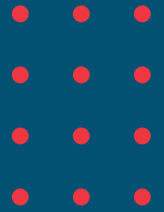




**ROYAL  
AVIATION MUSEUM  
OF WESTERN CANADA**



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



## MISSION

We preserve and promote the stories of aviation in western and northern Canada while educating, entertaining, and inspiring.

## VISION

We will be an inspirational, world-class destination that tells the story of bush flying, Canadian aerospace, and aviation.

## VALUES

Inclusivity, excellence, honesty, teamwork, respect, empowerment, accountability, collaboration.

The Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada seeks to honour and commemorate the history of Indigenous Peoples and aviation in Western Canada while engaging with the complex history of travel, trade, and relationships in this place. We are committed to facilitating a safe space for reconciliation to occur.

The home of the RAMWC is located on Treaty 1 territory, the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Lakota, and Dene Peoples, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

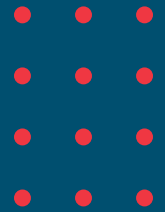




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# YEAR AT A GLANCE



## JANUARY

- Photography Night & Photo Contest

## FEBRUARY

- Open Cockpit Day & Luke Penner Presentation
- Spring Break 'Passport to Fun' Programming

## MARCH

- The Great Easter Egg Hunt

## MAY

- May the Fourth 'Science Fiction Day'
- Visiting Aircraft: Dhc Chipmunk
- Aerospace & Aviation In Manitoba Day

## JUNE

- 3rd Annual Wings & Wheels

## JULY

- Visiting Aircraft: Canso
- Visiting Aircraft: Avro Lancaster
- Summer fun Programming Begins



## AUGUST

- Visiting Aircraft: P-51 Mustang
- Buffalos on the Air: Amateur Ham Radio Event
- Dr. D.S. Reimer Plaza Dedication

## SEPTEMBER

- CSA Astronaut Jeremy Hansen Presentation
- Linwood Street Monument Dedication

## OCTOBER

- Military Appreciation Day
- Snoopy & The Red Baron Exhibit Opens
- Halloween with Hobbs

## NOVEMBER

- Ted Barris Book Launch
- Lego Liftoff with Manitoba Lego Users Group
- Preservation Ball

## DECEMBER

- Pancake Breakfast & Photos with Santa
- Holiday Programming Begins

# 2024 BY THE NUMBERS



**668**

Annual Pass Holders



**12**

Student Ambassadors  
Volunteered More Than 50  
Hours in 2024



**376,438**

Website Visitors



**67,026**

Tickets Sold



**9,081**

Students Attended



**24.8%**

Social Media  
Audience Growth



**191**

Schools



**23,400**

Total Volunteer Hours



**2,880,428**

Social Media Impressions



**113**

Private Events at  
the Museum



**192**

Total Volunteers



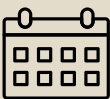
**11,593**

Total Email Subscribers



**8,929**

Event Attendees



**122**

Hours Per Volunteer  
on Average



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable achievements of the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada. This year marked our 50th anniversary—a milestone that allowed us to celebrate five decades of preserving and sharing Canada’s rich aviation heritage. Thanks to the unwavering dedication of our staff and volunteers, we have soared to new heights in our mission to inspire, educate, and entertain.

Our museum welcomed over 60,000 visitors this year, including more than 9,000 students who participated in our expanded STEM-based educational programs. These programs, made possible by the generosity of our community and the tireless efforts of our team, are shaping the future by sparking curiosity and interest in aviation and aerospace careers. Additionally, our innovative virtual learning platform connected to students in remote areas, breaking down barriers and ensuring access to quality education.

Volunteers remain the heart of our organization, contributing over 23,000 hours to restoration projects, visitor experiences, and behind-the-scenes operations. Their dedication was exemplified in the unveiling of the newly restored F-86 Sabre, a highlight of our anniversary celebrations. From hosting immersive events like Open Cockpit Day to engaging families with activities such as the Great Easter Egg Hunt, our team has created unforgettable experiences for visitors of all ages.

The success of our second annual Preservation Ball, which raised \$450,000 for STEM education, is a testament to the power of collaboration and community support. These funds will enable thousands of students to explore the wonders of aviation in the coming year.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to honoring the visionaries who shaped the history of flight while inspiring the next generation to dream big. None of this would be possible without the passion and dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters. Together, we are ensuring that the legacy of aviation continues to inspire for years to come.

Thank you for being a part of our journey.

Warm regards,

Terry Slobodian  
President & CEO



# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As Chair of the Board, it is with great admiration and pride that I reflect on the extraordinary achievements of the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada during its landmark 50th anniversary year. Together, we celebrated five decades of preserving Canada's aviation heritage, while simultaneously paving the way for a bright and inspiring future.

This year, our museum exemplified resilience, creativity, and dedication in every facet of its operations. With over 60,000 visitors and thousands of students engaged in STEM-based educational programs, the reach and impact of our organization continue to expand—fulfilling our mission to educate, inspire, and connect communities.

Thanks to our talented team and the generosity of supporters, we've introduced ground-breaking initiatives like virtual learning platforms, ensuring accessibility to aviation education for all.

Our volunteers remain the cornerstone of our museum's success, contributing countless hours to projects that brought history alive for our visitors. One such achievement was the stunning restoration of the F-86 Sabre, which stood as a centerpiece in this year's festivities and a tribute to their unwavering passion and commitment. Meanwhile, the community spirit truly shone during events like Open Cockpit Day and the Preservation Ball, fostering unforgettable memories and raising crucial funds for STEM education.

Looking forward, I am confident in our collective ability to soar to even greater heights, inspired by the legacy of the visionaries who pioneered flight and motivated by the curiosity of those who will shape its future. On behalf of the Board, I extend my deepest gratitude to our staff, volunteers, donors, and supporters for sharing in this journey and ensuring its continued success.

It is an honor to serve an institution so deeply rooted in the fabric of our community and so committed to creating a lasting impact. Thank you for being a part of this extraordinary mission.

