The Annual Symposium was held January 15, 2016 at the Barney Danson Theatre, Canadian War Museum. There were 175 registered attendees. A short summary will be posted in the near future.

CASIS Annual Symposium
Friday, January 15, 2016

_The Islamic State: The New Template for Terrorism_

8:15  Registration and Networking

9:00  **Introduction to Symposium and Themes:** Greg Fyffe, President CASIS.

9:15  **John Tait Memorial Lecture:** Commissioner Bob Paulson, RCMP. (Introduction: Martin Green, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Intelligence Assessment). See Website Resources for full text.

Questions and Discussion

10:00  **Break**

10:20  **Panel One: ISIS Foundations; Global and Regional Impacts**

Chair: Thomas Juneau, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa.

Panelists: Barak Mendelsohn, Associate Professor, Haverford College: "The Islamic State and al-Qaeda: A Troubled Relationship."

Aisha Ahmad, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto: "ISIL and the Global Caliphate: Organization, Expansionism, and Branding Strategies"

Jean-François Ratelle, Part-Time Faculty, University of Ottawa, Adjunct Professor, Carleton University: “The Expansion of ISIS in the Caucasus: Danger of the Returnees”

Questions and Discussion

12:00  Lunch
12:45 **Lunch Address:** Magnus Ranstorp Research Director, Centre for Asymmetric Threat Studies (CATS), National Defence College, Sweden. “ISIS After Paris”. (Introduction: Thomas Juneau)

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1:30 **Panel Two: How ISIS Operates**

Chair: Louise Doyon retired senior manager—analysis and academic outreach, CSIS. Senior Fellow, University of Ottawa.

Benjamin Ducol, chercheur associé de la Chaire de recherche du Canada sur les conflits et le terrorisme, Université Laval. Il est actuellement postdoctorant au Centre International de Criminologie Comparée de l'Université de Montréal. “Putting the Internet in Context: Jihadi Militancies in the Social Media Era.”

Alex Babaris, EdgeWeight: “Using Social Media to Track Persons of Interest: Russian-language ISIS Supporters in France.”

Questions and Discussion

3:00 **Break**

3:20 **Panel Three: The ISIS Threat to Canada**

Chair: David Charters, Senior Fellow, Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society, former President CASIS.

Amarnath Amarasingam, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada Post-Doctoral Fellow, Resilience Research Centre, Dalhousie University: “Making Hijrah: Canadian Foreign Fighters in Syria and Iraq”

Phil Gurski, former CSIS expert on Canadian and international terrorism: “Canadian foreign fighters: what is the risk and what can we do about it?”

Questions and Discussion

4:30 **Closing Overview and Outlook:** Greg Fyffe, President, CASIS
5:00  CASIS Annual Meeting and Election of Officers