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## **Arctic Encounter Symposium Seattle Pleased to Announce Confirmation of Leading Military Leader Participation**

The Arctic Encounter Symposium is pleased to announce the confirmation of leading military leaders including Vice Admiral Charles W. Ray, Pacific Area Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Defense Force West; Major General Burton K. Francisco, Special Assistant to the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command (NORAD-USNORTHCOM); and Rear Admiral Daniel B. Abel, Commander, 17th United States Coast Guard District - Alaska. These distinguished speakers, in addition to former USCG Commandant, Admiral Papp, will speak to attendees at the Arctic Encounter Symposium taking place in Seattle on January 15-16, 2016.

“We are honored to welcome Vice Admiral Ray and Rear Admiral Abel back to the 3rd annual Arctic Encounter Symposium and welcome for the first time, Major General Francisco and Admiral Papp. Their unique expertise and diverse perspectives will offer great value to the solution-based dialogue the Arctic Encounter seeks to invoke and foster through its convening work,” said Rachel Kallander, Founder and Executive Director of the Arctic Encounter Symposium. “We are thrilled to have this strong line up of military participation this year.”

As tensions rise on the global stage, it remains to be seen how such tensions will affect the geopolitical landscape in the Arctic – a region that has remained peaceful, stable, and a zone of cooperation. The conversation with these military leaders at the Arctic Encounter Symposium will further this dialogue regarding the future role of the military in the Arctic.

In addition to these speakers, a complete list of confirmed speakers and detailed agenda for the upcoming Arctic Encounter Symposium Seattle can be found online at [www.ArcticEncounter.com](http://www.ArcticEncounter.com).