With appreciation,

Rennie Zegalski  
Board Chair



# OUR ORGANIZATION

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rennie Zegalski  
Chair

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Vice Chair

John Davidson  
Vice Chair

Marti Ford  
Secretary

Kacie Olbrecht  
Treasurer

Gary Bell  
Board Member

Ron Drepaul  
Board Member

Doug Forbes  
Board Member

Patti Gair  
Board Member

Varinderjeet Gill  
Board Member

Shawn Harrison (MIL)  
Board Member

Andrew Stewart  
Term ended May 2024

Ron Jonkman  
Board Member

Peggy May  
Term ended September 2024

Bill Medd  
Board Member

James Neirinck  
Board Member

Major Gillian Monteiro  
Board Member  
Term ended September 2024

## BOARD COMMITTEES

### GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

John Davidson  
Chair

Patti Gair

James Neirinck

Terry Slobodian  
Ex Officio

### FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Kacie Olbrecht  
Chair

Patti Gair

John Davidson

Ron Jonkman

Terry Slobodian  
Ex Officio

Dennis Deng  
Ex Officio

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

James Neirinck  
Chair

Marti Ford

Bill Medd

Kacie Olbrecht

Terry Slobodian  
Ex Officio

### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE (PCEO)

Barry Bembridge  
Chair

Ron Jonkman

Rennie Zegalski

Bill Mead

## CEO COMMITTEES

### COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Gary Bell  
Chair

John Davidson

Gene Manchur

Gerry Norberg

Marsh Pettit

Terry Slobodian

## OUR TEAM

### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Dave Atkinson  
Facility & Operations

Dennis Deng  
Executive Vice President

Vanessa Desorcy  
Marketing Specialist  
(Until January 2024)

Yilei Ding  
Accountant

James Mitchell  
Marketing Specialist &  
Graphic Designer

Ana Ritchot  
Visitor Experience  
& Giftshop Manager

Terry Slobodian  
President and CEO

Leslie Stewart  
Volunteer & HR Coordinator

Adam Waud  
Facility Rentals  
& Events Specialist

## EDUCATION TEAM

Brianne Vielfaure  
STEM Education Administrator

Candace Kostna  
Museum Educator

Marc Neufeld  
Museum Educator  
(Until October 2024)

Jim Osler  
Museum Educator

Kristin Trenchard  
Museum Educator

## EVENT STAFF

Daria Bezzoubov

Angelo Castillo

Bobbie-Kaye Makoski

Davis Waud

Emma Waud

## VISITOR EXPERIENCE TEAM

Brandon Dreger

Charlene Gajudo

Dechen Gensapa

Alyssa Homeniuk

Michelle Kannwischer  
VE Team Lead

Eriq Lambert

Jennifer Maclino

Hudson Neufeild

Tallia Penner  
VE Supervisor

Vienna Pruchomme

Reet Rehal

Maya Sharpe

Jaida Thompson



# VOLUNTEERS

Abdallah AbdelAziz  
Wayne Adams  
Robert Arnold  
Dave Atkinson  
Hedley Auld  
Jonathan Barrett  
Mark Bingham  
Les Bloomfield  
Wayne Borodenko  
Gilbert Borsa  
Katherine Braun  
Bill Brereton  
Don Buie  
Keith Burrows  
Chase Crockett  
Gordon Crossley  
Don Currie  
Sam Daylami  
Willy De Hoog-Bramwell  
Jack Decorby  
John DeLuca  
Mark Dewart  
Ramneet Kaur Dhillon  
Alyssa Ding  
Tatjana Draskovic  
Rick Duerksen  
Kelly Duke  
Gerry Dupasquier  
Colette Durand  
Carol Eliasson  
Dave Emberley  
Gord Emberley  
Sasha Emric  
Pat English  
Henry Enns  
Hedie Epp  
Jim Fedorowich  
Bob Frey

Greg Friesen  
Roger Froebe  
Graham Gieg  
Dennis Giguere  
Robert Giguere  
Caitlin Gordon  
Jim Gray  
Neil Grewar  
Don Grimsley  
Eric Groth  
Eric Gyselman  
Chuck Halikas  
Matt Halpin  
Bev Harbour  
Ethan Haskayne  
Novak He  
Hayato Hirota  
Werner Hohler  
Harold Homuth  
Gary Hook  
Michelle Isaac  
Lorraine Iverach  
Simran Kaler  
Neil Kelly  
Wyatt Kimacovich  
Merv Kuruluk  
Eriq Lambert  
Sanni Lapitan  
Ron Lapp  
David Latour  
Larry Legrange  
Maureen Lelond  
Ronald Lent  
Svitlana Levchuk  
Al Lockhart  
Kim Long  
Terry Lumb  
Russell Macsymetz

Gene Manchur  
Daniel Mathen  
Maliha Mumu  
Pam McKenzie  
Doug McLennan  
Linda Meckling  
Trevor Melcher  
Peter Mitchell  
Sherratt Moffatt  
Eds Mondares  
Aaron Morissette  
Dave Mork  
Jonas Morris  
Bryan Morrison  
Alan Mulholland  
Chris Nauta  
Chaz Nelson  
Gerry Norberg  
Keith Olson  
Hans Osted  
Steve Pajot  
Bob Patrick  
Svitlana Pavlenko  
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Shawn Romas  
Daniel Salman  
Vladyslav Samon  
Dale Sawchuk  
Paul Schroeder

Donna Schulz  
Anass Sebbahi  
Daniel Serwyn Esteves  
Simon Shapiro  
Safna Sharafudeen  
Norman Shaw  
Steven Sigurdson  
Wanda Slobodian  
Laura Smith  
Garry Specht  
Lynda Specht  
Leigh Stephensen  
Hunter Stephenson  
Chris Stevens  
Keith Stone  
Gerry Suski  
Joanne Suski  
Glenn Syme  
Eva Tan  
David Tanenbaum  
Jacob Tenenbein  
Steve Thomas  
Brian Toews  
Tracy Tymme  
Mabel Wang  
Ying Wang  
Gordon Watt  
Roger Whittaker  
Okino Williams  
Tomas Williston  
Bill Woolven  
Bob Woroschuk  
Dennis Wright  
Jerry Xiao  
Kelly Yang  
Yun Yu  
Robert Zelnick  
Youyi Zhou  
Bill Zuk



# OUR DONORS

## CORNERSTONE DONOR (\$5,000,000+)

Richardson Foundation

## \$1 MILLION+

Dr. D.S. Reimer

Exchange Income Corporation

The North West Company

The Tallman Family

## \$500,000-\$999,999

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Frank McManes

The Paterson Foundation

Randy Moffat

RBQ Foundation, in memory of  
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Jim and Leney Richardson and Family

Johnston Group Inc.

