NATIONAL AIR FORCE MUSEUM OF CANADA HOME OF THE RCAF MEMORIAL COLLECTION

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THE WING COMMANDER

As I look back at the progress of the last 12 months, I can't begin to express how proud I am of all the great staff and volunteers associated with the National Air Force Museum of Canada. What began as a modest "room" attached to the Wing Gymnasium, has blossomed into this tremendous facility that now houses a national treasure, the fully restored Halifax. And while we all appreciate that we have not quite reached the end-state, we are closer than ever to having the facility fully finished and in operation.

The Board of Directors of the Museum and my 8 Wing staff continue to explore opportunities to finish the facility as soon as possible. Considering what an important year 2009 is for Canada's Air Force (the 100th Anniversary of Manned Flight in Canada, the 85th Anniversary of the birth of the RCAF, the 60th Anniversary of the BCATP Memorial Gates in Trenton, and the 25th Anniversary of the Museum!), I remain confident that final planning to complete the facility will soon be in place.

As the rejuvenation of our Air Force brings new capabilities and infrastructure to Trenton over the next few years, I am reminded how vitally important it is that the history of our magnificent Air Force be preserved for the coming generations. After all, that is truly the raison d'être of the National Air Force Museum of Canada and why you have all given so much to bring this vision to fruition – to tell the story of Canada's Air Force from its inception through to present day.

COLONEL MIKE HOOD, 8 WING COMMANDER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Now that the latest construction phase has been completed and visitors are once again able to view the Halifax, we are one step closer to that grand opening day when we will all celebrate the magnificent potential of this extraordinary facility. Today, as you walk into the new museum area, you will be struck with the cavernous space that will be available to tell the Air Force story. This four-fold increase in display space will finally allow us to properly display a wide variety of items and artefacts that for many years had to be kept in storage. That's not to say that we will have every item that has been donated to the Museum over the last 25 years out on the floor, but rather we will be able to take many more items out of storage for the public to see for the first time. In addition the curatorial staff will be in a much better position to rotate our displays and eventually have all of our items cycle through the display cases. The upper mezzanine alone will give us the capability to bring out our vas collection of aviation art. In addition, many of our fragile aircraft that have been forced to endure the extremes of a Canadian climate will finally be put on display inside an environmentally-friendly location. This will save the Museum thousands of dollars on simple things such as routine painting restoration and fabric maintenance.

In the past few months we have been able to reconnect with our friends and co-workers at the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa. We have begun some very detailed, and what we hope, will prove to be exciting discussions on some eventual sharing of our collections which will see us trade a number of highly sought assets between the facilities. In this manner we can provide the public with a wider variety of Canadian military aviation artefacts that would not normally be available and out on the floor on display. There will be more exciting news shortly on this subject.

And finally, as most of you are aware 2009 is the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Powered Flight in Canada. The Museum staff have begun to plan for this once-in-a-lifetime event. We will of course be involved in a number of 8 Wing/CFB Trenton events that are scheduled throughout the summer of 2009. In addition the Museum will develop and construct a large new display depicting the theme of this celebration year. We are very fortunate to have in our collection a great number of artefacts and display items that will allow us to show our visitors how Canada's Air Force has evolved over the last 100 years. We are targeting April 2009 as our planned unveiling date.

When you drop in now you will notice that while our concrete floor is installed and most of the walls are up, we still have a ways to go to complete the building. We are all very confident that the remaining funding necessary for this final stage of construction will be secured through our fundraising committee efforts. Once the building is complete we will then have a display designer ready to install the interior displays and open to the public a facility that will make the Air Force very proud. Per Ardua Ad Astra

CHRIS COLTON

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FROM THE CURATORS' COCKPIT

While the Museum's expanded area was closed, the curators' *cockpit* saw a lot of activity. *Captain* Curator and *Co-pilot* Assistant Curator on the flight deck, together with dedicated volunteers forming their *groundcrew*, successfully landed after another productive year, with positive changes for the National Air Force Museum of Canada.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

Staff and volunteers spent many hours cleaning, sorting out, categorizing and organizing artefacts. Largely unseen by our visiting public, the work has been carried out in the storage areas, where adequate furniture was installed and standard classification system for the artefacts established. We are also pleased to report that the physical inventory

of the entire collection is nearing completion and final results will be submitted to the Board of Directors' attention for the January 2009 meeting.

