

## **DOD Consultation**

### **Submission by Keith Martin**

A critical priority for the defence department is cyber-security. With the increased reliance throughout our society on digital platforms, disruption of these platforms has the potential to be debilitating. Making cyber-security a priority requires that the defence department make their own systems more robust, but the requirement goes beyond the defence department's systems. It also requires that cyber-security for the Canadian government, business, and financial systems be a priority for the defence department as well. These systems may not be protected directly by the defence department, but the department must identify threats and make recommendations to the government on the appropriate response, which could include regulatory requirements.

A related requirement is the use of digital platforms and innovation to enhance work the department is already doing. To take one representative example, the defence department is constrained in its ability to monitor and protect our coasts given the vastness of the geographical space to be protected. What if the department set up reporting websites where suspicious activity could be reported online? If a sufficient number of independent reports were received, this could then trigger an investigation. There are numerous ways in which digitization and online platforms could be innovatively used by the Department of Defence to enhance our security.