Raymond McFeetors

The Hastings Family

Valerie MacKenzie and Family

## \$100,000-\$249,999

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Canada Life

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Chipman Family

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In memory of the MacDonald Brothers -  
Jim, Grant, and Edwin - from their families

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## \$50,000-\$99,999

Access Credit Union

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in memory of Floyd Glass

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Willis Towers Watson

## \$10,000-\$24,999

In memory of William (Bill) Wehrle,  
from his family

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 Honourable Janice Filmon  
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 Gary Bell  
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 Sigfusson Northern Ltd.  
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 William Pratt  
 Wayne and Lee Anderson in  
 honour of Shirley Render

## \$1,000-\$4,999

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 Gary Bachman  
 Gary Timlick  
 Gordon Crossley  
 Guy Whitehill  
 Ian Sutherland  
 Captain Dennis Giguere  
 Joel Nelson  
 John Alho  
 John Clearwater  
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 Timothy Dewart  
 Tom and Moya Lindstrom  
 Wayne Borodenko  
 Winnipeg Flying Club

# STEM EDUCATION DONORS

## \$50,000+

\*Anonymous Donor  
 The Tallman Family  
 Tannis Richardson

## \$10,000+

Blain King  
 Steve Kroft  
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 Charlie Spiring  
 The Paterson Foundation

## \$5,000

Brian Hastings  
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 Carl Eisenbrenner  
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 Ron Jankman & Kriss Major  
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 TPC Investment Corporation

## MONTHLY

Violeta Avalos  
 Stewart Heaton  
 Scott Wiens

# THE RIGHT STUFF

## CELEBRATING OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers are the dedicated crew that keeps the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada flying high. Their hard work, commitment, and passion ensure every part of the museum—from aircraft restoration to visitor experiences—runs like a well-coordinated flight plan. Whether they're guiding guests, preserving history, or handling vital behind-the-scenes tasks, their contributions are essential to keeping us able to do what we do. Without their tireless efforts, our museum would not be as successful as it is today. Volunteers don't just support the museum—for 50 years they have helped us navigate toward new horizons!

In early January, our team got together at Trans Canada Brewing Company for our annual staff and volunteer appreciation night.

Together we ate delicious pizza, sampled craft beer, and held a paper airplane contest for the RAMWC Aero Cup. Congrats to the 2024 Aero Cup champion, Steve Pajot!



The 2024 Preservation Ball Gala was a success because of the effort of volunteers on the big night.



## THE LANCASTER TEAM

Lancaster Days was a major undertaking for the museum, and the dedication of our volunteers truly went above and beyond. Their hard work and commitment was celebrated, with many having stepping up in remarkable ways. One memorable story from the event includes volunteers who, despite attending as visitors, gave up their own spot in line to see the Lancaster bomber—ensuring non-volunteer guests had the opportunity to experience the historic aircraft firsthand. Their selflessness and passion embody the spirit of our volunteer team.



Volunteers get to give back to the public in every aspect of museum programming.



## 1,000 HOURS AND STILL GOING

For the first time since opening in its new building, the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada honoured volunteers who reached the 1,000-hour milestone!

Without the effort and dedication of our volunteers, we would not be able to support our initiatives or manage the day-to-day operations that make this museum so great. It is an amazing achievement, and we look forward to celebrating more achievement milestones in 2025.



The 1,000 hours pin our dedicated volunteers received was designed to fit onto the volunteer name tag lanyard.





# THE 2024 PRESERVATION BALL

## A NIGHT OF FUN, GLAMOUR, AND GENEROSITY

Glittering lights, pulsating beats, and a dance floor alive with energy—this was the scene at the Royal Aviation Museum's 2024 gala, where the spirit of the 1970s took center stage. Celebrating the museum's 50th anniversary (1974-2024), the disco-themed Preservation Ball was a night to remember, bringing together enthusiastic guests, generous donors, and dedicated supporters. Following the triumphant return of the gala in 2023 with a Roaring Twenties theme, this year's event soared even higher with music, dancing, and philanthropy in full swing.

This year's Preservation Ball transported attendees back to the era of disco, with a lively atmosphere that channeled the spirit of *Saturday Night Fever*. Guests arrived dressed in their finest glitter, sequins, and bell-bottoms, ready to boogie the night away under shimmering disco lights. The event kicked off with an elegant cocktail reception featuring delectable hors d'oeuvres, setting the stage for an exquisite dining experience.



### HONOURARY PATRON

In honour of the RCAF's centennial the 2024 Preservation Ball, recognized Donald S. Paterson as Honorary Patron. A decorated WWII bomber pilot, he survived two crashes, completed 30 missions and received the Distinguished Flying Cross. After the war, he led his family's business with distinction. Paterson is remembered for his courage, resilience, and devotion to family.

Adding to the excitement, both live and silent auctions presented exclusive, one-of-a-kind experiences, encouraging spirited bidding that contributed to the event's incredible fundraising success. The highlight of the evening came when an all-star live band took the stage, playing iconic disco hits that kept the dance floor packed until late into the night.

Beyond the glitz and glamour, the heart of the Preservation Ball lay in its mission—to support the next generation of aviators through the museum's *Take Flight!* and *Pathways* education programs. These STEM-based initiatives provide valuable educational opportunities to students, with a special focus on those from economically disadvantaged communities. Since the museum's grand reopening in May 2022, over 23,000 students have benefited from these programs,

inspiring them to explore careers in aviation and STEM fields.

Thanks to the unwavering support of sponsors, donors, attendees, volunteers, and auction participants, the 2024 Preservation Ball exceeded all expectations, raising an astounding \$450,000 for these educational initiatives. The overwhelming generosity displayed at this event ensures that young learners will continue to have access to transformative experiences in aviation and STEM for years to come.

With yet another successful gala in the books, the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to making the evening a resounding triumph. The Preservation Ball has once again proven to be a night where fun, philanthropy, and community spirit come together to create lasting impact.



MFunk dancers helped to get the party started on the dance floor

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Don't forget to save the date, the next Preservation Ball takes place Saturday, October 18, 2025.

Mark your calendars for an elegant evening of gourmet dining, dancing, live entertainment, and exclusive auctions—all in support of the museum's *Take Flight!* and *Pathways* education programs, which inspire the next generation of aviators and STEM innovators.



Left to Right: Bob Tallman, Cathy Tallman, Jeff Wirt, Alanna Porritt, Will Lisson, Summer Hudson



ABOVE: Mr. Andrew Paterson, President of Paterson Family Foundation, with emcee Clay Young



Mayor Scott Gillingham Presents a Community Service Award To Terry Slobodian CEO of RAMWC

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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### AFTER PARTY SPONSOR



### WELCOME RECEPTION SPONSORS



## THANK YOU TO OUR AUCTION PRIZE DONORS

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Accent Environments  
Advance Electronics  
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Barkman Concrete  
Barry Bembridge  
Beemaid  
Bellissimo Restaurant & Lounge  
Belly Rub Club  
Beyond Flowers  
Chamois Car Wash  
Chop Steakhouse & Bar  
Coal & Canary  
Corydon Dental Centre  
Dave Atkinson

Deluca's Fine Specialty Store  
Derek Batchelor  
Elkhorn Resort  
Ernst & Young  
Frankie's Italian  
Girl Candy  
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Kilter Brewing Co.  
Labusch Skywear  
Lakeview Gimli  
Luxe BBQ  
Made Here  
Mayberry Fine Art