In addition to the artefact collection, the Museum's reference library has also improved. A large number of books have been catalogued, greatly reducing the backlog, and many duplicates have been forwarded to the gift shop for sale to the Museum's profit. A pressing requirement to expand office and meeting space for daily operations unfortunately caused the relocation of books, periodicals and manuals into storage. This necessity results in our library being unavailable to public until its new location in the expanded area is fully completed. While the library is closed, book donations are still accepted upon consultation with the Curatorial office.

Recent Aquisitions

Flying Officer Farley's Air Force Medal

A notable addition to our collection is the medal set that belonged to Thomas Ernest Hilary Farley (1917 – 2008). He joined the RCAF in 1941, with service number R.96410 and served as a flying instructor with The British Commonwealth Training Plan. In 1942 he was commissioned as a Flying Officer and received a different service number, J.10748. He re-enlisted in Ottawa in November 1943 and went to serve in Europe. In 1944 when he was awarded the Air Force Medal (Supplement to The London Gazette, 14 November 1944, p. 5211), T. E. Farley was a commissioned officer although The London Gazette

quoted him as a Sergeant. The Air Force Medal was as a matter of fact instituted at the same time as the Air Force Cross to be awarded to non commissioned officers for courage or devotion to duty while flying, but not on active operations against the enemy.

The Farley medal group is important as it deems to be the only original Air Force Medal that the Museum possesses so far. The set was donated to the Museum by Mrs. Susan Farley, widow, and came with documentation pertaining to Thomas Ernest Farley's years of service with RCAF as well as his career with University of Ottawa and the Government of Canada after the Second World War.



Medal set belonging to Flying Officer T.E.H. Farley: Air Force Medal, 1939-45 War Medal, Defence Medal, CVSM clasp, 1939-1945

Recent Aquisitions

Memorabilia belonging to Air Marshal George Owen Johnson CB, MC (1896 – 1980)

The Air Marshal's career with Canadian military aviation is probably one of the most significant as it spans from 1913 to 1947. He first enlisted in the Royal Naval Service of Canada (1913) and later started training to join the Royal Flying Corps (1917). He then went overseas and became an ace during the First World War, with 11 victories on the French theatre of operations. After the war, he joined the Canadian Air Force in 1920 and participated in the first Trans-Canada flight as a navigator. Until 1938 he was commanding officer of several air bases, including Trenton (1934 - 1936). In 1938 he was appointed the first Commanding Officer of Western Air command, based in Vancouver. Starting October 1939 he began work on the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, becoming the Commanding Officer in 1942. After serving as Deputy Chief of Air Staff in 1940, he was appointed Air Officer Commanding RCAF Overseas from April 1945 to July 1946. He retired as Air Marshal in 1947 and died in Vancouver in 1980.

Mr. Rob Murray of Vancouver, grandson, donated an impressive number of archival documents pertaining to the Air Marshal's long career. The "showcase" of this donation is the Air Marshall's prestigious medal set. This includes Canadian, British Commonwealth and foreign high decorations such as: Order of the Bath, Companion (Second Supplement to The London Gazette, 28 May 1943, p. 2477), the Legion of Merit, Commander (USA), Légion d'honneur, Commandeur (France) and Military Cross for having displayed "the greatest courage and coolness in the most difficult situations" while on duty with RFC (Supplement to The London Gazette, 22 June 1918, p. 7414), Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star ("permission for the wearing of the decoration conferred by the President of the French Republic in recognition of valuable services rendered during the War of 1914-19" as per The London Gazette, 29 March, 1927, p. 2053), Canadian Forces Decoration, Bar and Haakon VII's frihetskors (The King Haakon VII's Freedom Cross), a Norwegian distinction for excellence in military activity during the Second World War.



