

CANADA STEPS UP ITS DEFENSE POLICY

Canada has updated its defense policy to ensure that we have the necessary resources and capabilities to adapt to a complex global security environment. We will continue our long history of being a strong NATO Ally and U.S. partner.

In April 2024, the Government of Canada released a new defense policy – *Our North, Strong and Free* – that outlines Canada’s plan to defend Canadians and North America in the context of geopolitical turbulence and global uncertainty. Canada will deliver on its vision for defense by:

- **Strengthening the foundations of the Canadian Armed Forces to ensure it is ready, resilient and relevant.**
- **Acquiring new capabilities to defend against new threats to Canada, its allies and partners, including in the Arctic.**



Canada is committed to reaching its NATO commitment of spending 2% of GDP on defense. *Our North, Strong and Free* moves us significantly closer to meeting that commitment through strategic investments. Next year, Canada will exceed NATO’s guideline to spend at least 20% of its defense budget on major equipment for the Canadian Armed Forces.



CANADA WILL PROCURE NEW CAPABILITIES AND PLATFORMS TO DEFEND CANADA, PROTECT NORTH AMERICA, AND SUPPORT OUR GLOBAL INTERESTS AND VALUES. THIS INCLUDES:

- Acquiring a more modern, mobile and effective **tactical helicopter capability**.
- Acquiring **specialized maritime sensors** to track and evaluate underwater threats.
- Acquiring **airborne early warning and control aircraft**.
- Establishing **northern operational support hubs** throughout the **Arctic**.
- Building a new **satellite ground station** in the **Arctic**.
- Making further contributions to **integrated air and missile defense**.
- Acquiring **long-range missile** capabilities for the Army.
- Scaling up the production of **artillery ammunition**.
- Enhancing **intelligence** and **cyber operations**.
- Acquiring a comprehensive **worldwide satellite communication** capability.
- Improving the sustainment of our **naval fleets**.



CANADA WILL EXPLORE OPTIONS FOR SEVERAL ADDITIONAL CAPABILITIES TO DEFEND AGAINST NEW THREATS AGAINST NORTH AMERICA AND AROUND THE WORLD:

- Tank and light armored vehicle fleets.
- Submarine fleet.
- New vehicles adapted to ice, snow, and tundra.
- Ground-based air defenses.
- Suite of surveillance and strike drones, and counter-drone capabilities.
- Long-range air and sea-launched missiles.
- Modern artillery capabilities.



CANADA IS READY AND EQUIPPED TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE STRONG AT HOME, SECURE IN NORTH AMERICA AND ENGAGED GLOBALLY TO MAKE THE WORLD A SAFER AND MORE JUST PLACE FOR CANADIANS AND AMERICANS ALIKE.

[For more information on Canada's Defense Policy please visit:](#)



DEFENSE