McNally Robinson  
Mordens' Chocolates  
Party Works  
Pedal Pub Winnipeg  
Pet Valu Tuxedo  
Rady JCC Fitness Centre  
Rae and Jerry's  
Red Canoe  
Rossmere Country Club  
The Royal Winnipeg Ballet  
Secret Shopper  
Sharecuterie  
Shoppers Drug Mart Tuxedo  
Shrugging Doctor Beverage Company  
Snowbirds - Dan V. Dempsey,  
CD Lieutenant - Col Ret'd

Sookram's Brewing Co.  
The Children's Museum  
The Keg  
The Manitoba Opera  
The Royal Canadian Mint  
Thermëa  
Tough Duck  
Trans Canada Brewery  
True North Sports + Entertainment  
Valley Broadcasting  
Victoria Inn  
Wanda and Terry Slobodian  
Winnipeg Airport Authorities  
Winnipeg Airport Duty Free  
Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
Winnipeg Goldeyes

# COMMUNITY AND CONNECTIONS



THE EVENTS THAT BROUGHT PEOPLE TOGETHER IN 2024

The traveling Ace Academy Flight simulator allowed visitors to pilot a World War I bi-plane with their body motion.



Military Appreciation Day included a pick up hockey game rink, flight simulator and a demonstration from RCAF SAR Techs who rappelled down the museum building.



## RCAF 100th Exhibit

On March 20th, 2024, we welcomed veterans, personnel from 17 Wing Winnipeg, cadets, and other special guests for the opening of an exhibit commemorating 100 years of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF).

Through a series of informational banners, visitors were able to learn about some of the many trailblazing and heroic achievements of RCAF members.

Also on display was an impressive collection of nearly 100 original aircraft paintings, commissioned by author Larry Milberry for an RCAF 60th anniversary book. Done by nine different Canadian artists, these paintings highlighted RCAF aircraft in use between 1924 and 1984.

This is the first time these original paintings had been exhibited to the public, previously being reserved to the RCAF archives. This kind of exhibit is only made possible by our close working relationship with 17 Wing.

## Sustainable Aviation

Thanks to the federal and provincial governments of Canada and Manitoba, the future of sustainable aviation will be key to Manitoba's future success. Premier Wab Kinew chose the museum as the site for an exciting government announcement. On January 17, the Premier, along with the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, announced a new combined federal investment of \$6.2 million to support the future of sustainable aviation fuels. The investment includes a planned processing facility near Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, which is expected to create over 1,500 jobs. It was an honor for the museum to host these dignitaries for this important announcement.



Our May 4th Science Fiction Day event includes a much loved Lightsaber demonstration and class hosted by our event partners River City Sabre's.



Radio personalities Tyler Carr (ENERGY 106) and Sean 'Dilley' Dilworth (HOT 100.5) were the celebrity hosts of our 2024 Easter Egg Hunt.



Aerobatics champion Luke Penner gave a presentation on Open Cockpit day.



Lego Liftoff Day, a new event for 2024 was huge success with members of the Manitoba Lego Users Group bringing their aviation themed builds to display at the museum.



Families enjoyed the Halloween with Hobbs event that provides a safe indoor trick or treating experience.



# SNOOPY & THE RED BARON

## COME IN FOR A LANDING

From October 7, 2024, to January 4, 2025, the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada brought history and nostalgia to life by hosting our largest traveling exhibition to date: **Snoopy and the Red Baron**. This special exhibit, presented in association with the Charles Schulz Museum, celebrated the legacy of the beloved Peanuts character, Snoopy, in his famous 'Flying Ace' persona—soaring through the skies in pursuit of the notorious Red Baron.

Visitors of all ages were immersed in the whimsical world of Snoopy's aviation adventures, complete with hands-on activities, creative workshops, and a unique photo opportunity where guests could dress up as WWI flying aces and pose next to Snoopy's doghouse-turned-airplane. But what made this exhibition truly special was the tremendous effort behind the scenes.



## A Labour of Love

Bringing Snoopy and the Red Baron to life was no small feat. The installation was a labour of love, undertaken largely by dedicated museum volunteers and key staff who worked tirelessly outside of their normal hours. Their passion and commitment were evident in every detail. The Hastings Family Temporary Gallery was repainted, and a new display wall was constructed to properly display the exhibit's many prints. Hand-painted images of Charles Schulz's beloved characters were carefully added to the walls, enhancing the immersive experience.

This was the museum's most ambitious traveling exhibit undertaking to date, requiring extensive planning, and a lot of teamwork. Thanks to the dedication of the museum's community, Snoopy and the Red Baron became a visually stunning and engaging experience that delighted visitors both young and old.

## Bringing Community Together

One of the exhibition's highlights was its engaging lineup of workshops designed to spark creativity and storytelling. Visitors had the chance to learn how to draw Snoopy and his friends, create their own comics, and make wearable Snoopy ears. The "Make Your Own Comic" workshops were particularly special, as they were organized in collaboration with volunteers from the Prairie Comics Festival. This partnership reinforced the museum's ongoing commitment to working with local non-profit organizations to create meaningful, community-driven experiences.

Throughout its three-month run, Snoopy and the Red Baron brought smiles to our visitors, blending aviation, art, and imagination. Though the exhibition has now moved on, its impact remains. It stands as a shining example of what can be achieved when the museum comes together. The Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada looks forward to welcoming more exciting exhibitions in the future—continuing its mission to inspire, educate, and celebrate aviation in all its forms.



# LINWOOD STREET MONUMENT DEDICATION

## REMEMBERING THE 1972 LINWOOD STREET CRASH

Fifty years after a tragic aviation accident claimed the lives of eight Indigenous children and a pilot, the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada (RAMWC) took a significant step in ensuring their memory would not be forgotten. In 2024, RAMWC erected a monument in their honour near the site of the crash, fulfilling a long-overdue recognition of this heartbreaking chapter in Manitoba's history.

On June 24, 1972, a plane carrying students from residential schools in Stonewall and Portage la Prairie, en route to Bunibonibee Cree Nation (formerly Oxford House), crashed shortly after takeoff. The aircraft came down in a vacant lot on Linwood Street in Winnipeg. The crash claimed the lives of students Margaret Robinson, Mary Rita Canada, Ethel Grieves, Rosalie Balfour, Wilkie Muskego, Iona Weenusk, and siblings Roy and Deborah Sinclair, along with pilot Scott Coughlin. For decades, their story remained largely untold.

The Royal Aviation Museum, committed to reconciliation and the amplification of untold stories in Canadian aviation history, sought to help address this omission. Upon learning of the crash from Consulting Indigenous Curator Niigaan Sinclair, the museum's leadership felt a responsibility to act.

