes	Summary	Theme
8	“79. The Government will also enhance the Canadian Rangers' capability to conduct <b>Arctic</b> and coastal land patrols, and will modestly increase the level of support to Cadet organizations.” of many Canadians is found in remote, difficult environments including three oceans, the <b>North</b> , and distant mines and forests.”	Rangers strengthened; Cadet support modestly increased for arctic patrols. terrain shapes remote livelihoods.	Arctic support patrol
17	“Canada's territory encompasses mountainous terrain, fjords, vast plains, rainforests, desert conditions, and the unique ecology of the <b>Arctic</b> . Our climate is harsh. Indeed, the economic livelihood of many Canadians is found in remote, difficult environments including three oceans, the <b>North</b> , and distant mines and forests.”	Harsh Arctic terrain shapes remote livelihoods.	Arctic geography challenges
19	“The Forces will be capable of mounting effective responses to emerging situations in our maritime areas of jurisdiction, our airspace, or within our territory, including the <b>North</b> .”	Forces respond across territory, airspace and the north.	North territorial defencemaritime cooperation



## Reference Guide

21	<p>“The maritime dimension of Canada-US cooperation in the defence of North America involves the surveillance and control of vast ocean areas on both coasts and in the <b>Arctic</b>. This mission is carried out in close partnership with the United States Navy and Coast Guard, and includes planning, operations and logistic support.”</p>	<p>Canada-US maritime surveillance, including the Arctic. System maintained at reduced readiness, retains scalable Arctic surveillance capability.</p>	<p>Arctic maritime cooperation</p>
22	<p>“<b>The North Warning System</b> of radars and forward operating locations will be maintained at a reduced level of readiness. Upon completion, the cost of operating and maintaining the system on an annual basis will be significantly lower. It will retain, however, the capability to conduct higher levels of surveillance and control operations at full readiness should the need arise.”</p>	<p>The North Warning System maintained at reduced readiness, retains scalable Arctic surveillance capability.</p>	<p>Arctic surveillance flexibility</p>
34	<p>“The Canadian Rangers reflect an important dimension of Canada's national identity and the Government will enhance their capability to conduct Arctic and coastal land patrols.”</p>	<p>Canada will enhance Rangers’ Arctic patrols.</p>	<p>Arctic patrols</p>

### 2005 - “CANADA’S INTERNATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT. A ROLE OF PRIDE AND INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD. DEFENCE”

## Reference Guide

The first page of the document features a message from The Honourable Bill Graham, Minister of National Defence. The cover, on page 3, contains only the title of the paper on a white background, without logos or coats of arms.

<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/156831/Canada_Defence_2005.pdf">https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/156831/Canada_Defence_2005.pdf</a>			
<b>Page</b>	<b>Direct quotes</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Theme</b>
10	“The Canadian Forces have played an important role in asserting Canadian sovereignty in the <b>North</b> . Today, their activities include the work of <b>Northern Area</b> Headquarters in Yellowknife, the operation of the signals facility at Alert, overflights by our long-range patrol and Twin Otter aircraft, and periodic exercises. The Canadian Rangers, part-time Reservists who provide a military presence in remote, isolated and coastal communities in the North, report unusual activities or sightings, and conduct surveillance or sovereignty patrols as required.”	Canadian Forces and Rangers maintain northern presence and conduct sovereignty patrols.	Northern sovereignty and surveillance
17	“The demands of sovereignty and security for the Government could become even more pressing as activity in the North continues to rise. The mining of diamonds, for example, is expanding the region’s economy and spurring population growth. Air traffic over the high <b>Arctic</b> is increasing, and climate change could lead to more commercial vessel traffic in our northern waters. These developments will not result in the type of military threat to the North that we saw during the Cold	Growing economic activity, climate change, and increased traffic in the Arctic heighten Canada’s sovereignty, surveillance, and long-term security challenges.	Arctic sovereignty and security



## Reference Guide

	<p>War, but they could have long-term security implications. Although the primary responsibility for dealing with issues such as sovereignty and environmental protection, organized crime, and people and drug smuggling rests with other departments, the Canadian Forces will be affected in a number of ways. There will, for example, be a greater requirement for surveillance and control, as well as for search and rescue. Adversaries could be tempted to take advantage of new opportunities unless we are prepared to deal with asymmetric threats that are staged through the <b>North</b>.”</p>		
17	<p>“As part of this strategy, the Forces will: [...] increase their efforts to ensure the sovereignty and security of our territory, airspace and maritime approaches, including in the <b>Arctic</b>.”</p>	Forces will strengthen sovereignty and territorial security efforts.	Territorial sovereignty strategy
18	<p>“The effects of this new approach—a new command structure, with the emphasis on being able to bring an integrated military response to a given area to maximum effect—will also be seen in the <b>North</b>. Through a combination of enhanced surveillance (from satellites, unmanned aerial vehicles and radars), a more visible military presence and other improved capabilities (including airlift and communications), the Canadian Forces</p>	Integrated command, enhanced surveillance, and expanded capabilities strengthen military response in the North and reinforce Canada’s sovereignty interests.	Integrated Arctic military response



## Reference Guide

	will be better able to respond to northern contingencies, and the Government will be able to more strongly assert Canada’s interest in this vital region of the country.”		
19	“The Maritime Forces (Regular and Reserve) will: [...] enhance their surveillance of and presence in Canadian areas of maritime jurisdiction, including the near-ice and ice-free waters of the <b>Arctic</b> .”	Maritime Forces expand Arctic surveillance and operational presence.	Arctic maritime security
19-20	“The Air Forces (Regular and Reserve) will: [...] increase the surveillance and control of Canadian waters and the <b>Arctic</b> with modernized Aurora long-range maritime patrol aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles and satellites. enhance capabilities in the <b>North</b> by: • replacing the Twin Otter fleet with a more modern aircraft, and • considering the utility of basing search and rescue aircraft in the region.”	Air Forces modernize Arctic surveillance and control capabilities.	Arctic aerospace surveillance modernization
20	“The Land Forces (Regular and Reserve) will: [...] support the Government’s sovereignty and security objectives in the <b>North</b> by:	Land Forces strengthen northern sovereignty through patrols and Ranger communications.	Enhanced northern sovereignty operations