Officers of No. 1 Sqn, Canadian Air Force (formerly 81 Sqn Royal Flying Corps), Shoreham, England, 1919. Left to right, front row: F/L D.R. Maclaren, F/L G.O. Johnson (later to become Air Marshall), Sqn/Ldr A. McKeever CO, F/O J. Verner (Deputy CO), F/L Carl Falkenberg; back row: unidentified, F/O Townley, F/O G.R. Howsam, unidentified, F/O F.V. Heakes, F/O C. McEwan, F/O H. Marshall, F/O J. Whitmore, unidentified. Sepia photograph, 11 x 16 cm, NAFMC2008.10.11b



Medal set belonging to Air Marshall George Owen Johnson NAFMC2008.10.1a-p

Aviation art: Don Connolly, Graham Wragg and Geoff Bennett



Don Connolly 22 – Right Turn Out

Acrylic on masonite, 61 x 122 cm, signed and dated lower right corner with grey paint: 'DON CONNOLLY/'92" with © mark NAFMC2008.1.1

The painting features the CC106 – Yukon aircraft, in use with the RCAF Air Transport Command in the early 60s. The artist chose to depict the plane following take off, after control tower has given permission to turn right. This is a splendid "nocturnal landscape", painted with Connolly's usual spontaneous brush stroke, attention to detail and finesse of observation, which made him well known in the community of Canadian aviation artists.

The artwork comes together with supporting documentation regarding the commission of the painting to Connolly by Eugene Spencer, former RCAF, and two preliminary sketches preceding the final creation.



Geoff Bennett Argus Patrolling the West Coast
Tempera on cardboard, 84 x 53 cm, signed and dated lower right
corner with orange paint: "Bennett'71"
NAFMC2008.37.1



Graham Wragg Courage of the Early Morning. CF 104s in Europe
Tempera on cardboard, 45,5 x 41 cm, signed in lower right corner
with black: G. Wragg; inscription on reverse: "Courage of the Early
Morning./ Cf-104's in Europe/February 1986/© Graham Wragg"
NAFMC2008.35.1

Painted one year before the CF 104 *Starfighter* was replaced with the CF 18 *Hornet*, this aerial *view* portrays the rapidity of the aircraft. The artist used sharp brushstrokes in a fine colours to render both the sky at dawn and the twice-the-speed-of-sound aircraft. This painting was donated by Mr. R. Callacott of Barrie.

The Argus flew submarine warfare and coastal patrol tasks, from 1958 until 1981, when it was replaced with the Aurora. An Argus coast patrol mission is Geoff Bennett's subject in this painting. But the artist rendered also the rough sea as well as the stormy clouds.

This painting was donated to the museum by Mr. Roy Mascotto of Brantford, together with another piece of art by Geoff Bennett. This latter painting shows a coastal patrol aircraft in the early 70s, the Neptune. Both works had been purchased by the donor while in service with 407 Sqn in Comox.

Exhibitions

Mosquito diorama

In December 2007, the Museum was honoured with presence of Wing Commander Russ Bannock (DSO, DFC, Bar). A former Mosquito pilot during the Second World War, Mr. Bannock spoke about his experience while serving with 408 "City of Edmonton" Squadron and the various operations he was involved with when German V1-rockets were a special target. Bannock was invited to attend the unveiling of a new diorama, now placed in the 408 Squadron display case, showing the model of a DeHavilland Mosquito Mk VI and a Fieseler Fi-103. This project was initiated by Mark Etherington of Toronto who expressed a wish to have the diorama placed in our Museum.



Presentation of the Mosquito diorama From left to right: Peter McCulloch (former chairman of the NAFMC Board of Directors), Mark Etherington (producer of the Mosquito diorama) and Russ Bannock (former Mosquito pilot).

CF 104 Starfighter new exhibit

It was time that the Museum gave a higher importance to the post-war years and the Canadian involvement in NATO operations during the Cold War. Early this summer the permanent exhibit thus saw a new section: CF104 Starfighter Era (1961 – 1987). The exhibit is focused on Canadian airmen and airwomen while on service with the 1 Air Division RCAF, initially at Marville or Grostenquin (France) and later at Baden-Soellingen or Zweibrücken (Germany). It brings to light a selection of artefacts that once belonged to 421 "Red Indian" Squadron and were put into the Museum's custody following the squadron disbanding in 1986.



CF104 showcase, squadrons' memorabilia.

Outreach

The Museum was present at several events throughout Quinte West and Northumberland starting spring 2008: Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery invited us to participate at the "Pioneers Fair" in March, an event dedicated to the historical heritage of Quinte West and Prince Edward County.

Together with 8 Wing/CFB Trenton representatives, the Museum was present in Trenton's Centennial Park during Canada Day celebrations and in Belleville at the Waterfront Festival, mid-July.

The outreach activities continued with Heritage Day at Tucker's Corner and the Port Hope Festival in August.