"With the arrival of aviation came many benefits to northern communities, but it had negative effects as well," said CEO Terry Slobodian. "This is an important part of our shared history, and it is our duty to honour the lives lost."

Thanks to funding from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Funds and in partnership with the City of Winnipeg, the





Stacy Robinson, niece of crash victim Iona Weenusk, pays tribute at the newly unveiled memorial.



From the museum archives: The aftermath of the 1972 crash that claimed the lives of eight Indigenous children and their pilot. This tragedy, deeply tied to the residential school system, must not be forgotten. The Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada is committed to taking necessary steps toward reconciliation.

museum established a memorial site on the Yellow Ribbon Greenway Trail near Linwood Street and Silver Avenue. The site features a polished black and paradoiso granite pedestal engraved with the names of the victims, surrounded by newly planted trees and seating areas—creating a place for reflection and remembrance.

Mayor Scott Gillingham acknowledged the significance of the project, stating, “The tragic death of eight Indigenous children and their pilot is yet another painful chapter in the residential school legacy. This monument ensures that future generations will remember

their names and the ongoing impacts of that history.”

RAMWC also worked closely with Bunibonabee Cree Nation to erect a second monument within their community. This initiative aimed to honour the lost children and provide a space for their families and community to grieve and remember.

“The loss of these young lives was devastating,” said Niigaan Sinclair. “The museum’s commitment to acknowledging this tragedy and working with Indigenous leadership is a step towards reconciliation. These

children deserved to be remembered, and now, they will be.”

The installation of the Linwood Street monument on September 25, 2024, marked a solemn yet necessary moment of recognition. It stands as a testament to those who never made it home, a symbol of remembrance, and a commitment to ensuring history is neither erased nor forgotten.

We thank everyone who helped make this happen including Sheila North and Tommy Weenusk from Bunibonabee Cree Nation, Mayor Scott Gillingham, the City Winnipeg, and Dr. Niigaan Sinclair.

# CELEBRATING GENEROSITY

## DR. D.S. REIMER'S LEGACY LIVES ON WITH AVIATION PLAZA

On August 10, 2024, we celebrated the official grand opening of the Dr. D.S. Reimer Aviation Plaza. This outdoor space provides us with the opportunity to accommodate visiting aircraft, and hold various public events. The generosity of Dr. D.S. Reimer helped to make this project possible, and we remain deeply grateful for his philanthropic spirit.

Dr. Donald Reimer exemplified a life of excellence in both business and philanthropy. At the age of 19, he founded Reimer Express Lines and led the company for over 40 years. As executive chairman and chief executive officer of Reimer World Corp., the parent company of Reimer Express Lines, he played a pivotal role in the transportation industry. In 1988, Dr. Reimer received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Trinity Western University.

His commitment to philanthropy led him to establish the Reimer Express Foundation in 1985 to support charitable initiatives. Throughout his career,



Sign Installation January 24, 2024



RAMWC CEO Terry Slobodian delivers opening remarks at the Dr. D.S. Reimer Aviation Plaza dedication ceremony.

Dr. Reimer and his company received numerous accolades. In 1987, he was honored with the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Business Achievement Award. In 1988, Reimer Express Lines earned a Canada Award for Business Excellence in Quality, and in 1994, Dr. Reimer was named National Transportation Person-of-the-Year.

The Dr. D.S. Reimer Aviation Plaza has become an integral part of the Royal Aviation Museum's outdoor activities, home to the Carolyn Sifton Foundation Pedal Plane Zone, and large-scale events, such as our annual Father's Day Wings & Wheels celebration.

As an avid pilot and longtime supporter of the museum, Dr. Reimer's contributions to the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada spanned decades. Though he passed away in November of 2023, his legacy continues to shape and support the museum, ensuring that future generations can experience the wonders of aviation in a space made possible by his generosity.



## BRINGING SPACE CLOSER TO HOME: A VISIT FROM CANADA'S ASTRONAUT

# JEREMY HANSEN

Sunday, September 29, we hosted a sold-out event featuring Canadian Space Agency astronaut Jeremy Hansen, who spoke about his remarkable journey to becoming the first Canadian astronaut selected for a mission to the Moon. The anticipation for this event was palpable, as attendees gathered to hear about Hansen's groundbreaking role in the upcoming Artemis II mission.

During his presentation, Hansen provided insights into his career path and detailed his responsibilities as a crew member of Artemis II. He recounted the significance of this mission and highlighted Canada's pivotal role in lunar exploration. The audience was not only captivated by Hansen's experiences but also inspired by his vision for the future of space travel.

The importance of space exploration has become increasingly evident in today's world. Thanks to continuous technological advancements, what once seemed impossible is now a growing and tangible part of our lives.

Our museum remains deeply committed not only to preserving the history of aviation but also to



ABOVE: Jeremy poses with Marsh Pettitt, Restoration Volunteer Team Lead, both former members of RCAF Squadron 441.

BELOW: Jeremy autographs Sabre #1815



expanding our focus to encompass aerospace—reflecting Canada's evolving industries in the realm of space exploration.

As Hansen shared his hopes for the upcoming crewed flight around the Moon, attendees were able to envision what will be a historic moment in Canadian history. If all proceeds according to plan, Hansen will soon become the first Canadian to venture around the Moon, an accomplishment that excited both the attendees and our organization alike.

This event was made memorable through the engagement of visitors and the compelling storytelling of Jeremy Hansen. We extend our sincere gratitude to Jeremy for contributing to the success of this event and assisting in creating an unforgettable experience for our guests. And for taking the time to sign the checkers on the tail of our newly restored F-86 Sabre. As a former member of 441 'Checker-Checker' Squadron Jeremy Hansen was invited to sign the livery by Marsh Pettitt our restoration team lead, also a former member of 441 Squadron.

# VISITING AIRCRAFT



A LOOK BACK AT OUR 2024 SUMMER VISITING AIRCRAFT SERIES

## The de Havilland Canada DHC-1 Chipmunk

May 18 - 20

The 2024 Visiting Aircraft Series launched with a true aviation classic—the de Havilland Canada DHC-1 Chipmunk, a training aircraft developed for the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and Royal Air Force (RAF) after World War II.

The Chipmunk first took to the skies on May 22, 1946, and entered operational service that same year. As a tandem, two-seat, single-engine primary trainer, it quickly gained popularity for its simplicity, ease of maintenance, and reliability. Over the years, the aircraft became a staple in flying schools and air forces worldwide.



The featured Chipmunk in this year's series belonged to Dave Gillespie of British Columbia and Doug Tomlinson of Saskatchewan. When they acquired the aircraft, it was painted in a red and white Super Chipmunk livery. However, they meticulously restored it to its original factory finish, bringing it back to its classic appearance.

