

# ANNUAL REPORT

20  
22





# 2022 READY FOR TAKE OFF





# YEAR AT A GLANCE



2022

## JAN-FEB

- Exhibit development

## APRIL

- Exhibit installation
- Bellanca Aircruiser assembly

## JUNE

- Father's Day event (1,110 visitors, our busiest day of the year!)



## AUGUST

- De Havilland Beaver 75th anniversary

## OCTOBER

- A-26B Invader arrival
- Volunteer appreciation evening
- Halloween with Hobbs

## DECEMBER

- Winter break programming



## MARCH

- First wedding held in museum
- School programming beta testing



## MAY

- Richardson matching campaign launch
- GRAND OPENING**
- Education programming recommences

## JULY

- Buffalo arrival



## SEPTEMBER

- Lockheed Electra arrival
- First temporary gallery exhibit: *The Gimli Glider*
- Launch of STEM programming
- Collections move / new warehouse



## NOVEMBER

- Pass holder appreciation days
- Giving Tuesday
- Christmas Cargo (in support of the Christmas Cheer Board)



2023



# 2022 AERIAL VIEW



## COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

40 RESEARCH REQUESTS

NEW  
AIRCRAFT



DONATIONS

34

  
880  
PHOTOS  
DIGITIZED

## VISITOR EXPERIENCE

65,199  
VISITORS

INCLUDES 5,188 STUDENTS



980  
ANNUAL  
PASS HOLDERS

## MARKETING

94

MEDIA  
HITS

1,227

NEW EMAIL  
SUBSCRIBERS



429,410

PAGE  
VIEWS



3,559  
NEW SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOLLOWERS

3,399,000

SOCIAL MEDIA  
IMPRESSIONS

## EDUCATION

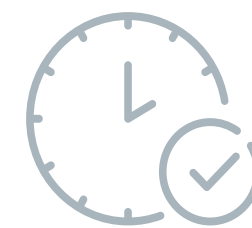
5,188  
STUDENTS



## EVENTS

104 EVENTS

## VOLUNTEERS



13,529  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

145 VOLUNTEERS



## MISSION

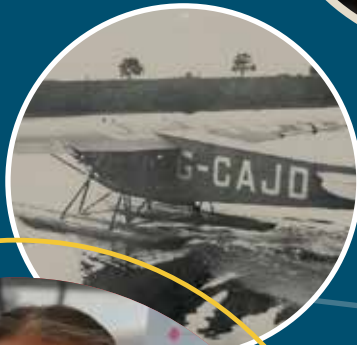
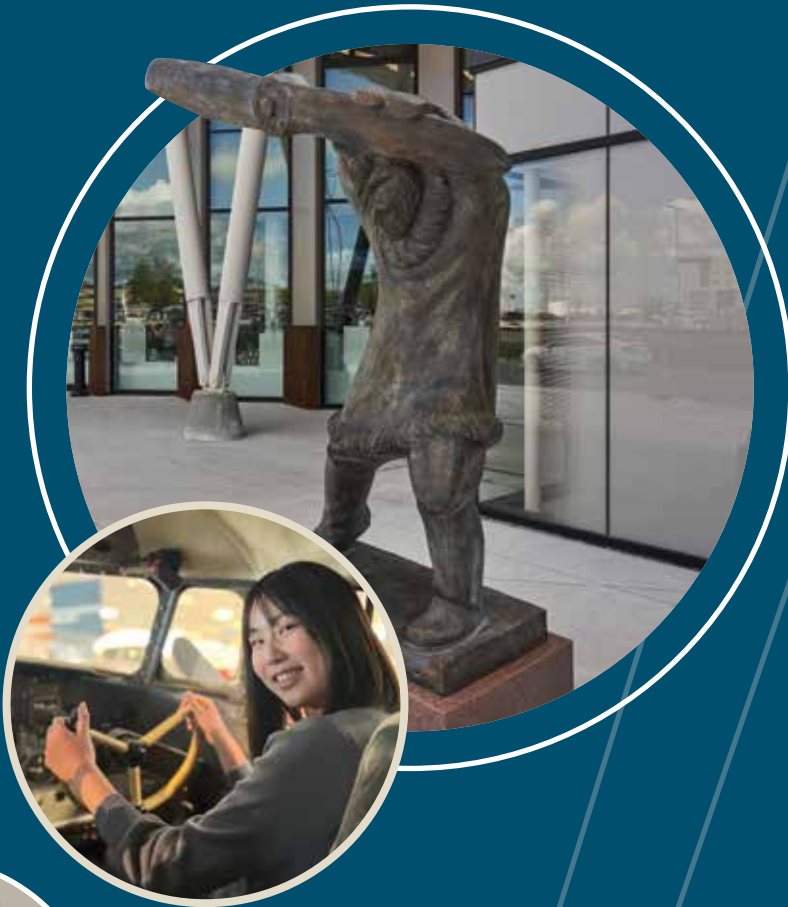
We preserve and promote the stories of aviation in western and northern Canada while educating, entertaining, and inspiring.

## 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 RAMWC is located on Treaty 1 territory, the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Lakota, and Dene Peoples, and the 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.



ROYAL  
AVIATION MUSEUM  
OF WESTERN CANADA

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

ON MAY 21, 2022, THE NEW ROYAL AVIATION MUSEUM OPENED TO THE PUBLIC, FULFILLING A NEARLY 20-YEAR DREAM OF THE BOARD AND STAKEHOLDERS. THEN, BETWEEN MAY AND DECEMBER, WE WELCOMED MORE THAN 65,000 VISITORS.

Opening our new museum and having an incredibly successful first seven months could not have happened without the dedication of our board members—both past and present—our campaign cabinet, volunteers and staff, and our construction and architect project partners including PCL, Architecture49, Reich + Petch International and Kubik-Maltbie.

Our Capital Campaign committee has done an outstanding job, raising \$47.2M of \$48M to date, enabling us to create a world-class facility and exhibits. Thank you to our *Climb Aboard! Capital Campaign* Co-Chairs Ross Robinson and Blain King, and Honorary Chair Hartley Richardson, for their leadership of a stellar team who rose to the challenge.

