

## **Summary of Dr. Crowley's Presentation**

South Korea is at one of the most uncomfortable places in the world, at the intersection of two of the world's simmering conflicts that unless well managed, could easily spiral out of control. The two conflicts are the rise of China as a regional power and global superpower, and North Korea's nuclear brinkmanship.

### *China*

In the rise of China as a regional power and global superpower, countries that prize democracy, the rule of law, western military alliance, and freedom of the seas will increasingly find it indispensable to work together.

TPP sought to cement the liberal trade norms in the Pacific through collaboration of like-minded countries before China became so powerful it could dictate its own terms unilaterally. Canada should do all it can to secure its own TPP agreement and to welcome in other like-minded countries, like Korea and Taiwan.

Collaboration will become every more important in the increase of Chinese bad action. Only concerted international action will have a chance to easing China into acceptance of international norms and away from it seeking its goals through intimidation and bullying.

### *North Korea*

To an extent, North's destabilizing behavior is made possible by Beijing's continued patronage to North Korea. Beijing wants to maintain the bargaining chip for unification in case it wants to drive another wedge between countries of its periphery.

In the case of North Korea's demise, South Korea is ill prepared to manage the transition into something new and more positive in the North. Canada should begin now to think about how such demise of North will impact our interests.

In summary, the new government's desire to be on good terms with every nation in the world has not yet been tested by confrontation with any of the major powers who do not care for good opinion of Canada or the world community. Time will come when Canada has to choose sides.

Canada could build closer economic ties with China, without compromising on our core interests. We should not be dazzled by China's commercial potential that we forget to counterbalance Chinese power. We will want lots of like-minded friends and if we neglect these friends until we need them, it may be too late.