## Reference Guide

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improving the ability of the Canadian Rangers to communicate with other components of the Canadian Forces and government agencies, and</li> <li>• increasing Regular Force sovereignty patrols in the region.”</li> </ul>		
32	<p>“In today’s security environment, where unpredictability has become the dominant theme, the Canadian Forces have a critical role to play, along with other government departments and agencies, in protecting Canadians. To fulfill this role, they must be effective, relevant and responsive, with the ability to address threats both at home and overseas—whether in the remote regions of our <b>North</b> or in failed states half a world away.”</p>	Canadian Forces must adapt to unpredictable domestic and global threats.	Adaptive security role

### 2008 - “CANADA FIRST DEFENCE STRATEGY”

The cover is titled “Canada First Defence Strategy.” At the top is the Badge of the Canadian Armed Forces. Below, there is an illustrative map of Canadian territory showing its natural features, colored in blue on a white background. At the bottom are the Government of Canada and National Defence logos.



## Reference Guide

**Link:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/corporate/policies-standards/canada-first-defence-strategy-complete-document.html>

Page	Direct quotes	Summary	Theme
3	<p>“The military will deliver on this level of ambition by maintaining its ability to conduct six core missions within Canada, in North America and globally, at times simultaneously. Specifically, the Forces will have the capacity to:/offshore patrol ships.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct daily domestic and continental operations, including in the <b>Arctic</b> and through NORAD.”</li> </ul>	Forces conduct core missions, including daily operations in the Arctic through NORAD.	Domestic and continental operations enhancement
4	<p>“[...] the Government is procuring 17 new C-130J Hercules tactical lift aircraft and has announced plans to acquire 16 CH-47F Chinook helicopters, three replenishment ships, 2,300 trucks, up to 100 Leopard 2 tanks and 6–8 <b>Arctic</b>/offshore patrol ships.”activity. Retreating ice cover has opened the way for increased shipping, tourism and resource exploration, and new transportation routes are being considered, including through the Northwest Passage. While this promises substantial economic benefits for Canada, it has also brought new challenges from other shores. These changes in the Arctic could also spark an increase in illegal activity, with important</p>	Government acquiring equipment to strengthen Canadian Forces’ operational capabilities.	Military capability enhancement



## Reference Guide

	implications for Canadian sovereignty and security and a potential requirement for additional military support.”		
6	“In Canada’s <b>Arctic</b> region, changing weather patterns are altering the environment, making it more accessible to sea traffic and economic activity. Retreating ice cover has opened the way for increased shipping, tourism and resource exploration, and new transportation routes are being considered, including through the <b>Northwest Passage</b> . While this promises substantial economic benefits for Canada, it has also brought new challenges from other shores. These changes in the <b>Arctic</b> could also spark an increase in illegal activity, with important implications for Canadian sovereignty and security and a potential requirement for additional military support.”	Melting Arctic ice increases economic activity and shipping, raising security challenges and potential military needsmonitor territory with partners to detect threats early	Arctic security challenges
7	“The Forces must also work closely with federal government partners to ensure the constant monitoring of Canada’s territory and air and maritime approaches, including in the <b>Arctic</b> , in order to detect threats to Canadian security as early as possible.”demonstrating a visible Canadian presence in this potentially resource-rich region, and in helping other government agencies such as the Coast Guard respond to any threats that may arise.”	Forces monitor territory with partners to detect threats early	Integrated national security



## Reference Guide

<p>8</p>	<p>“Finally, the Canadian Forces must have the capacity to exercise control over and defend Canada’s sovereignty in the <b>Arctic</b>. New opportunities are emerging across the region, bringing with them new challenges. As activity in northern lands and waters accelerates, the military will play an increasingly vital role in demonstrating a visible Canadian presence in this potentially resource-rich region, and in helping other government agencies such as the Coast Guard respond to any threats that may arise.”</p>	<p>The Canadian Forces will strengthen Arctic sovereignty and support other agencies amid growing northern activity.</p>	<p>Arctic sovereignty and presence</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>“Over the last two years, the Government committed significant resources to rebuilding the Forces and made decisions related to the most urgent equipment needs while continuing the analysis supporting the Canada First Defence Strategy. During that period, the Government made significant commitments to acquire urgently needed equipment. This included C-17 Globemaster strategic and C-130J Hercules tactical transport aircraft, CH-47F Chinook heli- copters, Joint Support Ships and trucks to increase the deployability of the military, modern Leopard II tanks and mine-protected vehicles to enhance its combat-capability, and <b>Arctic</b>/offshore patrol ships to help the Forces operate in our northern waters.”</p>	<p>The Government upgraded the Canadian Forces with urgent equipment, including aircraft, helicopters, ships, tanks, vehicles, and Arctic patrol assets. aircraft as part of a comprehensive surveillance system.</p>	<p>Military modernization and readiness</p>