The lead-up to our grand opening was a busy time for our entire team. Our facilities and collections teams worked with contractors to finalize and assemble exhibits and ready the building for visitors. Volunteers did a fantastic job assembling the Bellanca Aircruiser and cleaning aircraft prior to opening, and the marketing team worked hard to get the word out about our new facility. Team members from all departments jumped in as needed to lend a helping hand.

After our grand opening, we hosted popular special events for Father's Day and the arrival of the Electra, as well as a Hobbs-themed Halloween event.

We also made significant advancements on the RAMWC Centre of Excellence, the mission of which is to educate and inspire students to pursue careers in aviation and aerospace, and connect them to these types of opportunities. We're especially focused on engaging underrepresented groups such as Indigenous and female students.

To start, we added five new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs to our

educational program offerings. More than 5,000 students have already enrolled in these programs and we expect to register at least 3,000 more by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

We also forged strategic relationships with key educational institutions in Winnipeg and look forward to collaborating with them in the coming months.

Our commitment to truth and reconciliation led to new and strengthened relationships with Indigenous communities as we continued to incorporate Indigenous perspective and stories into our museum. Notable accomplishments for 2022 include making plans for a memorial on Linwood Street to honour eight Indigenous residential school students who died in a plane crash 50 years ago, and identifying two Pikangikum First Nation community members from a 1922 photo in our collection. We gave the Chief of Pikangikum these photos of his ancestors and they are now the oldest photos in the community.

Finally, the museum migrated from being supported by the Capital Campaign while we were closed to a sustainable funding model comprised of 12 revenue streams. We are not a publicly-funded museum, with only 5%-10% of our annual operating budget coming from government sources. The museum has been sustainable under this model for 49 years and will continue to be. Our revenue streams include paid attendance, annual passes, venue rentals, parking, and the ongoing generosity of our donors. In fact, nearly 40% of our revenue comes from individuals, corporations, and foundations.

As we look toward 2023, keeping visitors engaged will be top-of-mind. Plans are being developed to host visiting aircraft, special events, and to display additional aircraft from our collection in the museum.

In closing, I would like to thank our board, volunteers, staff, partners, visitors, and donors for their ongoing support. We could not achieve our mission to educate, inspire, and entertain without you.

*Terry Slobodian*

Terry Slobodian  
President & CEO



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

THE OPENING OF THE NEW ROYAL AVIATION MUSEUM OF WESTERN CANADA WAS NOT JUST A TIME TO CELEBRATE MOVING OUR COLLECTION INTO A BEAUTIFUL NEW HOME. IT ALSO MARKED A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE MUSEUM WHICH IS UNDERGOING A TRANSFORMATION.

The dedicated collectors and storytellers who founded the museum are now joined by a cadre of thought leaders and educators dedicated to inspiring future leaders in aviation and aerospace. We are leaping ahead, inspiring the leaders of tomorrow. We know, one day, the museum will celebrate these trailblazers with exhibits showcasing their accomplishments.

As we look to the future, we also remain dedicated to the vision of our founders. The curation of artefacts, photographs, in-depth technical documentation, and other pieces of history will be preserved for generations to come. We are also unwavering in our dedication to the restoration and presentation of significant historical aircraft.

To accomplish all of this, the museum must focus on continued revenue generation to sustain and support its mission, vision, and values. We must be a sought-after place of entertainment, ensuring new and repeat visitors are keen to experience what is happening at the museum. We must be a recognized place for education, sought after as a place to learn about the inclusive history of aviation and aerospace. We must

The dedicated collectors and storytellers who founded the museum are now joined by a cadre of thought leaders and educators dedicated to inspiring future leaders in aviation and aerospace.

also be fundraisers and community activists working to create and fund an inclusive place for all ages to gather and share stories. And finally, we must be a place of inspiration, helping to shape the future.

As the Royal Aviation Museum marks a new beginning, so has your Board of Directors.

In 2018, the Board initiated a reimagining of its mandate, undertaking the development of new By-Laws. These By-Laws recognize that the board acts on behalf of the community, and the dedicated members and volunteers of the Royal Aviation Museum. Our job is to provide guidance to the museum's President and Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the museum reflects the needs and interests of the community at large.

The new By-Laws mandate board membership that reflects the community we live in. Recent and future board appointments are focused on ensuring your Board of Directors reflects the community we live in, with a balance of gender and ethnicity, along with experience and knowledge. As a result, recent new board members are talented and experienced women leaders in the fields of education, finance, and business, helping to close the gender gap of the past.

The new By-Laws also mandate term limits for board membership and for key position within the board to ensure we inject fresh ideas on a regular basis and stay in-tune with the interests of our community.

I am excited to be your Chair of the Board of Directors of the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada. I am privileged to work with an exciting team of professionals focused on guiding a very talented management team, led by President and Chief Executive Officer, Terry Slobodian.

The overwhelming support from community members and partners during the first year in our new museum has shown us we're on the right track and we're excited to build on this momentum in the coming year.

*Ron Jonkman*

Ron Jonkman  
Chair of the Board

# OUR TEAM

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Jonkman, [Chair](#)

Bruce Emberley, [Past Chair](#)

Rennie Zegalski, [First Vice-Chair](#)

Barry Bembridge, [Second Vice-Chair](#)

John Davidson, [Third Vice-Chair](#)

Kacie Olbrecht, [Treasurer](#)

Andrew Stewart, [Secretary](#)

Gary Bell, [Board Member](#)

Major Genevieve Dussault, [Board Member](#)

Marti Ford, [Board Member](#)

Patti Gair, [Board Member](#)

Peggy May, [Board Member](#)

Douglas McLennan, [Board Member](#)

Bill Medd, [Board Member](#)

James Neirinck, [Board Member](#)

## BOARD COMMITTEES

### GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

James Neirinck, [Chair](#)

Barry Bembridge

John Davidson

Andrew Stewart

Terry Slobodian, [Ex-Officio](#)

### FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Kacie Olbrecht, [Chair](#)

John Davidson

Patti Gair

Ron Jonkman

Bill Medd

Terry Slobodian, [Ex-Officio](#)

Dennis Deng, [Ex-Officio](#)

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

James Neirinck, [Chair](#)

Barry Bembridge

Major Genevieve Dussault

Peggy May

Terry Slobodian, [Ex-Officio](#)

### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE (PCEO)

Barry Bembridge, [Chair](#)

Major Genevieve Dussault

Ron Jonkman

James Neirinck

Rennie Zegalski

## CEO COMMITTEES

### COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Gary Bell, [Chair](#)

Peggy May

Gerry Norberg

Keith Olson

Marsh Pettitt

Terry Slobodian, [Ex-Officio](#)

Joel Nelson, [Ex-Officio](#)

Sandra Chewka, [Ex-Officio](#)

### BUILDING COMMITTEE

Ross Robinson, [Chair](#)

Barry Bembridge

John Davidson

Bruce Emberley

Terry Slobodian, [Ex-Officio](#)

Joel Nelson, [Ex-Officio](#)

Dennis Deng, [Ex-Officio](#)

## ADMINISTRATION

### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Terry Slobodian, [President & CEO, Curator](#)

Sheena Stemler, [Executive Assistant & Development Specialist](#)  
\*until January 16, 2023

Carol Morris, [Executive Assistant & Development Specialist](#)

### FINANCE, HR & ADMIN

Dennis Deng, [Executive Vice President](#)

Miles Reid, [Gift Shop Manager](#)

Leslie Stewart, [Volunteer & HR Coordinator](#)

Adam Waud, [Facility Rentals & Events Specialist](#)

### OPERATIONS & FACILITIES

Joel Nelson, [Vice President of Operations & Facilities](#)

### CURATORIAL

Sandra Chewka, [Collections Manager](#)

Terry Slobodian, [Curator](#)

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Pam McKenzie, [Programs Manager](#)

Candace Kostna, [Museum Educator](#)

Chris Parsons, [Children's Programs Coordinator](#)

Joel Ramos, [Museum Educator](#)

Kristin Trenchard, [Museum Educator](#)

### MARKETING & VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Brent Phillips, [Vice President of Marketing, Communications & Strategic Relations](#)

Julie Chapko, [Visitor Experience Manager](#)

Vanessa Desorcy, [Marketing Specialist](#)

James Mitchell, [Graphic Designer, Illustrator & Brand Specialist](#)

### VISITOR EXPERIENCE AGENTS

Brandon Dreger

Mackenzie Easton

Ella Ejiogu

Michelle Kannwischer

Eriq Lambert

Jonathan Morgan

Rachel Morgan

Alicia Naish

Joseph Riedle

Gabriel Winestock

Rosemary Young

Chiraz Haj Yousseff

## VOLUNTEERS

Wayne Adams

Augustine Akpoveso

Ken Armstrong

Robert Arnold

Dave Atkinson

Hedley Auld

Grace Babatunde

Ivan Bantias

Jas Barmi

Brenda Bazlewski

Larry Bazlewski

Mark Bingham

Les Bloomfield

Wayne Borodenko

Bill Brereton

Don Buie

Keith Burrows

Jacky Chan

Neil Coligan

Joe Cosme

Chase Crockett

Gordon Crossley

Rosalynd Dalton

Sam Daylami

Willy De Hoog-Bramwell

Kevin Deibert

John DeLuca

Mark Dewart

Evan Didyk

James Douglas

Tatjana Draskovic

Leon Dubickyj

Rick Duerksen

Kelly Duke

Daniel Duong

Gerry Dupasquier

Colette Durand

Carol Eliasson

Gord Emberley

Dave Emberley

Sasha Emric

Pat English

Henry Enns

Hedie Epp

Jim Fedorowich

Gord Forman

Bob Frey

Greg Friesen

John Friesen

Ron Gerth

Graham Gieg

Dennis Giguere

Robert Giguere

Barbara Gmitrowski

Jim Gray

Don Grimsley

Eric Gyselman

Matt Gyselman

Matt Halpin

Bev Harbour

Hayato Hirota

Werner Hohler

John Horner

Mike Hughes

Michelle Isaac

Lorraine Iverach

Simran Kaler

Anirudh Kalia

Charlotte Katz

Neil Kelly

Vineet Kumar Narotra

Guy Lacasse

Nicole Lacasse Brass

Daniel Lacho

Linda Lamoureux

Ron Lapp

Larry Legrange

Ronald Lent

Svitlana Levchuk

Ellen Locke

Al Lockhart

Kim Long

Terry Lumb

Fabiano Machado

Russell Macsymetz

Gene Manchur

Gerry Markovich

Daniel Mathen

Rick McCoo

Peter Mitchell

Samaira Mohan

Eds Mondares

Aaron Morissette

Dave Mork

J.C. Morris

Alan Mulholland

Ian Mullins

Chris Nauta

Gerry Norberg

Keith Olsen

Hans Osted

Steve Pajot

Jan Pedersen

Mark Perry

Dave Peters

Fred Petrie

Marsh Pettitt

Ronald Reader

Stan Ritz

Peter Rokeby

Ted Rolfe

Shawn Romas

Dale Sawchuk

Paul Schroeder

Donna Schulz

Anass Sebbahi

Norman Shaw

Steven Sigurdson

Joey Simoes

Wanda Slobodian

Garry Specht

Linda Specht

Hunter Stephenson

Chris Stevens

Gordon Stewart

Keith Stone

Susan Sun

Joanne Suski

Gerry Suski

Glenn Syme

David Tanenbaum

Tariq Tariq

Steve Thomas

Herb Thompson

Tracy Tymm

Ronald Walpole

Ying Wang

Ziteng Wang

Enzo Wang

Roger Whittaker

Okino Williams

Kelly Wionzek

Bob Woroschuk

Dennis Wright

Robert Zelnick

## IN MEMORIAM

**GORD HUTCHESON:** Gord was a volunteer at our museum on Ferry Road for 17 years. Sadly, he passed away in February of 2022. Gord was one of our friendly front-desk greeters and also delivered tours to visitors.

**IAN GORDON STEWART:** A dedicated volunteer since 1985, Ian (Gord) passed away suddenly in July of 2022. On weekends, Gord could be found on the hangar floor as a gallery interpreter, guiding visitors through the museum and answering their questions about our exhibits.