This type of aircraft also holds a royal connection. King Charles III, then Prince Charles, learned to fly in Chipmunk WP903 in 1968. On January 14, 1969, he flew solo for the first time in the tandem trainer, later earning his private pilot's license and receiving his RAF Preliminary Flying Badge on August 2 of that year.

To complement the display, owner Dave Gillespie gave a well attended special presentation on Monday, May 20, sharing insights about the Chipmunk and other aircraft in his collection. The event provided a unique opportunity for aviation enthusiasts to learn about the aircraft's history, restoration, and enduring legacy.



## World War II Patrol Bomber Canso A

July 9 - 10

The 2024 Visiting Aircraft Series continued with a remarkable piece of aviation history—Canso A, FNJE; a World War II patrol bomber formerly known as RCAF 11094. This rare aircraft played a critical role in Canada's wartime efforts, serving as a submarine hunter and performing search and rescue missions.

After the war, the Canso was converted for civilian use, primarily as a water bomber to help fight forest fires—first in Newfoundland, then later across Western Canada. In 2001, while battling fires near Inuvik, Northwest Territories, FNJE took on water during a refueling operation and sank in approximately 100 feet of water. It was later recovered, floated to the surface, and pulled to the northeast shore of Sitidgi Lake, where its engines were removed and salvaged.

Today, this Canso remains one of the few airworthy examples in the world. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of volunteers at the Fairview Aircraft Restoration Society (FARS), it was restored and repainted in orange and green, representing the provincial colors of Newfoundland from its time as a water bomber in the region.

During its visit, the Canso arrived smoothly, and the dedicated F.A.R.S. volunteers who accompanied the aircraft set up displays, and engaged with visitors to share stories about the restoration process. Their passion and hard work ensures that this historic piece of Canadian aviation history will continue grace the skies for years to come.





## Avro Lancaster, Mk. X, VR-A

July 16 - 17

The Mynarski Memorial Lancaster, one of only two airworthy Lancasters in the world, made its highly anticipated and triumphant return to our museum after 14 years. As the most famous Allied bomber of World War II, the Avro Lancaster stands as a powerful symbol of the sacrifices made to defend freedom.

Owned and operated by the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton, Ontario, the Lancaster was painstakingly restored over eleven years by a dedicated crew—many of whom were World War II veterans.

The aircraft is painted in the markings of KB726 - VR-A, flown by RCAF No. 419 "Moose" Squadron, and is dedicated to the memory of Andrew Mynarski a Winnipeg hero. Mynarski was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross, the Commonwealth's highest award for gallantry, for his heroic actions on June 13, 1944. When his Lancaster was shot down by a German night fighter, Mynarski risked his life attempting to free a trapped tail gunner from the burning aircraft. Though the tail gunner miraculously survived, Mynarski succumbed to his severe burns.

To commemorate this historic aircraft, the museum hosted a screening of *Reunion of Giants*, a documentary chronicling the Lancaster's journey to the UK to fly with its British counterpart.



While the Lancaster's arrival was met with enthusiasm and excitement, the overwhelming demand for tours was a surprise, which resulted in long wait times due to high visitor demand. Despite careful planning and preparation, the museum found this our most in demand visiting aircraft, likely driven by the extensive personal connection many people feel towards this aircraft. It was a learning experience for the museum and our 'after-action' meeting allowed us to create new plans for future events like this one. The dedicated staff and volunteers from both museums worked

tirelessly to accommodate as many guests as possible, and their efforts were deeply appreciated.

The Mynarski Memorial Lancaster's return was a momentous occasion, reminding all in attendance of its historical significance and the bravery of those who served. While lessons were learned, the event was an inspiring tribute to Canada's aviation heritage, leaving visitors in awe of this legendary aircraft.

This special visit was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Paterson Family Foundation.



## P-51D Mustang, RCAF 9253, BA-S

August 9 - 11

With its gleaming silver fuselage and unmistakable roar, the P-51D Mustang touched down at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada, captivating aviation enthusiasts. This legendary warbird, owned by Hannu Halminen of Ontario, proudly bears the 424 (City of Hamilton) Squadron livery, featuring its striking tiger emblem.

Originally delivered to the Swedish Air Force, this aircraft later served with the Bolivian Air Force until 1995. A meticulous restoration by Fighter Enterprises, Inc. of Florida returned it to its former glory, allowing it to take to the skies once more.

The P-51 Mustang played a crucial role in aerial warfare, excelling in bomber escort, ground attack, and air defense roles. Early models struggled at high altitudes until the game-changing addition of the Rolls-Royce Merlin engine—the same type on display in the museum's Standard Aero Mechanics' Workshop. Fast and powerful, the Mustang could exceed 400 mph, fly for nearly 10 hours with drop tanks, and carry an array of weapons.

The Mustang was a vital part of Canada's aviation history, with multiple RCAF squadrons flying it during and after WWII. The RCAF acquired 130 Mustang IVs postwar, including those used by Winnipeg's 402 Squadron, with the aircraft remaining in service until 1961.

The Mustang's visit was made possible by utilizing the museum's newly named outdoor space, the Dr. D.S. Reimer Aviation Plaza, dedicated to Dr. Donald Sanford Reimer, a longtime museum supporter. The opening event included celebrations, giveaways, and special moments honoring his contributions.

We expect the Mustang to visit again in 2025.



A striking angle of the restored City of Hamilton Tiger Cat emblem.



# FROM RUST TO RESURGENCE

## A YEAR OF HARD WORK ON SABRE #1815 PAYS OFF BIG

As we look back on another impactful year at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada (RAMWC), we reflect on the incredible dedication and effort poured into the restoration of Sabre #1815. While the completion of this ambitious project was celebrated in early 2025, 2024 marked a year of steady progress, passionate volunteerism, and significant milestones in the aircraft's journey back to its former glory.

### A Year of Dedication and Volunteer Effort

The ongoing restoration of Sabre #1815 was no small feat, requiring over 6,000 volunteer hours. Our dedicated Restoration Team worked tirelessly,

overcoming numerous challenges in the journey to bring this historic aircraft back to life. Under the leadership of Restoration Team Leader Marsh Pettitt, volunteers dismantled, repaired, and reassembled key components of the aircraft, uncovering unexpected hurdles along the way.

"Once we took it apart, we realized it was going to be a much bigger project than we had expected," said Pettitt. "Years of outdoor storage had caused significant damage. Someone had even covered corrosion with what started to feel like 1,000 pounds of Bondo. That had to be addressed first."

Further surprises emerged as restoration work progressed. The mismatched wings of Sabre #1815, with different



Restoration began with disassembly, assessment of its state, and then refinishing of body damage from rust and corrosion.