## Reference Guide

17	<p>“Starting in 2020, 10-12 maritime patrol aircraft to replace the Aurora fleet. The new aircraft will become part of a surveillance “system of systems” that will also comprise sensors, unmanned aerial vehicles and satellites and keep Canada’s maritime approaches safe and secure, including in the <b>Arctic</b>.” and satellites to improve surveillance capabilities, especially in the Arctic.”</p>	<p>Canada will acquire 10–12 new maritime patrol aircraft as part of a comprehensive surveillance system.</p>	<p>Maritime patrol modernization expansion</p>
18	<p>“Defence will also look at acquiring radars and satellites to improve surveillance capabilities, especially in the <b>Arctic</b>.”          “The Government recognizes that, if they are to be effective in such difficult and diverse environments as the <b>Arctic</b> and Afghanistan, the Canadian Forces need adequate resources for training, spare parts and equipment. Recent budget increases have begun to reverse the decline in readiness and have funded more exercises for the army, more days at sea for the navy, and more flying hours for the air force.”</p>	<p>Acquire radars and satellites to enhance Arctic surveillance.</p>	<p>Arctic monitoring capability expansion</p>

### 2017 - “STRONG SECURE ENGAGED. CANADA'S DEFENCE POLICY”

The cover features the logos of the Government of Canada, National Defence, and the Canadian Armed Forces. In addition to the title “Strong, Secure, Engaged: Canada’s Defence Policy,” it includes seven photographs:



## Reference Guide

- A soldier aiming their weapon in a naval/maritime setting.
- Three United Nations peacekeepers distributing supplies to a group of children.
- A Canadian soldier appearing to chat with their family.
- A Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft and a snowmobile in an open, snow-covered area.
- Two soldiers in camouflage.
- Two people studying what appear to be plans.
- A Canadian military medic attending to an injured person.

**Link:** [https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection\\_2017/mdn-dnd/D2-386-2017-eng.pdf](https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2017/mdn-dnd/D2-386-2017-eng.pdf)

Page	Direct quotes	Summary	Theme
8	“[...] we note that the policy gives significant attention to critical emerging areas such as the cyber and space domains, the shifts affecting <b>Arctic</b> security, the influence of non-state actors, and the changing nature of peace Operations.”	Emerging security priorities: cyber, space, Arctic shifts, among others.	Emerging security challenges
14	“To succeed in an unpredictable and complex security environment, defence will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase presence in the Arctic over the long-term and work cooperatively with Arctic partners.”</li> </ul>	Increase long-term Arctic presence cooperatively.	Arctic security
35	“With new investment, Canada’s Navy will be capable of meeting the anticipated defence and security challenges of the	Canada’s Navy, through new Arctic-capable AOPS ships, will enhance surveillance, enforce	Arctic naval security



## Reference Guide

	<p>coming decades. Principal among the challenges at home is the need to operate in the <b>Arctic</b>, alongside the Canadian Coast Guard, and alongside allied partners. Key to this is the <b>Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship (AOPS)</b> project, which is part of the National Shipbuilding Strategy and involves the delivery of five to six ice-capable ships to the Royal Canadian Navy. AOPS will provide armed, sea-borne surveillance of Canadian waters, including in the <b>Arctic</b>. They will enforce sovereignty, cooperating with partners, at home and abroad, and will provide the Government of Canada with awareness of activities in Canada’s waters.”</p>	<p>sovereignty, and cooperate with allies to address future security challenges.</p>	
<p><b>35-36</b></p>	<p>“INVESTMENTS IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY: 30. Acquire five to six <b>Arctic</b> Offshore Patrol Ships. 43. Acquire all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and larger tracked semi-amphibious utility vehicles optimized for use in the <b>Arctic</b> environment.”</p>	<p>Acquire Arctic Patrol Ships and specialized Arctic vehicles.</p>	<p>Arctic military capability</p>
<p><b>39</b></p>	<p>“INVESTMENTS IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE: 45. Acquire space capabilities meant to improve situational awareness and targeting, including: replacement of the current RADARSAT system to improve the identification and tracking of threats and improve situational awareness of routine traffic</p>	<p>Acquire space capabilities to enhance situational awareness, threat tracking, debris monitoring, and global communications, including coverage of Canada’s Arctic region.</p>	<p>Space-based defence capabilities</p>



## Reference Guide

	in and through Canadian territory; sensors capable of identifying and tracking debris in space that threatens Canadian and allied space-based systems (surveillance of space); and, space-based systems that will enhance and improve tactical narrow- and wide-band communications globally, including throughout Canada’s <b>Arctic</b> region.”		
50	<p><b>“A CHANGING ARCTIC</b></p> <p>The <b>Arctic</b> region represents an important international crossroads where issues of climate change, international trade, and global security meet. Eight states – Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States – have territory north of 60o, while five of these states border the Arctic Ocean. <b>Arctic</b> states have long cooperated on economic, environmental, and safety issues, particularly through the Arctic Council, the premier body for cooperation in the region. All <b>Arctic</b> states have an enduring interest in continuing this productive collaboration.”</p>	The Arctic is a strategic region where climate, trade, and security intersect, with Arctic states cooperating through the Arctic Council on economic, environmental, and safety issues.	Arctic cooperation and strategy
51	<p>“Climate change, combined with advancements in technology, is leading to an increasingly accessible Arctic. A decade ago, few states or firms had the ability to operate in the <b>Arctic</b>. Today, state and commercial actors from around the world seek to share in the longer term benefits of an accessible Arctic. Over</p>	Climate change and technology are making the Arctic more accessible, increasing global activity and Canada’s safety and security responsibilities.	Arctic accessibility and security