*Both are dearly missed and won't be forgotten.*





## OUR VOLUNTEERS.

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE AMONG THE BEST THERE ARE. THEIR LOVE FOR THE AVIATION COMMUNITY AND THEIR PASSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AVIATION HISTORY IS INSPIRING TO ALL THAT MEET THEM. FROM THE SMILING VOLUNTEER FACES THAT GREET VISITORS UPON ARRIVAL, TO THE ONES BEHIND THE SCENES RESTORING AIRCRAFT, EVERY VOLUNTEER PLAYS AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN OUR SUCCESS.

The museum on Ferry Road held decades of stories of which volunteers were a huge part and the new museum is no different. Every inch of our new space has been touched, or enhanced by, this dedicated team.

Our team of front-of-house volunteers is made up of greeters, ticketing and gift shop attendants, gallery interpreters, and tour guides. They keep our operations running smoothly, answer visitor questions about our facilities and aircraft, and provide engaging tours that inspire our visitors.

In the Collections Department, volunteers spend hours scanning photographs for display and digitization and were indispensable when it came time to unpack boxes as we moved our collection to the new museum during the summer and fall of 2022. These volunteers also help maintain our collection on display.

At our off-site facilities, volunteers work diligently to restore aircraft and artefacts for eventual display in the museum. They track down photos and drawings to maintain the integrity of the artefact throughout the restoration process, source hard-to-find parts, and consult with historians. Some of these volunteers also participate in public programming by coming to the museum to do demonstrations for visitors and talk about their projects.

Many of our volunteers have been with the museum for years and were all happy to return to the work they had been doing in the old space: scanning, cataloguing, inventorying, and other archival work. We also saw a number of new volunteers join our team in 2022.

It's inspiring to see the enthusiasm and knowledge volunteers bring to the museum. We're so grateful to all of them.



Eván Didyk, Visitor Experience Volunteer, pictured at left in our Ferry Road museum and at right in our new museum.



Volunteer appreciation dinner



James Mitchell, staff, with his father Peter Mitchell, Collections Volunteer



CLOCKWISE, STARTING ABOVE: Robert Arnold, volunteer and Viscount Historian; Sam Daylami, Collections Volunteer; Paul Schroeder and Fred Petrie, Gallery Interpreters; Pat English - Restoration Volunteer; Samaira Mohan, Visitor Experience Volunteer





# DEVELOPMENT

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS

**D**UE TO THE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS AGAIN THIS YEAR, THE *CLIMB ABOARD! CAPITAL CAMPAIGN* RAISED AN OUTSTANDING \$5.14M, BRINGING OUR CAMPAIGN TOTAL TO \$47.2M ON A GOAL OF \$48M.

To date, \$21M has come from the three levels of government and more than \$26M has come from individuals, foundations, and corporations.

We are particularly grateful to Bob Williams and the Richardson Foundation who funded giving matches totaling \$1.35M. This leveraged an additional \$1.35M from hundreds of donors and brought us closer to our goal of \$48M. Their matches both came at a time when the campaign needed a boost to maintain momentum and progress.

Reaching our campaign goal of \$48M will enable us to pay off the new building and exhibits and provide for a \$5M endowment. This endowment income will contribute to our museum's long-term sustainability by providing an income stream in perpetuity.

More importantly, the museum will have the foundation to achieve its mission to preserve and promote

the stories of western and northern Canadian aviation

The endowment fund will also allow the museum to play an important role in the continued success of Manitoba's aviation and aerospace sector. We've made a commitment to industry partners to inspire students to pursue aviation and aerospace careers, bolstering this important sector and the Manitoba economy.

As we look toward 2023, we're on track to reach our \$48M goal and will begin to shift our attention to raising funds in support of the museum's *Take Flight!* education programming. These programs are the backbone of the RAMWC Centre of Excellence and its mission to educate and inspire students in the coming years.

In closing, we would like to thank all of our donors, the Campaign Cabinet, and the RAMWC board and staff for contributing to the success of the *Climb Aboard! Capital Campaign*.

With gratitude,



ROSS ROBINSON AND BLAIN KING  
Campaign Co-Chairs

## THE RICHARDSON MATCH

In May of 2022, with the new museum opening around the corner and the 'Climb Aboard! Capital Campaign' runway in sight, the Richardson Foundation offered up a \$750,000 matching gift.

Our iconic building at the Winnipeg Richardson International Airport was designed to be a welcoming and accessible space for all who come through our museum. Our visitors come from a variety of demographic backgrounds and we know not everyone will be in a position to donate, but we also know that there is immense value in building a large base of small, diverse donors. This matching campaign allowed us to engage those smaller donors and inspire them to be part of our final approach.

The Richardson Foundation gift was the second matching donation opportunity as part of the capital campaign. Prior to that, Bob Williams matched \$600,000 from more than 400 donors. This new matching gift will help complete the campaign's goal.

Both matches, totaling \$1,350,000 were successful in leveraging another \$1,350,000 from 425 new donors from the community in 2022, bringing us very close to our campaign goal of \$48M.



## THE PRESERVATION BALL

COMING SOON - OCTOBER 21, 2023

**A**FTER A FOUR-YEAR HIATUS DUE TO CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW MUSEUM AND THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19, WE ARE EXCITED TO BE RE-LAUNCHING OUR GALA FUNDRAISER.

The RAMWC *Out of the Blue gala* was spearheaded by Tannis Richardson 30 years ago, and has always been a highlight of Winnipeg's social calendar.

In early 2022, we decided that in keeping with the new mission statement developed during the museum's closure, it was fitting to rebrand our gala as the Preservation Ball.

The Preservation Ball name perfectly represents the objectives of the new museum, with the word 'preservation' having tremendous alignment with what our museum represents. RAMWC is committed to preserving artefacts and

stories related to aviation history in western and northern Canada, including the inspirational stories of women and Indigenous peoples who have pursued and achieved careers in aviation and aerospace.

Each year, the gala's theme will focus on one of our aircraft preserved by restoration team volunteers while celebrating a different decade or era. The inaugural Preservation Ball, set for October of 2023, will highlight the restoration of one of the museum's marquee attractions, the Fokker Universal (G-CAJD), also known as *The Ghost of Charron Lake*.

Through the generous support of community partners, all funds raised from the Preservation Ball will support the museum's restoration and education funds, allowing us to continue telling inspiring stories to visitors, students, and aviation enthusiasts.

