



The Group of 78
Le Groupe des 78

Group of 78 Luncheon Speaker Series

Michael Byers

From Sea Kings to F35s: What's wrong with Canadian military procurement?

DATE: Tuesday November 19, 2013

TIME: 12:00 noon *

***Please note that lunch will start at noon sharp**

PLACE: Palais Imperial Restaurant, 311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa

COST: \$30 for luncheon and presentation

\$5 for presentation only

(For presentation only, please plan to arrive by 12:45 p.m. Coffee and tea will be available.)

RESERVATIONS: group78@web.net or 613-230-0860 by Friday November 15, 2013.

We regret that late registrations cannot be accepted.

The group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come.

Therefore, individuals who do not cancel their reservations at least 24 hours before the luncheon will be billed \$30.

The Royal Canadian Air Force is still flying Sea King maritime helicopters, now half-a-century old. Its search-and-rescue planes are of a similar vintage, as are the Royal Canadian Navy's support ships and destroyers. Mid-life refits of the underperforming Maritime Coastal Patrol Vessels have been cancelled, and the ships are slated for early retirement. Three of Canada's four submarines are inoperable. The Canadian Rangers use rifles that are 65 years old, and our 32 year-old CF-18 fighter-jets are nearing the end of their lifecycle with no replacements in sight.

What is wrong with Canadian defence procurement? And how do we fix this terrible mess? UBC professor Michael Byers, the leading critique of defence procurement in Canada, will answer these questions. He will describe how military assets can fit within and fulfil Canada's international and domestic policies in such areas as interventions overseas – whether for peacekeeping or more robust actions – coastal protection, and our policy in the Arctic.

Michael Byers has written a series of influential reports on military procurement for the Rideau Institute and the Canadian Centre of Policy Alternatives. He has also published numerous hard-hitting articles on the topic in the Globe and Mail, National Post, and Toronto Star. Prof. Byers holds the Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International Law at the University of British Columbia. He has taught at Oxford, Duke, Cape Town and Tel Aviv universities. His books include *Intent for a Nation* and *Who Owns the Arctic?* His interests encompass Arctic sovereignty, climate change, the law of the sea, and Canadian foreign and defence policy.