## Reference Guide

	time, this interest is expected to generate a corresponding rise in commercial interest, research and tourism in and around Canada’s northern territory. This rise in activity will also bring increased safety and security demands related to search and rescue and natural or man-made disasters to which Canada must be ready to respond.”		
57	“IMPLICATIONS FOR CANADA OF A CHANGING SECURITY ENVIRONMENT: Acknowledging rising international interest in the <b>Arctic</b> , Canada must enhance its ability to operate in the <b>North</b> and work closely with allies and partners.”	Canada must strengthen Arctic operations and cooperate with allies amid rising international interest.	Arctic security and cooperation
60	“We will have improved mobility and reach in Canada’s <b>northernmost</b> territories, and pursue a greater presence in the <b>Arctic</b> over the longer-term.”	Enhanced mobility and long-term presence in Canada’s Arctic territories.	Arctic operational capability
64	“In North America, <b>Arctic</b> surveillance poses particular challenges. In addition to being a vast, sparsely populated area, satellite coverage at extreme northern latitudes and the nature of the polar ionosphere create unique issues for sensor and communications capabilities. We need Joint Intelligence,	Arctic surveillance needs specialized intelligence and reconnaissance solutions.	Arctic surveillance challenges



## Reference Guide

	Surveillance and Reconnaissance solutions that are specifically tailored to the <b>Arctic</b> environment.”		
65	<p>“The modernized CP-140 Aurora Long-Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft is another vital Canadian Joint Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance platform given its cuttingedge anti-submarine warfare and long-range surveillance capabilities. This aircraft is used extensively by the Canadian Armed Forces, both in the <b>Arctic</b> and abroad, and will be replaced in the early 2030s with the Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft.</p> <p>NEW INITIATIVES</p> <p>69. Prioritize <b>Arctic</b> Joint Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance as a defence research and development priority to produce innovative solutions to surveillance challenges in the <b>North.</b>”</p>	The CP-140 Aurora is a key Arctic surveillance platform, to be replaced by the Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft; Arctic ISR is prioritized for defence R&D.	Arctic surveillance modernization
73	<p>“Aerial systems can provide temporary communications relay during a disaster relief mission when regular networks have been damaged, enable long-range coastal and <b>Northern</b></p>	Aerial systems support disaster relief and long-range Arctic surveillance.	Aerial surveillance and response



## Reference Guide

	surveillance, and provide a targeting and precision strike capability.”		
79	<p>“Spanning three Territories and stretching as far as the North Pole, Canada’s <b>North</b> is a sprawling region, encompassing 75 percent of the country’s national coastlines and 40 percent of its total land mass. The sheer expanse of Canada’s North, coupled with its ice-filled seas, harsh climate, and more than 36,000 islands make for a challenging region to monitor – particularly as the <b>North</b> encompasses a significant portion of the air and maritime approaches to North America.”</p>	Canada’s North is vast and harsh, making air and maritime monitoring difficult.	Arctic surveillance challenges
79	<p>NEW INITIATIVES</p> <p>MODERNIZATION OF THE NORTH WARNING SYSTEM (NWS)</p> <p>“The NWS is a chain of unmanned radar stations within the <b>Arctic</b> that provides aerospace surveillance of Canadian and United States Northern approaches. Although <b>Canada’s North</b> is sparsely populated, the region is spotted with vibrant communities, many inhabited by Canada’s Indigenous populations. These communities form an integral part of</p>	Canada is modernizing the North Warning System and strengthening its Arctic military presence through NORAD, joint infrastructure, and facilities to support sovereignty, defence, and international security in the increasingly accessible Arctic.	Arctic defence modernization



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

Canada's identity, and our history is intimately connected with the imagery and the character of the North. Economically, Northern Canada is also home to considerable natural resources, industries, and growing tourism – with the potential for further exploration, including transit through Canada's **Arctic** Archipelago.

The Defence team's extensive **Northern** footprint includes more than 800 buildings at over 60 sites. Joint Task Force North, headquartered in Yellowknife with detachments in Whitehorse and Iqaluit, anchors the Canadian Armed Forces' Northern presence. The Canadian Armed Forces, including through NORAD, operates from a number of locations in the North, including in Inuvik, Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, and Goose Bay, which also help support the Northern deployment of fighter aircraft. The Canadian Armed Forces also shares a number of facilities with federal partners, including a state-of-the-art cold weather training facility at Resolute Bay, a signals intelligence facility at Canadian Armed Forces Station Alert - the northernmost permanently inhabited facility in the world - and a high **Arctic** weather station at Eureka. In addition, work is ongoing to complete the Nanisivik Naval Facility which will support operations of the new **Arctic** Offshore Patrol Ships, and other government maritime vessels.



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

Canada's contributions to regional **Arctic** security form a core part of the Canada-United States defence relationship. Nowhere is this more apparent than in joint efforts to renew the North Warning System (NWS) and modernize elements of NORAD. As the security dynamics in the **Arctic** evolve, Canada and the United States will continue to work side by side to secure our shared northern air and maritime approaches.

The **Arctic** is also becoming more relevant to the international community. Climate change is increasingly leading to a more accessible **Arctic** region. While operating in the region will remain a difficult challenge for the foreseeable future, Arctic and non-Arctic states alike are looking to benefit from the potential economic opportunities associated with new resource development and transportation routes.

NATO has also increased its attention to Russia's ability to project force from its **Arctic** territory into the North Atlantic, and its potential to challenge NATO's collective defence posture. Canada and its NATO Allies have been clear that the Alliance will be ready to deter and defend against any potential threats, including against sea lines of communication and maritime approaches to Allied territory in the North Atlantic."