**HONOURARY  
PATRON**  
Tannis Richardson

**HONOURARY  
CHAIR**  
Hartley Richardson

**SPONSORSHIP  
COMMITTEE**  
Carol Eliasson

Robert Giguere

Alex Gomez

Bev Harbour

Peggy May

Kirsten McConnell

Sherratt Moffatt

Jan Pederson

Terry Slobodian

Wanda Slobodian

Chris Stevens

Marnie Strath

Terry Trupp



# 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

Bob Williams

George and Tannis  
Richardson Fund

Hartley and Heather Richardson

Jim McManes in honour of  
Frank McManes

Randy Moffat

RBQ Foundation, in memory  
of Royden Richardson

StandardAero

The Paterson Foundation

The Winnipeg Foundation

## \$250,000-\$499,999

Antti I. Aarnio-Wihuri, Winpak Ltd.

Jim and Leney Richardson and  
Family

Johnston Group Inc.

Raymond McFeetors

The Hastings Family

Valerie MacKenzie and Family

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

Andrew and Kaitlyn Somers

Anne and Joe MacDonald

B.A. Robinson Co. Ltd.

Blain and Barbara King

Bob Silver

Canada Life

Canadian Imperial Bank  
of Commerce

Chipman Family

Doug Harvey and Maxim Truck  
and Trailer

Fast Air Executive Aviation  
Service

Fraser Somers

Jim and Janice Tennant  
Foundation

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

Jim and Leney Richardson  
and Family

Northern Lights Petroleum Ltd.

Pauline Hawes

Ross Robinson Family  
Foundation

Sanford and Deborah Riley

Taillieu Construction Ltd.

Tannis and Francois Chabot

Taylor B. Somers

The Murphy Foundation

Wawanesa Insurance

Western Canada Aviation  
Museum Foundation Inc.

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

Access Credit Union

Assiniboine Credit Union

Bank of Montreal

Bill Parrish Sr.

Carolyn Sifton Foundation

Charlie Spiring

Dave and Marg McCann

Estate of Stan Wagner

Gordon McNaught

Investors Group Financial Services

Kathy and Jim Rogers

Marg. MacLean and Dave McCann  
Family

Margo Morberg

Mauro Family Foundation

Michael Nesbitt

Murray Auto Group

PCL Construction Canada Inc.

Pollard Family Foundation

Power Corporation of Canada

Rogers Family Charitable Trust

The Asper Foundation

Thomas Sill Foundation

## \$25,000-\$49,999

Bob and Joanne Banman

Bob and Marnie Puchniak

Certified Technicians and  
Technologists Association  
of Manitoba

Doug and Verna Danylchuk,  
Peterbilt Manitoba

Gary Buckley

Golden West Radio

Jocie Bussin

Max Steinkopf

Paul and Wendy Kuzina

Price Family Foundation

Reich&Petch Architects +  
Architecture49

Shirley Richardson

Winifred Steinkopf Hall

Willis Towers Watson

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

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

Accent Environments

Alan Neuman

Allmar Inc.

Bill & Margaret Fast Family  
Foundation

Burns Foundation Fund

Cambrian Credit Union

Canadian Propeller Ltd.

Dan and Kelly Murray

Captain Dennis Giguere in memory  
of Captain Rene Giguere

Jean Giguere, C.M. and Family in  
honour of Captain Dennis Giguere

Derkson Plumbing and Heating

Don and Andrea Boitson

Doug Murray

Dr. John M. Clearwater in memory  
of T. Murray Clearwater

Elizabeth Kristjansson

Ernst Hansch Foundation

Harris Leadership Strategies

Honourable Gary Filmon and  
Honourable Janice Filmon

HUB International

Innovair Industrial Limited

Kozminski Family Foundation

Mark Dufresne

Mark Wehrle

Nick Logan and Christine Skene

Nor-Tec Group

Perimeter Aviation Education  
Foundation

Robert Scurfield and Associates

Ron and Sandi Mielitz

Royal Canadian Properties

RTDS Technologies

6P Marketing

Steinbach Credit Union

View West Foundation

## \$5,000-\$9,999

Alan Wolfe

Balcaen Family Trust

Bituminex Paving Ltd.

Bruce D. Emberley

Clare T. Cove

Deloitte

The Family of Capt. Reuben Hadfield

Gary Bell

Grant B. Hambley

Hubert and Bernice Kleysen

Jerry Gray

John R Davidson, P. Eng.

Keith Olson

Ken and Barbara Webb

Lesley and Lynn Bishop

Loch Gallery

Martin Weinberg

Peter Mansbridge Charitable  
Foundation

Ray, Joan, Dylan, Travis, Gerilyn,  
Preston & Nathan Hoemsen

Rick and Judy Lovelace

Robert Spear

Ron Jonkman and Kriss Major

Sheldon and Penny Bowles

Sigfusson Northern Ltd.

Stephanie Fraser

William Pratt

Wayne and Lee Anderson in  
honour of Shirley Render

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

Alpha Masonry

Arlene Desjarlais

Bob Brennan

Chris and Lori Stevens

Claudio Rigatto

Dennis Deng

Doug Clark

Doug Forbes

Eagle Aviation, Adventure Air,  
and Kississing Air

Frank and Betty Froebe

Garvin Pierce

Gary Bachman

Gary Timlick

Gordon Crossley

Guy Whitehill

Ian Sutherland

Captain Dennis Giguere

Joel Nelson

John Alho

John Clearwater

Keewatin Air

Leland Gordon

Michael and Brenda Evans  
Foundation

Michael Rogers

Muriel L. Sutherland

Myke Badry

Peter Philopulos

Red River Cooperative Ltd.

Robert Jackson

Robert Okabe

Ryan Henderson and  
Bruce Henderson

Sean Worden

Shirley Render

Terry and Wanda Slobodian

Timothy Dewart

Tom and Moya Lindstrom

Wayne Borodenko

Winnipeg Flying Club



# COLLECTIONS



## ON THE MOVE

**A**FTER OUR GRAND OPENING, THE NEXT BIG PROJECT ON OUR LIST WAS RELOCATING OUR COLLECTIONS STORAGE FROM A FACILITY ON CHURCH AVENUE. THIS WAS NO SMALL FEAT CONSIDERING THE MUSEUM HAD SPENT TWO YEARS FILLING THE 27,000 SQ FT SPACE TO THE BRIM WITH RESTORATION, EXHIBIT AND COLLECTION MATERIALS.