Dr. Georgiana Stanciu, Curator Leslie Walsh, Assistant Curator

Acknowledgements go to Second Lieutenant Jeremy Johnson, Joan Wright, Alex Chambers, Murray Hope, Tom Jordan, Margaret Mitchell, Diana Mitchell. Master Corporal Luc Bilodeau, Geneviève Romard, Alyssa McNiell and John Olson.

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"Ad Astra" Stones

A fitting memorial...





a lasting contribution

The "Ad Astra" Stone Program offers you personal participation in the National Air Force Museum of Canada through the donation of an elegant engraved Stone. Each 6" x 10" granite Stone displays the name, home town, province and years of birth and death (will be added later). The Stones are displayed edging the walkways throughout the Air Park.

Over 8,800 Stones have been dedicated to date.

Those eligible include any Canadian, regular or reserve and their spouse, with past or present service in Canada's Air Force or in an Allied Air Force, members of the Air Cadet League of Canada and members of the Air Force Association of Canada

A donation of \$140 should accompany your application form which is available online or at the museum. Each year, on the last Saturday of September at 1400 hrs, a dedication ceremony is held. Everyone is welcome.

flowers fade...stones are forever.



National Air Force Museum of Canada, 8 Wing Trenton, Box 1000 Stn. Forces, Astra, ON K0K 3W0 Tel: 1.866.701.7223 or Fax 613.965.7352 Website: www.airforcemuseum.ca eight *news*letter



Dedication ceremony in June for the CF 104 Starfighter Cairn to honour the 37 pilots killed while flying in 104s. Guest speaker Lieutenant General (retired) Lloyd Campbell, former CAS.



Volunteers visit the new CC-177 Globemaster, courtesy of 429 Squadron. Many thanks to the Squadron and maintenance personnel who provided an excellent tour. Thanks also to Base Transportation enabling us to get on the Base.

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Dedication of the Air Traffic Controllers Cairn in September. Guest speaker Major-General Paul Hussey (retired).



Tartan Tie Gala held in the new portion of the Museum completed as part of the phase 2 construction. This formal Dinner and Dance was a huge success and a forerunner for future large events that may be held in the Museum.

Aircraft Restoration Projects.

Even with major building renovations underway the Museum Restoration Shop is still quite active. Now that Summer is over, many of the volunteers are back from holidays. The work area is open from 730 am till 4 pm during the week and 10 am till 5 pm weekends. On a normal day, 10-12 volunteers can be seen doing their magic.

Halifax A MK VII NA337

Bomb Aimers Nose Section. It has taken 10 years and many attempts to replicate the Plexiglas Nose Section of the Halifax. (Modern acrylics do not want to shape

and mould as easily as the older materials). Clear plastic sections were moulded, fitted and installed. The curvatures and clarity are near-perfect.

Propellers When NA337 ditched in Lake Mjosa, three engines were still running. On impact, each propeller and gear box broke free and was lost. Authentic propellers could not be found so replicas were made of wood. They warped and twisted in time and were not a permanent solution. Using our best original blade as a mould, twelve new blades were manufactured of Epoxy/Kevlar.



View of Halifax NA337 sporting new nose-glass and 12 new propeller blades.

Note: The Halifax Restoration was a Labour of Love that lasted for 13 years. Volunteers have contributed over 350,000 man-hours and several million dollars.

It happened at the right place and the right time.

Anson

This Anson is an early model Mk.II, made of steel tubing, wood and fabric. The fuselage steel frame has been restored; the wooden horizontal stabilizer manufactured and work is underway building the wings. Initially technical information and blueprints were difficult to find. Some drawings were acquired from the AVRO Heritage Centre, London England and the Calgary Aviation Museum. Photos taken of other restored Ansons at Brandon Manitoba and Greenwood Nova Scotia are filling in some of the blanks.



A View of Bob Ladoucier, Keith Jennings and the Anson Fuselage



Tom Mann and Anson Wing Spars under construction.

North American Harvard Mk II.

This aircraft was converted to a Pilot Trainer by Field Aviation, Oshawa, in 1951. It was Struck off Charge in 1960 and appears to have spent nearly 50 years in a farm field. It suffered damage, corrosion and robbing of parts. It is missing an engine, propeller, wheels, tires and brakes. All instruments, radios, and electrical components are also missing. Much of the fuselage has been repaired and restored. The centre wing is nearing completion; work on the outer wings will begin in the new year.