## Reference Guide

<p>80</p>	<p>“The Canadian Armed Forces, through NORAD, has a duty to monitor and control all of Canada’s territory and approaches. In order to fully execute this mission and provide effective aerospace warning and control for all of North America, Canada will expand the Canadian Air Defence Identification Zone (CADIZ) to cover the entire Canadian <b>Arctic</b> archipelago. The current CADIZ is based on the capabilities of the Distance Early Warning (DEW) Line radars which were replaced in the late 1980s by the North Warning System. Despite this change to NORAD’s surveillance capability, the CADIZ boundary remains unchanged. An expanded CADIZ will increase awareness of the air traffic approaching and operating in Canada’s sovereign airspace in the <b>Arctic</b>. The Canadian Armed Forces will also introduce a number of new <b>Arctic</b>-focused capabilities including naval vessels such as the <b>Arctic</b> Offshore Patrol Ships, space-based surveillance assets such as the RADARSAT Constellation Mission, polar satellite communications, Remotely Piloted Aerial Systems, operational support sites including the Nanisivik Naval Facility, and a family of new ground vehicles capable of navigating the harsh landscape of Canada’s <b>North</b>. We will integrate these capabilities into a ‘system-of-systems’ approach to <b>Arctic</b> surveillance, comprising air, land, sea, and space assets connected through modern technology. While operating in</p>	<p>Canada will expand the CADIZ across the Arctic and integrate air, land, sea, and space assets to enhance surveillance, working with federal partners and Indigenous communities to strengthen northern security.</p>	<p>Integrated Arctic defence and collaboration</p>
-----------	---	---	--



NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

Canada’s **North**, we often work in close partnership with other federal, territorial, and local partners. As such, we will leverage our new capabilities to help build the capacity of whole-of-government partners to help them deliver their mandates in Canada’s **North**, and support broader Government of Canada priorities in the **Arctic** region.

As Indigenous communities are at the heart of Canada’s **North**, we will also work to expand and deepen our extensive relationships with these communities, particularly through the Canadian Rangers and Junior Canadian Rangers. This will also include engaging local populations as part of routine operations and exercises.”

### NEW INITIATIVES:

“To enhance the Canadian Armed Forces’ ability to operate in the **Arctic** and adapt to a changed security environment, the Defence team will:

Enhance the mobility, reach and footprint of the Canadian Armed Forces in Canada’s North to support operations, exercises, and the Canadian Armed Forces’ ability to project force into the region.



## Reference Guide

	<p>109. Collaborate with the United States on the development of new technologies to improve <b>Arctic</b> surveillance and control, including the renewal of the North Warning System.</p> <p>110. Conduct joint exercises with <b>Arctic</b> allies and partners and support the strengthening of situational awareness and information sharing in the <b>Arctic</b>, including with NATO.”</p>		
81	<p>“The Canadian Armed Forces is fundamentally focused on delivering results, whether it is battling through harsh conditions to save someone in distress in the Canadian <b>Arctic</b>, working with other Canadian government partners to help deliver life-saving assistance after a natural disaster at home or abroad, or engaging in combat to defeat potential adversaries or protect vulnerable populations from those seeking to harm them, in the context of United Nations or other peace operations.”</p>	<p>The Canadian Armed Forces operate in the Arctic, disaster response, and combat or peace operations to protect people and achieve results.</p>	<p>Operational arctic readiness</p>
83	<p>“Defending Canada and Canadians is the Canadian Armed Forces’ top priority. Above all else, the Canadian Armed Forces must ensure the defence and security of Canada. This begins with the surveillance and control of Canadian territory and approaches, with an increasing focus on the <b>Arctic</b>. The Canadian Armed Forces will provide constant monitoring of</p>	<p>The Canadian Armed Forces prioritize national defence, focusing on Arctic surveillance and readiness, while collaborating with the U.S. through NORAD to ensure continental security and early warning.</p>	<p>Arctic defence and U.S. collaboration</p>

# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node



## Reference Guide

	<p>Canada’s approaches and have high readiness assets available at all times to respond in the event potential threats are detected.”</p> <p>“Additionally, the Tri-Command Framework brings together NORAD and our two national commands – the Canadian Joint Operations Command (CJOC) and United States Northern Command – to strengthen North American defence and security. Beyond that, Canadian and American services are well-integrated and interoperable, both from a materiel and doctrinal perspective. As <b>Arctic</b> states, Canada and the United States have a shared interest in ensuring the Arctic remains safe and stable. Canada will cooperate with the United States on <b>Arctic</b> security and will examine the requirements to meet all-perils threats to the continent through NORAD modernization. This will also involve working collaboratively to enhance shared situational awareness and early warning in the northern environment.”</p>		
<p><b>90</b></p>	<p>“Canada remains committed to exercising the full extent of its sovereignty in Canada’s <b>North</b>, and will continue to carefully monitor military activities in the region and conduct defence operations and exercises as required. Canada’s renewed focus</p>	<p>Canada will assert sovereignty in the Arctic, monitor military activity, conduct operations, and collaborate with Arctic and non-Arctic partners to enhance regional security.</p>	<p>Arctic sovereignty and collaboration</p>



## Reference Guide

	<p>on the surveillance and control of the Canadian <b>Arctic</b> will be complemented by close collaboration with select <b>Arctic</b> partners, including the United States, Norway and Denmark, to increase surveillance and monitoring of the broader Arctic region. While the Arctic eight (Canada, the United States, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia) rightfully remain the primary actors in the Arctic, Canada recognizes the increasing interest of non-Arctic states and organizations and will work cooperatively with all willing partners to advance shared interests on safety and security.”</p>		
102	<p>“We will also improve the Canadian Army’s ability to operate in Canada’s <b>North</b> with a new family of <b>Arctic</b>-capable land vehicles, as well as close critical capability gaps such as the Canadian Army’s lack of ground-based air defence equipment, which will allow it to defeat threats posed by airborne weapons such as remotely piloted vehicles and aircraft used by potential adversaries.”</p>	<p>The Canadian Army will gain Arctic-capable vehicles and ground-based air defence to address airborne threats in the North.</p>	<p>Arctic operational capability</p>



## Reference Guide

### 2024 - “OUR NORTH, STRONG AND FREE: A RENEWED VISION FOR CANADA’S DEFENCE”

The photograph in the cover shows a military ship sailing in what appears to be northern waters, with the aurora borealis visible against a starry sky. The cover is titled "Our North, Strong and Free: A Renewed Vision for Canada's Defence." This cover features the logos of the Government of Canada, National Defence, and the Canadian Armed Forces.