In total, three aircraft, multiple engines and aircraft parts, and more than 2,700 boxes of artefacts and archival documents were moved to our new museum and a secondary storage facility on King Edward Street during a 10-week period.

This project required the coordination of staff and volunteers across multiple sites performing various tasks. Our volunteers worked tirelessly to get these materials safely to their destinations and are working to organize them into their forever homes.

The project was completed on September 30, 2022, and now that we have access to our collection, we are able to process research requests from the public!

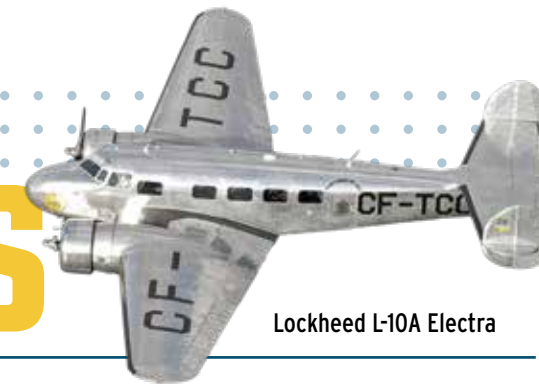
## NOTABLE DONATIONS

B&W Dig: Alma Grace Bonnett (Mrs. James Bonnett, nee Fog [right]) at work at MacDonald Bros. during WWII, a/c 6499, WO 14335



Collection of Don Rocan, museum member, diver, and former board member.

# NEW ARRIVALS



Lockheed L-10A Electra

**R**AMWC WELCOMED THREE NEW AIRCRAFT TO THE MUSEUM IN 2022, TWO OF WHICH ARE PERMANENT ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION.

**On July 13, the de Havilland Canada DHC-5 / CC-115 Buffalo arrived in Aviation Plaza courtesy of 17 Wing Winnipeg.**

A short takeoff and landing utility transport aircraft first introduced in 1965, the Buffalo was highly successful as a military transport aircraft in more than 20 countries including Brazil, Egypt, and Canada.

In 1975, the RCAF Buffalo fleet was retired from its tactical airlift role and repurposed for domestic search and rescue duties. The bright yellow livery proved ideal for searching vast areas of ocean or wilderness. It also provides a stunning contrast to the exterior of our museum!

The last six RCAF Buffalos—including the museum's aircraft, #115462—served with No. 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron based in Comox, BC, until finally retired in 2022 after 55 years of service.

The DHC-5 will be on display until summer of 2023.



CC-115 in Aviation Plaza

**September 7, 2022, was a most exciting day at the museum!**

In honour of its 85th anniversary, Air Canada donated one of the first six aircraft the airline purchased, a Lockheed L-10A Electra. This aircraft, CF-TCC, was acquired by Trans Canada Airlines (Air Canada's predecessor) in 1937 and used for pilot training in Winnipeg before serving on TCA's first scheduled passenger service between Vancouver and Seattle.

The Electra boasted a host of modern features for its time including fully-retractable landing gear, streamlined NACA cowlings on the engines, and inflatable de-icer boots on the wings' leading edges.

Perhaps the most famous user of the Electra was American aviatrix Amelia Earhart who selected a Model 10E for her attempted round-the-world flight in 1937. On July 2, 1937, Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan disappeared en route from Papua New Guinea to Howland Island in the south Pacific Ocean. Neither Earhart, Noonan, nor the aircraft were ever found, sparking a mystery that persists to this day.

Learn more about the Electra on page 24.

**Bringing the museum's on-site aircraft total to 25, on October 22, the Douglas A-26B Invader joined the CF-101 Voodoo and CC-115 Buffalo in Aviation Plaza.**



Douglas A-26B Invader

Purchased by Ross Robinson in 2007, this aircraft, C-GWLT, has a storied history dating back to 1944.

Manufactured towards the end of WWII, the Invader—sometimes called the “Badass Invader”—was used extensively during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and the Bay of Pigs Invasion.

After their retirement in 1969, many of the aircraft ended up in civilian hands. C-GWLT was converted to a water bomber and used to combat forest fires.

Robinson acquired the plane specifically for use at airshows and to complement his 1952 Harvard Mark IV, explaining its eclectic livery.

Though it never flew with the RCAF, the Invader displays the air force logo and tail number 098, a nod to the *Trail of 98* in Yukon Territory.

Back in the 1970s, this aircraft operated as Invader 7 out of Air Spray's base in Whitehorse, YT, and pilots who flew her requested a name befitting her time there. The reference to the *Trail of 98* was chosen for its significance during the Klondike gold rush of 1898. The aircraft also bears the Manitoba flag and markers to commemorate the F-86 Sabre of the 439 Fighter Squadron.

Many thanks to Ross Robinson for his generous donation to our permanent collection.



# BUILDING A BELLANCA

**A**PRIL 22, 2022, MARKED A SIGNIFICANT DAY FOR THE MUSEUM'S BELLANCA AIRCRUISER.

Previously in storage, the majority of the aircraft's wing structures and its tail surfaces were brought to the new museum to be affixed.

There are a few more pieces to complete before this project is done—namely, the engine cowlings, exhaust ports, and wheel pants—but it's wonderful to have this aircraft in the museum and to share its stories with visitors.



ABOVE: Marsh Pettit and Gene Manchur prepare to unload the Bellanca's wings.  
BELOW: Museum co-founder Gord Emberley repairs Bellanca wing while volunteer Shawn Romas looks on.



"A huge 'thank you' to our restoration team for all their efforts on getting the Bellanca display-worthy. It's a stunning addition to our new museum."

TERRY SLOBODIAN  
PRESIDENT & CEO



ABOVE: Eric Gyselman, Gene Manchur, and Alan Mulholland strategize about the remaining installation.  
RIGHT: Pat English and Gene Manchur prepare one of the Bellanca's wing pieces.



LEFT: Gerry Dupasquier and Gene Manchur affix the Bellanca's tail assembly.  
RIGHT: Newly restored propeller, courtesy of Canadian Propeller, gets affixed.