An inflatable paint booth and spray guns allowed the restoration team to approach the paint scheme appropriately and accurately.

serial numbers on each side, while a surprise, were in the end a testament to the modular nature of the aircraft's original design.

### The Sabre Squadron Campaign

Alongside the hands-on restoration work, 2024 also saw the launch of the 'Join the Sabre Squadron' campaign, a landmark fundraising initiative for the museum. This campaign not only helped secure the necessary funds but also engaged aviation enthusiasts across Canada with unique donor rewards, including the first-ever squadron patch designed by the museum.

“2024 marked the 100th anniversary of the RCAF, as well as the 50th anniversary of the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada,” said Terry Slobodian, CEO of the RAMWC. “We knew we had to commemorate these milestones. The Sabre Squadron initiative was a first for the museum, offering a new way for supporters to take part in this restoration. The reception was very positive.”

## Honouring History with a Distinctive Livery

As discussions about the aircraft’s final appearance unfolded, the restoration team opted for a historically significant yet underrepresented livery. While the Golden Hawks scheme was considered, the team ultimately chose to honour No. 1 Canadian Air Division’s Sabres from the 1950s and ‘60s, specifically those of 441 Squadron with their distinctive ‘Checker-Checker’ tail markings.

“There are probably more Golden Hawks in museums today than there ever were in the sky,” Pettitt joked. “Instead, we wanted to consider what isn’t in a museum already. Choosing 441 Squadron’s markings was a way to honour the pilots who flew Sabres in Europe during the Cold War.”

## A Legacy of Canadian Aviation

Sabre #1815 holds a special place in Canadian aviation history as the last Sabre airframe ever produced in Canada. Originally destined for the Luftwaffe, it served with Fighter Wing 72 in Oldenburg before making its way to the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). In 1996, thanks to the generosity of Air Commodore Kamran Qureshi of the PAF, the aircraft was returned to Canada and reassembled at what was then the Western Canada Aviation Museum.

To further honour the RCAF’s legacy, the restoration team ensured that every detail of the project stayed true to the history of the aircraft and its contributions to Canadian aviation. From structural repairs to accurate historical markings, 2024 saw crucial steps forward in bringing this storied aircraft back to its rightful place in the museum’s collection.



Sabre #1815 was delivered slowly over time as each piece was restored and completed. The individual parts were stored at the museum and reassembly took place on the museum floor.

## Looking Ahead

While the unveiling of the restored Sabre #1815 took place in early 2025, this past year was defined by the passion, commitment, and perseverance of our volunteers and supporters. Their dedication ensured that this remarkable piece of history would be preserved for future generations.

After the F-86’s final completion it’s addition has become a welcome part of our display of RCAF fighter aircraft. Look for next year’s annual report, where we will reveal the final results of this incredible restoration journey, and highlights from the unveiling ceremony.



# THE HISTORIC RETURN OF JUNKERS F.13

The Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada is proud to welcome home a rare and historically significant aircraft; the Junkers F.13. This pioneering aircraft, the world's first all-metal airliner, played a crucial role in shaping modern aviation. Designed and produced by Junkers between 1919 and 1932, the F.13 was a revolutionary monoplane that offered an enclosed cabin for four passengers—a significant development in luxury. Pilots however, still faced the elements from an open cockpit.

This aircraft's connection to the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada began in 1981, when two of our museum's founders, Keith Olson and Gord Emberley, embarked on an adventure to northern B.C. to track down CF-ALX, an abandoned wreck, and bring it back to Winnipeg. Keith and Gord successfully recovered CF-ALX, known as the "City of Prince George" from McConnell Lake in northern British Columbia where it had crashed in 1933.



ABOVE: Photo from the museum archives of CF-ALX on floats in B.C.

BELOW: A good example of the overall state of CF-ALX 'City of Prince George' after its recovery from the crash site.



In 2005 the Junkers F.13 was shipped from Winnipeg to the Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin (German Museum of Technology Berlin), a large and modern museum dedicated to technology and its history. A beneficial agreement had been worked out for both museums. A key aspect of that agreement being that the Berlin museum would fund and complete the majority of restoration on CF-ALX.

On September 19, 2024, CF-ALX crossed the ocean once again, and the components of the restored Junkers F.13 were moved into the museum.

A total of 348 Junkers F.13 aircraft were built, operating on every continent except Antarctica. Despite its widespread service, its historical significance remains underappreciated in the English-speaking world. The aircraft was so advanced for its time that contemporary designs seemed primitive in comparison.

In Canada, six Junkers F.13's operated under some of the harshest conditions imaginable in the 1920s and 1930s, serving remote communities and demonstrating the transformative

The Landing Zone Boutique sticker, featuring original art of the Junkers F.13, highlights its original German nickname, 'Königsgeier,' which translates to 'King Vulture.'



power of connection for remote areas of Canada that only aviation could provide. The last known flight of a Junkers F.13 took place in Brazil in 1948, marking the end of an era for this remarkable aircraft. Today, only three other complete examples are on display worldwide—in Stockholm, Paris, and Budapest.

Bringing the Junkers F.13 back to Canada has been an extraordinary endeavour, requiring immense dedication, resources, and coordination. The process of transporting this rare aircraft across an ocean was no small feat. It involved meticulous planning to ensure the aircraft's structural integrity remained intact throughout its journey. The aircraft had to be carefully disassembled, with each component securely packed for safe transit. The journey spanned continents and required seamless cooperation between multiple teams to ensure the aircraft's preservation during transport. Once it arrived in Canada, the painstaking process of reassembly and restoration began, ensuring it could take its rightful place in the museum's collection.

The return of the Junkers F.13 to the Royal Aviation Museum is a momentous occasion, not just for aviation enthusiasts but for all Canadians.

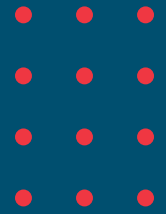


The delivery of the Junkers was a complicated and labour intensive effort for everyone involved.



Museum founders Keith Olson and Gord Emberley had a meaningful reunion with the plane they recovered so many years ago.

# EDUCATION THAT INSPIRES



EDUCATION AND STEM DRIVE INNOVATION AND SUCCESS



Education is the foundation upon which future generations turn their dreams and aspirations into reality. At the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada, we recognize the vital role that quality education plays in nurturing curiosity and fostering innovation. Our continued commitment to educational excellence is reflected in our dedication to providing groundbreaking and hands-on STEM-based experiences, provided by our three certified teachers, that inspire young minds. Through original engaging programming developed just for RAMWC, we strive to cultivate a passion for learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), empowering students to explore the wonders of aviation and beyond. Our mission is to create an environment where education is not just a goal, but

"We thoroughly enjoyed our experience at the Royal Aviation Museum.

The programming was well planned out, adapted for the age group and certain students.