<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/dnd-mdn/documents/corporate/reports-publications/2024/north-strong-free-2024-v2.pdf">https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/dnd-mdn/documents/corporate/reports-publications/2024/north-strong-free-2024-v2.pdf</a>			
<b>Page</b>	<b>Direct quotes</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Theme</b>
V	MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE “In our <b>North</b> , we need to confront the reality of climate change. Our Arctic is warming at four times the global average,	Climate change is opening the Arctic to global activity, including Russian and Chinese presence; Canada must strengthen military	Arctic security and sovereignty



## Reference Guide

	<p>opening the region to the world, which was previously protected by the Polar Ice Cap year-round. By 2050, the Arctic Ocean could become the most efficient shipping route between Europe and East Asia. We are seeing greater Russian activity in our air approaches, and a growing number of Chinese vessels and surveillance platforms are mapping and collecting data about the region. Meanwhile, states are rapidly building up their military capabilities in ways that impact our security in the <b>Arctic</b>—including submarines, long-range aircraft and hypersonic missiles that move faster and are harder to detect. As the <b>Arctic</b> becomes more accessible to foreign actors, we need to ensure our military has the tools to assert our sovereignty and protect Canada’s interests.”</p>	<p>capabilities to assert sovereignty and protect its interests.</p>	
<p><b>VI</b></p>	<p>“Our North, Strong and Free supports our broader interests and values, as well as our engagement with allies and international partners. This policy will contribute to Arctic security, strengthen our role within NATO and advance our Indo-Pacific Strategy. It advances the goals of our <b>Arctic</b> and Northern Policy Framework.</p>	<p>“Our North, Strong and Free” strengthens Arctic security and international engagement.</p>	<p>Arctic security and engagement</p>



## Reference Guide

VII	<p>“Canada must meet these new and emerging threats with resolve. Vigorous assertion of our sovereignty, particularly in the Canadian <b>Arctic</b>, is a fundamental priority. Pragmatic diplomacy will be critical to shaping outcomes that reflect our values and interests. Our North, Strong and Free helps position Canada to do just that.”</p>	<p>Canada prioritizes Arctic sovereignty and uses diplomacy to address emerging threats.</p>	<p>Arctic sovereignty and strategic diplomacy</p>
1-2	<p>“Today, we are confirming new investments to support a vision in which Canada is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong at home, with a military asserting our sovereignty, particularly in the <b>Arctic and northern regions</b>, and ready to assist when Canadians are faced with natural disasters and other emergencies, or in need of search and rescue support.”</li> </ul>	<p>Canada is investing to strengthen military sovereignty in the Arctic and support disaster response.</p>	<p>Arctic sovereignty and domestic support</p>
3	<p><b>“CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS DESTABILIZING IMPACTS ON OUR ARCTIC AND NORTH</b></p> <p>Although climate change is a global problem, it is having particularly serious effects on our <b>Arctic</b> and northern regions, presenting new and escalating challenges with a range of implications for Canada’s security.”</p>	<p>Climate change is escalating security challenges in Canada’s Arctic and North.</p>	<p>Arctic climate and security</p>



## Reference Guide

<p>4-5</p>	<p>“Our Arctic and North is an integral part of our country, home to 150,000 Canadians and generations of Indigenous communities. We have an obligation to work with communities in defending the region and securing their ability to take advantage of opportunities in a rapidly changing environment. Defending this vast and challenging region, with coastlines and territory larger than the entirety of most other Arctic nations, a harsh climate, and limited physical and communications infrastructure, requires full community engagement and rethinking how we approach the defence of our country. Our <b>Arctic</b> is now warming at four times the global average, making a vast and sensitive region more accessible to foreign actors who have growing capabilities and regional military ambitions. By 2050, the <b>Arctic Ocean</b> could become the most efficient shipping route between Europe and East Asia. Canada’s Northwest Passage and the broader Arctic region are already more accessible, and competitors are not waiting to take advantage— seeking access, transportation routes, natural resources, critical minerals, and energy sources through more frequent and regular presence and activity. They are exploring <b>Arctic waters</b> and the sea floor, probing our infrastructure and collecting intelligence. We are seeing more Russian activity in our air approaches, and a growing number of Chinese dual-purpose research vessels and surveil- lance platforms collecting</p>	<p>Canada’s Arctic faces growing Russian and Chinese activity, climate-driven accessibility, and strategic competition. Defending it requires modernized military presence, mobility, and responsiveness, community engagement, and investment to assert sovereignty and support NATO deterrence.</p>	<p>Arctic sovereignty and strategic defence</p>
------------	--	---	---



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

data about the Canadian **North** that is, by Chinese law, made available to China’s military.

For decades, we aimed to manage the **Arctic and northern** regions cooperatively, as a zone free from military threats. Yet Russia continues to modernize and build up its military presence in their **Arctic**, investing in new bases and infrastructure. It is highly capable of projecting air, naval and missile forces both in and through the broader **Arctic region**. Russia also possesses a robust **Arctic** naval presence with submarines, surface combatants and an icebreaker fleet much larger than those of other **Arctic powers**.

