



## **2023 WEST COAST SECURITY CONFERENCE WELCOMING REMARKS DAY 5**

**Date:** November 17, 2023

*Disclaimer: This briefing note contains the encapsulation of views presented by the speaker and does not exclusively represent the views of the Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies.*

### **KEY EVENTS**

On November 17, 2023, Mr. John Pyrik and Dr. Wade Deisman presented the opening address for the fifth day of this year's West Coast Security Conference. The speakers provided insights into the intelligence and security community informed by their backgrounds and expertise in analytic methodologies, intelligence theory and applications, and policing and security. They discussed the benefit of collaborative events and programs in advancing intelligence education in Canada and noted key initiatives being pursued by the Justice Institute of British Columbia in the coming year.

### **BACKGROUND**

Mr. Pyrik opened the program by acknowledging the importance of the workshop in uniting the intelligence community across Canada, noting that the discussions such as these can sometimes be limited outside of Ottawa. Mr. Pyrik stated that, as an instructor, a challenge can be finding a useful method to relate the theory of intelligence to practice, but in the present security landscape presents ample opportunities to bridge the two. He stressed the importance of the day's workshop and the gathering of members from the National Security and Intelligence Review Agency (NSIRA), the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP), the Privy Council Office (PCO), the Office of the Intelligence Commissioner (OIC), and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), and urged the attendees to use the opportunity to pose challenging questions and drive the conversation on intelligence in Canada forward.

Dr. Deisman welcomed the speakers and attendees and emphasized that the present security landscape dictates a need for a better understanding of the practice and communication of intelligence. Current events have underscored the

importance of intelligence training and analysis—perhaps as never before in Canadian history—with the previous six years presenting numerous national security issues, such as foreign interference, the Freedom Convoy, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Deisman stated that JIBC has been pursuing a larger role in intelligence training in Canada, and a leadership role in British Columbia, through innovative education programs and collaborative projects. Dr. Deisman highlighted the creation of a master’s degree in Intelligence Studies at JIBC and its partnerships with CASIS Vancouver and other organizations as key initiatives to further the advancement of Intelligence education in Canada in 2024.

### KEY POINTS OF DISCUSSION

- The workshop represents a unique event in Canadian security and intelligence, uniting the intelligence community across Canada and bringing together members from NSIRA, NSICOP, the PCO, the OIC, and CSIS to enhance and advance the understanding of intelligence in Canada.
- Current events have underscored the importance of intelligence training and analysis to Canadian security; and JIBC, CASIS Vancouver, and other institutions and organizations are creating key initiatives to further the advancement of Intelligence education in Canada in 2024.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License.

© (JOHN PYRIK AND WADE DEISMAN, 2024)

Published by the Journal of Intelligence, Conflict, and Warfare and Simon Fraser University

Available from: <https://jicw.org/>