The assembled aircraft, CF-AWR, on display in the museum's Northern Connections gallery.





The Electra makes its final approach.

## AN ELECTRA-IC ARRIVAL

**OUR NEW MUSEUM GOT A LITTLE BIT SHINIER ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2022, WHEN WE WELCOMED THE LOCKHEED L-10A ELECTRA, CF-TCC, DONATED BY AIR CANADA IN CELEBRATION OF ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY.**

The aircraft's all-metal body, polished to a high shine courtesy of museum volunteers, glistened in the morning light as the aircraft taxied into Aviation Plaza. The waiting crowd of media, Air Canada and museum employees, partners, and

supporters cheered and clapped as the vintage plane made its final approach and rolled to a stop in front of them.

Lockheed Aircraft introduced the eye-catching Model 10 Electra for use on short domestic routes in 1935 in response to its competitor's offerings. The early 1930s saw a revolution in commercial aviation as aircraft companies began introducing all-metal cantilever monoplanes - sleek, modern designs which promised to make safe, reliable, and profitable passenger airline service a viable reality.

Former Air Canada Captains and Electra pilots Gerry Norberg and

Robert Giguere were behind the controls for the final ride from Air Canada's hangar over to the museum.

After a short program, Norberg and Giguere, along with Air Canada maintenance engineers George Huntington and Mike Clarkson, gathered around the aircraft to speak with attendees. Visitors were even able to climb aboard the Electra before it was moved into its final position in the museum, next to the CF-104 Starfighter.

CF-TCC, was one of the first six aircraft purchased by the newly-formed Trans-Canada Airlines (TCA) in 1937. These aircraft were used for pilot training in Winnipeg before

When asked by CBC's Faith Fundal about his memories of flying CF-TCC, Gerry Norberg recalls the "beautiful synchronized sound" of the engines. "There's nothing like it."



Former Air Canada Captains Gerry Norberg (left) and Robert Giguere behind the controls of CF-TCC.

serving on TCA's first scheduled passenger service between Vancouver and Seattle, the first 55-minute flight taking place on September 1, 1937.

After passing through multiple hands throughout the 20th century, CF-TCC was discovered in Florida in the 1980s by a vacationing Air Canada employee. The airline purchased the aircraft and had it transported back to Winnipeg, where it was meticulously restored by Air Canada

personnel. In 1987, CF-TCC was flown across Canada to celebrate Air Canada's 50th anniversary.

The addition of CF-TCC enhances the strong ties connecting RAMWC and historic TCA.

"We're very pleased that CF-TCC has landed at the Royal Aviation Museum and is now part of our permanent collection. This aircraft has ties to Winnipeg dating back to 1937 and to our museum in particular," notes Museum

President & CEO Terry Slobodian. "Our museum was previously located in the original TCA hangar here in Winnipeg and the Electra is a perfect picture of the early days of commercial air travel in Canada."

We're grateful to Air Canada for their longstanding support of our museum and for entrusting us with this spectacular piece of aviation history. It's the perfect addition to our collection and will be well-cared for by our team.

Current and former Air Canada employees and pilots pose with CF-TCC on September 7, 2022.





## EXHIBITS

# DEVELOPING DYNAMIC EXHIBITS



ON APRIL 27, 2020, PCL CONSTRUCTION BROKE GROUND ON THE MUSEUM. WITH ALL OF THE UNKNOWN AT THAT TIME, IT WAS A LEAP OF FAITH. NONETHELESS, CONSTRUCTION WAS COMPLETED SIX WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AND \$1.1M UNDER BUDGET. A REMARKABLE FEAT IN NORMAL TIMES.

On August 6, 2021, we took possession of the new museum facility. The first task was the suspension of six aircraft followed by the “homecoming” of 10+ aircraft from various parts of the province. Our Exhibit Completion Task Force then went to work on the development of dynamic exhibits as laid out in its Strategic Plan.

In 2022, the focus was on completing the exhibit development work that started in 2021 including:

- Audio-visual content for 10 exhibit touch screens, three ambient soundscapes, and the *Ghost of Charron Lake* immersive object theatre.
- Interactive educational displays such as the roll-pitch-yaw Muskeeter model in the *Science of Flight Zone* used in *Take Flight!* education programming.
- Stories and photos for exhibits. This involved diligent research, documentation of sources and references, community consultations, and fact-checking with partners and other subject matter experts to ensure accuracy of all museum content and to ensure all copyright requirements were met.
- Ensuring that the museum would achieve its objective of being a safe place for truth and reconciliation to occur. This involved vetting all content in our museum from an Indigenous perspective.
- Graphic production for exhibit display panels which were then fabricated and installed.

The museum’s Strategic Plan includes four exhibit development goals. Two of these have been completed:

- Development of collections and conservation policies with processes and procedures that reflect current best practices in artefact preservation and restoration.
  - Implementation of a strategic, long-term policy for collections development (including accessioning and deaccessioning—acquiring artefacts that reflect our mission and parting with those that don’t).
- And work continues on the following:
- Procurement and implementation of a cutting-edge collections management database platform.
  - Maximizing access to, and utilization of, the collections and archives both on site and online.

In 2022, work also began on a QR code project to augment the text on exhibit panels. These QR codes will link exhibits to the RAMWC website where additional exhibit information will be found. This project will be completed in 2023.

# EXHIBIT INSTALLATION



OPENING THE MUSEUM IN MAY 2022 WAS A HUGE ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR THE ENTIRE TEAM INVOLVED. STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, AND CONTRACTORS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE THE COLLECTION WAS DISPLAYED SAFELY AND IN A WAY THAT IS ENGAGING AND INSPIRING.

Work done from 2020 to 2021 was to establish how our collection would be displayed in the new building. 2022 was spent installing the collection onto the main gallery floor. This was a monumental effort with the safety of artefacts and archival documents paramount to ensuring the opening date was met. Material delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic meant that our team worked until the last possible moments to get everything ready.

Custom mounts were made for aircraft, artefacts, and archival documents throughout the museum thanks to the help of Paul Balcaen. The best mounts are those that cannot be seen and do not detract from the real attraction: the historic item.



Joel Nelson (right) assists County Workhouse with the creation of a mount for the *Ghost of Charron Lake*.