Similarly, despite not being an **Arctic** nation, China seeks to become a “polar great power” by 2030 and is demonstrating an intent to play a larger role in the region. The steady growth of its navy, including its conventional and nuclear-powered submarine fleet, will support this ambition. China is also expanding its investments, infrastructure and industrial scientific influence throughout the **Arctic** region.

Defending the **Arctic** is asserting Canadian sovereignty. To do so, we must take a new approach that improves and modernizes our defences in the region.

This means establishing greater presence, reach, mobility, and responsiveness in the Arctic and North to deal with disasters, threats and challenges to our sovereignty. It also means that our



## Reference Guide

	<p><b>Arctic</b> waters, airspace, and territory cannot be vulnerable to intrusion or used as an avenue to harm Canada, our closest ally, the United States, or other NATO allies. Our contributions to securing the Arctic are an important component in the defence of NATO’s western and northern flanks and directly support broader NATO deterrence efforts. They will enable Canada to engage the world from a position of strength. All of this points to the need for greater investment in our domestic defences, particularly in our <b>Arctic</b>. Alongside our diplomatic, security, and intelligence capabilities, a strong military protects Canada’s ability to make sovereign, independent decisions in our best interests and limits our adversaries’ ability to coerce or shape our courses of action.”</p>		
7	<p>“Despite battlefield losses in Ukraine, Russia remains highly capable of projecting air, naval and missile forces across Europe, as well as to and through the <b>Arctic</b> to threaten North America. Russia will remain a challenge for generations; it seeks strategic borders that extend well beyond its legal and geographical ones, possesses resilient and robust advanced military capabilities, and is rebuilding its arsenals.”</p> <p>“NATO members are responding and upholding their commitment to collective defence and deterrence. The Alliance</p>	<p>Russia remains a long-term threat with advanced military capabilities, prompting NATO and Canada to strengthen Arctic defence and invest in robust deterrence.</p>	<p>Arctic defence and NATO deterrence</p>



## Reference Guide

	is undergoing its largest reinforcement in a generation. It is building deeper and more robust defences on all of its borders, requiring all allies—including Canada—to increase their capabilities and defence investments. Our defence of the <b>Arctic</b> will be more essential than ever.”		
11	“We must place particular focus on defending the <b>Arctic</b> and North and its approaches against new and accelerating threats through credible deterrence. We will secure our <b>Arctic and North</b> by increasing the presence, reach, mobility and responsiveness of the Canadian Armed Forces in the region, and along our coasts and maritime approaches. We will also develop greater striking power to deter adversaries and keep threats farther from our shores.”	Canada will boost Arctic military presence and striking power to deter threats.	Arctic defence and deterrence
12	“In delivering on this vision, we will collaborate with Indigenous partners and northern communities to safeguard our security and assert our sovereignty. Our investments in <b>Arctic</b> defence present enormous opportunities for the region. To help realize these opportunities, we are committed to doing things differently—to an inclusive approach to national defence that recognizes that there is nothing to defend if we do not put our people first. We will deepen our dialogue with northern and	Canada will engage Indigenous and northern communities in Arctic defence, building multipurpose infrastructure and investing in advanced technologies and NORAD systems to strengthen sovereignty and security.	Inclusive Arctic defence



## Reference Guide

	<p><b>Arctic</b> stakeholders, including to establish multipurpose northern infrastructure that can support Canadian Armed Forces operations and contribute towards the needs of territorial governments, Indigenous peoples, and Northern communities wherever possible, consistent with the <b>Arctic</b> and Northern Policy Framework. In doing so, we will rely on Indigenous expertise, experience and talent across the region.”</p> <p>“[...] Canada will harness innovation in hypersonic and cruise missile defence, undersea surveillance, space domain awareness, <b>Arctic</b> operations, and other areas.”</p> <p>“Key NORAD investments will enhance the detection of activities in our air and maritime approaches, including with new <b>Arctic</b> and Polar Over-the-Horizon-Radar systems.”</p>		
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p>“We are also investing in the development of new capabilities that give us a military advantage on our continent, including hypersonic and cruise missile defence, undersea surveillance, artificial intelligence, advanced cyber and space-based capabilities, space domain awareness, quantum technologies, and <b>Arctic</b> operations.”</p>	<p>Canada is investing in advanced defence technologies and Arctic capabilities while strengthening cooperation with the U.S. and NATO to deter threats and defend northern regions.</p>	<p>Defence technology and alliances</p>



## Reference Guide

	<p>“We will continue playing an important role confronting Russian aggression through a steadfast commitment to NATO assurance and deterrence measures. Standing with our allies provides the best guarantee of our security and continued prosperity at home. Together with the United States we will defend NATO’s western flank, and with our <b>Arctic</b> allies we will defend NATO’s northern regions.”</p>		
23	<p>“Further investments in our military will enable the Canadian Armed Forces to respond to a rapidly changing climate and its impact on Canada’s <b>Arctic</b>, brazen challenges to global stability, and accelerating technological innovation.”</p> <p>“Protect and promote Canadian interests around the world, particularly in domestic and continental defence, the <b>Arctic</b> and <b>North</b>, the Euro-Atlantic region, and the Indo-Pacific region;”</p>	<p>Military investments will address climate change, technological change, and global instability while protecting Canadian interests in the Arctic, continental defence, and key international regions.</p>	<p>Strategic defence investments</p>
24	<p>“Following a detailed analysis of our military needs, Canada is choosing to invest in the right capabilities for our current and future needs. These capabilities are focused first and foremost on ensuring that Canada has the ability to protect its <b>Arctic</b> and North and assert our sovereignty. These capabilities will support the Canadian Armed Forces in defending Canada’s</p>	<p>Canada will invest in capabilities to strengthen Arctic sovereignty, improve surveillance and threat detection, and enhance military presence, mobility, and rapid response in the North.</p>	<p>Arctic sovereignty and defence capabilities</p>



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

coastline, detecting and defeating maritime and airborne threats, deterring threats to North America, and deploying military force into our **Arctic** more persistently. Ultimately, these investments underpin the protection of Canada’s sovereignty in a more volatile, contested security environment.”