The leaders and educators were kind and helpful."

**Alana Kolomaya**  
**Meadows West School**

the beginning of an exciting journey that sparks imagination and fuels the potential of every learner.

Since our opening in May 2022, we have educated and inspired over 23,832 students through our curriculum-based STEM courses. These programs wouldn't be possible without the expertise of two of Canada's leading STEM educators: Maria Nickel, an esteemed educator affiliated with the Space Foundation International and Houston Space Center, and former Canadian Space Agency Recruitment Program candidate; and Brian Ewenson, a renowned aerospace educator who has worked with both the Canadian Space Agency and NASA's Space Shuttle Program, delivering STEM presentations to over 250,000 people across North America.

## Weeklong Programming with Winnipeg School Division

In early 2024, RAMWC warmly welcomed three classes from various schools within the Winnipeg School Division for a weeklong internship program that took place in January and February. Each class utilized one of our classrooms as their own, engaging in our daily programming while interacting closely with our dedicated educators and staff. Students also had the opportunity to explore our museum extensively, deepening their appreciation of the exhibits and educational resources available.

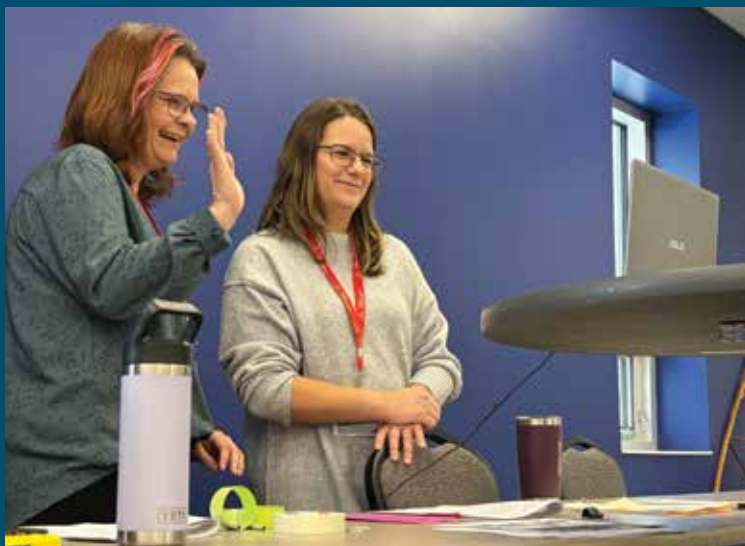
## Frontier School Division Science Fair

A noteworthy event this year was the Frontier School Division science fair held at the Manitoba Museum, where one of our educators, and our STEM Education Administrator, served as judges. They were impressed by the diverse range of projects presented by students in grades 4 to 12, showcasing a multitude of topics and innovative ideas.

## Mini 500 Bravo #465 Helicopter

The Mini 500 was designed as a light helicopter that resembles a scaled-down Hughes 500, powered by a two-stroke engine. First assembled in 1998, C-GEBJ was used as the Canadian demonstrator for Revolutions Helicopters up until the fall of 2000, performed in the Winnipeg Airshow until 2004, and was involved with aerial photography from 2000 to 2006. It took 350 hours to assemble.

This addition to the museum's collection highlights how far homebuilt helicopters have come since the Froebe helicopter in 1937. This aircraft was moved to its permanent position in our museum in 2024 and has since been incorporated into lessons taught in the Tallman Family Science of Flight Zone as an additional experiential tool.



## Virtual Programming Initiatives

Additionally, on January 24, we successfully piloted our very first virtual programming in collaboration with the Frontier School Division. This initiative allowed us to reach many northern schools, where our educators adapted existing programs for an online format. We facilitated three lessons featuring hands-on activities like crafting hoop gliders and small rockets, ultimately engaging 305 students. Continuing this momentum, we offered another virtual program on December 9, focusing on weather and flight, where students built wind socks and participated in our Designiacs program, which involved creating airplanes from recyclable materials.

## New Time Flies Program

In response to interest from schools for a high school history program, a staff educator developed the new *Time Flies* program, which we piloted in April. The program was well received and has been implemented as a permanent addition to our offerings. It provides flexibility for teachers to highlight different historical aspects based on their classroom needs.

## Museum Access for All

With the help of our partners and our Access for All program, we have been able to subsidize a total of 3,573 students since 2022, including subsidizing for 27 of the 41 schools identified by the Winnipeg School Division as the most underserved in the division.

Many of these students come from communities with large areas of Manitoba Housing. Most families from Manitoba Housing areas do not have access to vehicles making accessing educational opportunities extremely difficult. For many of these students a visit to a museum for an educational program is a once in a lifetime opportunity! This is why the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada has dedicated so much time and effort to making it the best experience possible.



## Heritage Fair Participation

May saw our involvement in the Heritage Fair, where we showcased the museum and organized a paper airplane throwing contest, offering fun prizes such as sunglasses and discounts on future admissions. Notably, some students from the January weeklong internship program were inspired to create Heritage Fair projects centered around aviation. Projects on the Black Brant Rocket, the Avro Arrow, and Rosella Bjornson were particularly impressive. The museum sponsored a prize for the best aviation-related project, which was awarded to Annabelle Mutch and Maya Bickle-Tapper from École Sacré Coeur for their project on Rosella Bjornson.

## Wind Tunnel Implementation

This year, we also began incorporating the wind tunnel into our programming to explore the effects of flight under various conditions. We are actively planning to develop a dedicated program around the wind tunnel over the summer of 2025, promising exciting educational experiences for our participants. Our wind tunnel was fabricated through our ongoing partnership with the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology (MITT).



# EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS

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**23,832**

Students Since May 2022



**6**

School Divisions in  
Winnipeg Participating



**14**

Available STEM and  
Curriculum Based Learning  
Courses



**425**

Northern Manitoba School  
Students Participated in our  
Virtual Remote Learning  
Programs



**3,573**

Students From  
Under-Served Communities  
Were Welcomed Into the  
STEM Programs



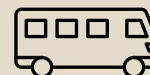
**26**

School Divisions in  
Manitoba Participating



**3**

Certified Educational  
Professionals, Each With Over  
Ten Years of Experience



**597.2 KM**

Furthest Distance Traveled by  
Students to Attend

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2024 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

CATEGORY 1: Honouring the RCAF • CATEGORY 2: General



WINNER CATEGORY 1: David Sanders



WINNER 1 - CATEGORY 2: Hugh Fraser



WINNER 2 - CATEGORY 2: Kyra Lichtenstein



CATEGORY 2 Honourable Mention: George Miller.



CATEGORY 1 Honourable Mention: Ron Gerth



CATEGORY 2 - Honourable Mention: Kaitlyn Thiessen



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