

# BEST DEFENCE CONFERENCE: 10 YEARS AND COUNTING

**T**his year marks the 10th anniversary of the Best Defence Conference and we are proud to have grown over the years to become a must attend networking event for the Canadian defence industry.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all both personally and professionally, so more than ever it is important to demonstrate how much we value our colleagues and clients and that is why I am dedicating this article to the sponsors of Best Defence, many of whom have been there from the beginning.

Making the decision to do a virtual conference was difficult, but our team has put all of their energy and talent into providing

a great two-day event, which will take place on November 16-17, 2021. Best Defence is a valuable platform for new to market companies as it provides a cost-effective way to conduct market research, establish relationships and identify potential strategic partners.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank *Vanguard*, who has been our Media Partner for eight years. And a special thank you to the following sponsors for making this year's event possible.

Looking forward to connecting with you at Best Defence Conference 2021.

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Fort Erie, ON

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Airbus Helicopters is a leading supplier of helicopters in Canada and has been a proud member of the country's aerospace community since 1984. Headquartered in Fort Erie, ON, with a team of nearly 250 employees, Airbus Helicopters Canada is a centre of excellence for engineering and composite manufacturing and is the sole-source supplier of composite parts for eight different helicopter models in the Airbus range. The vast capabilities of Airbus's composite manufacturing facility extend to many industries.



London, ON

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IMT Defence is a unique Canadian manufacturer of precision metal parts supplying the North American Defence industry. Our integrated manufacturing processes include forging, machining, heat treat, painting, and assembly. IMT Defence produces medium to large caliber projectile bodies, military vehicle components and other critical machined components. Our locations across North America supply quality products to our customers using the latest in manufacturing and testing equipment. Our full service engineering and technical teams can support customers in process and product development. IMT Defence is an ISO 9001 registered company and Controlled Goods certified.

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London, ON

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Western University is proud to be part of the Advanced Manufacturing Consortium. This distinct partnership between Western University, the University of Waterloo, McMaster University, and the Ontario Government develops and strengthens relationships with companies within the advanced manufacturing sector. The goal is

to increase competitiveness and add value within the defence and automotive sector. Western offers access to leading personnel and facilities at three main centres: the Fraunhofer Project Centre (FPC) @ Western, Surface Science Western (SSW), and Additive Manufacturing Western (AMW). We are currently partnering with a number of defence companies on lightweight materials and additive manufacturing.

## SILVER SPONSORS



Brantford, ON

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Montreal, QC

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INO Canada is the largest centre of expertise in optics and photonics in Canada,

with an extensive track record of technological development for the Defence, Security, and Aerospace sectors.



Toronto, ON

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