Paul Botting and Stu Thow and the Harvard fuselage

Auster MKII

This aircraft was acquired in the late 1990s and was displayed outdoors. Wood and fabric components suffered weather damage. The fabric has been restored, the damaged wood replaced; the aircraft is now in the ATESS Refinishing Shop being painted. It will sport the Silver colours of Training Command.

The Finale

With the completion of the restoration of the Halifax, some of the present volunteers will be leaving. The Restoration Shops have facilities, skills and equipment but will require more and younger volunteers to carry on this good work.

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The RCAF Memorial Airpark

A number of changes occurred in the airpark during the summer of 2008. The MIG-21, painted in East German colours has returned to its permanent location in the airpark. The CF 104 Starfighter cairn placement was completed and dedicated in June. The Air Traffic Control cairn has been placed and a dedication ceremony was held on 28 September. Two new pathways, connecting the existing airpark with the new park

area, are now functional. Restoration of the CP-121 Tracker is near completion and will be scheduled for painting in late 2009. The Auster has had repair work completed and is scheduled for painting October 2008. It is anticipated that the Spitfire and Hurricane will take up residence with the Halifax, in the Museum. As usual, a number of rededication ceremonies occurred in the past months.

Airpark Manager John Olsen

Grounds keepers: Alex Chambers, Steven Farrell

Tom Jordan



MIG-21 under tow by 8AMS to its permanent location.

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MUSEUM FOUNDATION

The Foundation Board of Trustees is pleased to report that the membership renewals, new memberships and donations continue. Our investments have shown good growth. Good progress continues to be made for the future with respect to the investment income being the eternal funding to the National Air Force Museum of Canada. All the above are due the generosity of the members and the supporters. The Foundation has opened a brokerage account to facilitate the donation of shares, mutual funds and similar financial gifts. The account has been active and several significant contributions have been processed to the benefit of the Foundation and the Museum.

The Board of Trustees have two significant announcements to make with respect to the Foundation. We have a new name: The RCAF Memorial Foundation. In conjunction with this, the Board is taking over all the fund raising events for the Museum. Therefore, in the future when a donation is being made, it is to the RCAF Memorial Foundation.

The Foundation Charity Dinner was held at 8 Wing Officers' Mess in April and it was well attended. The 2009 Foundation Charity Dinner will be held 29 April, 2009 at the Museum that is an adequate facility for functions of this type to take place. Details of this function will be posted on the Foundation pages of the Museum website in due time. In addition, invitations to the Charity Dinner will be sent out well in advance. For all those who have not received a previous invitation and would like to attend the Charity Dinner, please contact the Foundation by e-mail, telephone or standard mail. Our e-mail address is: foundation@airforcemuseum.ca

The Fifth Annual Foundation Charity Golf Tournament was held in July at the 8 Wing Trenton Golf Course. It was sold out with participants on a waiting list. The Tournament Committee did outstanding work. The support from all the local sponsors resulted in another record year of donations. The Tournament was an overwhelming success and over \$20,000 was raised. The 2009 Tournament will be held 19 June.

A Dinner Theatre event was initiated last year and proved to be very successful. The Foundation will be hosting a **Second Dinner Theatre Event** that will be held at the **Holiday Inn in Trenton 21 and 22 November**, **2008**. This year there will be a matinee presentation on Saturday, 22 November. The play was very well accepted last year. This year the story will be based on a military environment of the past with some good humour and it will end in a mystery.

Four Foundation Board Members, June Brace, Mickey Quann, Bob Rose and Skip Heir completed their tour and their work with the Foundation last fiscal year. The present Foundation Trustees express their gratitude for the time, work and support that June, Mickey, Bob and Skip provided.

MERV MATIOWSKY

TOMMY FOLK

1927 - 2008

A great friend of the museum

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Our sincere appreciation of the remarkable generosity of our many supporters. Donor List Thanks to you our dream is closer to reality.

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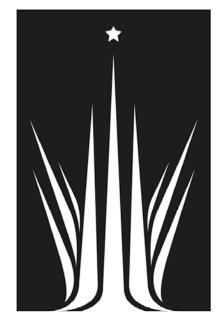
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(*= new level)

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 $\label{thm:continuous} \textit{The Museum wishes to thank Henry Mitchell for his patience and creativity in assisting to put together our Newsletters \\ \texttt{BOB BURKE, EDITOR}$