“The Canadian Armed Forces also needs increased capacity to monitor our vast land mass, airspace and maritime areas, defend against threats to Canada as they arise, and be able to deploy quickly and efficiently across the country, especially in remote environments like our **Arctic and North**, or to assist Canadians facing wildfires, floods, or other climate-related disasters.”

“To address new threats through, to and in the **Arctic and North**, we will prioritize detecting and understanding threats across all military domains, increasing our military’s presence, mobility and responsiveness in the **Arctic**, and robustly responding to threats when and where they materialize. This will also help address challenges to the safety and security of Indigenous and northern communities. We will make investments to ensure that Canada remains well-defended. Collectively, these capabilities will address our biggest challenges in the **Arctic and North**—they will provide a broader footprint and prepositioned supplies and equipment in the region, much better eyes and ears in space, in the air, on the ground and underwater, striking power to deter threats far from



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

	our shores, and the ability to get to and deal with incidents faster.”		
24-25	<p>“Submarines allow Canada to covertly detect and deter maritime threats, control our maritime approaches, and project power and striking capability further from our shores, at a time when Russian submarines are probing widely across the Atlantic, <b>Arctic</b> and Pacific Oceans and China is rapidly expanding its underwater fleet. To track and evaluate underwater threats along all three coasts, we will acquire specialized maritime sensors. These sensors can be rapidly deployed on the Harry DeWolf-class <b>Arctic</b> and Offshore Patrol Vessels to conduct ocean surveillance. They will be used to monitor Canada’s maritime approaches, including in the <b>Arctic and North</b>, and will be a critical component of the Canadian Armed Forces’ ability to defend Canada from a growing range and sophistication of underwater threats including vessel-launched missiles, underwater systems, ships and submarines.</p> <p>To enable the Canadian Armed Forces to deploy assets and transmit information from space-based intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance quickly and seamlessly, we will build a new satellite ground station in the <b>Arctic</b>. We</p>	Canada will strengthen Arctic defence through submarines, sensors, satellite infrastructure, Arctic vehicles, naval aviation, and northern support hubs to enhance surveillance, mobility, sovereignty, and response capabilities.	Arctic military modernization



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

commit to improving the Canadian Armed Forces' mobility and presence on land in the **Arctic and North**. We will explore options to acquire new vehicles adapted to ice, snow and tundra. These versatile all-terrain vehicles will be able to operate effectively in all **Arctic** terrains and climate conditions. These vehicles will allow the military to maintain awareness in remote regions and along Canada's entire coastline, and better respond to unauthorized activity.

We commit to extending the Canadian Armed Forces' reach in **Arctic** waters. We will explore options for enabling our **Arctic** and Offshore Patrol Vessels to embark and operate our maritime helicopters at sea. This will increase the Canadian Armed Forces' ability to assert Canada's sovereignty in the **Arctic and North**, conduct surveillance, reconnaissance, and search and rescue, and be better prepared to respond to the growing range and sophistication of maritime threats.

To increase the Canadian Armed Forces' presence and responsiveness across the **Arctic and the North**, we will establish northern operational support hubs. These hubs, consisting of airstrips, logistics facilities and equipment and stockpiles of spare parts, will enable the military to better assert Canadian sovereignty by establishing a greater year-round military presence across the **Arctic**. They will increase military responsiveness and the ability to address challenges in remote



## Reference Guide

	northern regions on shorter notice and for longer periods, when required. These hubs will present significant opportunities to establish multi-purpose infrastructure that serve the Canadian Armed Forces, other federal partners, territorial governments, Indigenous partners, and northern communities, wherever possible. Throughout the design and implementation process we will engage Indigenous Peoples and northern communities, in line with the principle of “nothing about us, without us” in the <b>Arctic and Northern Policy Framework.</b> ”		
29	“Our military will be focused on its core mission of keeping Canadians and Canada strong at home, by increasing its presence, reach, mobility, and responsiveness across the country, particularly in our changing <b>Arctic and North.</b> ”	Military to strengthen presence and responsiveness, especially in the Arctic.	National and Arctic defence
33	<b>MODERNIZING OUR MILITARY</b> Delivery of four of six planned Harry DeWolf class <b>Arctic</b> and Offshore Patrol Vessels, which has increased the Royal Canadian Navy’s presence and reach in Canada’s <b>Arctic.</b>	Four Arctic Offshore Patrol Vessels boost Navy Arctic presence.	Arctic naval capability
34-35	“[...] our new investments prioritize key areas jointly identified by Canada and the United States as NORAD’s most pressing requirements. These include:	Canada’s NORAD modernization prioritizes Arctic satellite communications and defence	Arctic NORAD modernization



# NAADSN

Emerging Leaders Node

## Reference Guide

Enhanced long-term **Arctic** satellite communications, providing coverage at extreme northern altitudes;  
Enabling defence research and development in the **Arctic**.

Canada's NORAD modernization plan is a fundamental component of our response to the growing threat environment affecting Canada and the **Arctic** and North America more broadly. These efforts are important and necessary first steps that, when combined with the initiatives laid out in this defence policy, will restore the military advantage that we have long enjoyed on the continent, and ensure that Canada, the **Arctic** and our approaches do not become an avenue of attack on North America."

R&D to maintain military advantage and protect North America from emerging threats.