Perhaps the most delicate installation in the museum was that of the Fokker Standard Universal G-CAJD, better known as the *Ghost of Charron Lake*. Having spent nearly 70 years under water and undergoing the affects of oxidation over the nearly two decades since it was recovered, the *Ghost* is a large and incredibly fragile artefact.

In order to safely remove it from its storage crates

To display this uniform, worn by Captain Roland Henault, a pilot for Pacific Western Airlines in the 1980s, collections staff had to carve down the mannequin to perfectly fit the uniform’s silhouette.

and mount it in a way that would support the remaining structure and prevent further deterioration, the museum hired professional museum mount-makers Dawn Carlisle and Nigel Bowers from County Workhouse. Together with a conservation consultant and RAMWC Collections Manager, Sandra Chewka, the team designed a mount that fit the exact shape and support required for the fuselage while remaining invisible for display. The trick came in placing the aircraft on the mount and lifting it with its mount into a custom-built display case. A team of at least 15 staff, contractors and volunteers were needed to physically move G-CAJD into place ensuring it was supported and secure the entire way.

Now in its case, the *Ghost* sits on display for the first time.





# MARKETING & VISITOR EXPERIENCE

## CAMPAIGNS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

AFTER BEING CLOSED FOR FOUR YEARS, CURIOSITY AND ANTICIPATION FROM AVIATION ENTHUSIASTS BEGAN TO SOAR AS THE OPENING OF OUR BRAND-NEW, STATE-OF-THE-ART MUSEUM APPROACHED.

In the weeks leading up to the grand opening, an awareness campaign featuring the revised brand and iconic peak of the new museum was launched. *History is Landing* ads appeared in paid online and social media campaigns and across Winnipeg in an out-of-home campaign with transit and outdoor billboards.

Earned media coverage helped create even more buzz in the marketplace, resulting in website visits between January to May



increasing by 151% compared to the previous year. Overall, website page views increased by 262% with over 429,000 page views in 2022.

In 2022, the Museum received 94 earned media stories from outlets including Canadian Aviation News, Skies Mag, Yahoo! News, Winnipeg Free Press, CBC Manitoba, CTV News (local and national) and CJOB.

Social media was also instrumental to the museum's marketing strategy, with hundreds of visitors creating their own content while

visiting the museum and engaging with our content.

Across the RAMWC's main social channels (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter), the museum earned over 3,399,000 impressions with 132,431 engagements and audience growth of 272%.

While the first few months of the year were spent preparing for the museum's grand opening and the anticipation of a busy summer season, the Marketing and Visitor Experience team also created additional programming and events to attract visitors.

The results? In the first nine months, volunteers and staff welcomed approximately 65,000 paid visitors into our new museum. In addition to visitors from Winnipeg and across Canada, thanks to the new location on the Winnipeg Richardson International Airport campus, the museum also hosted many international visitors from countries including the United States, Mexico, Ireland, United Kingdom, and Switzerland.

"My son and I have been visiting the "airplane museum" since he was two or three. This is one of our family's favourite places in the world. The new building and exhibits are first-rate. Thanks for putting so much thought into the new place and for keeping the history and significance of aviation in Manitoba on the forefront of our city's and province's tourism stage."

**BRIAN MCKENTY, VISITOR**

## 'Expect to be wowed': A preview of the new Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada



CTV News Winnipeg joined us in the week leading up to grand opening for a series of cut-in segments during their morning show.





# SPECIAL EVENTS

## FATHER'S DAY

Over 1,100 visitors attended our first *Wings & Wheels* event at the new museum. The day featured a free classic car show put on by the British Car Club of Manitoba, BBQ pulled pork sandwiches from King Cole Catering, and complimentary popsicles from Pop Cart for father figures in the Aviation Plaza.

Special programming included a Father's Day-themed activity in the *Science of Flight* zone. Visitors also had the opportunity to win a hot air balloon ride, courtesy of Glen Sytnyk Realty.



Vintage Rolls Royce on display for our Father's Day *Wings & Wheels* event.

## HALLOWEEN WITH HOBBS

On October 30th, more than 500 spooktacular visitors attended the museum's first Halloween event, hosted by our mascot, Hobbs the Bear.

Kids (and aviation fans young at heart) were treated to a very Hobbs-y Halloween, featuring trick-or-treat stations throughout the galleries, coloring activities and contests in the *Science of Flight* zone, a costume parade, and a selfie station with Hobbs.

ABOVE: Steve Pajot, owner of the Starfighter on display in our museum, poses with visitors during our *Halloween with Hobbs* event.

RIGHT: A young visitor, dressed as a Starfighter pilot, checks out the Beechcraft Musketeer during our *Halloween with Hobbs* event.



## CHRISTMAS CARGO

The museum also ran a *Christmas Cargo* food and toy drive campaign in support of the Christmas Cheer Board. Visitors saved 10% on admission between November 19 - 29 when they brought a new, unwrapped toy or non-perishable food item.

## PASS HOLDER APPRECIATION DAYS

To acknowledge the support of our Annual Pass Holders, we held Pass Holder Appreciation Days from November 24 - 27.

Pass Holders received an additional 10% off at the Landing Zone Boutique and a free gift with minimum spend. We also gave them a sneak peek at our first-ever *Holiday Gift Guide* and validated parking.



## HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING

During the Christmas school break, our Visitor Experience team developed additional fun and seasonal programming for families visiting the museum. Children were offered the chance to "earn their wings" by learning about the Musketeer flight trainer and completing a pre-flight checklist.

Over by the Bellanca Aircruiser, visitors were invited to build paper airplanes and see how adding paper clip "cargo" impacted their flights.

Holiday programming was a huge success with over 2,100 visitors in the final week of 2022.





# GRAND OPENING!

AFTER YEARS OF PLANNING AND HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF PREPARATION BY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS, THE NEW ROYAL AVIATION MUSEUM WAS FINALLY READY FOR TAKE-OFF IN THE THIRD WEEK OF MAY 2022.



**VOLUNTEER PREVIEW EVENING:** RAMWC's dedicated volunteers were the first to see and experience the new museum at a volunteer appreciation preview on May 15.



**FRIENDS AND FAMILY PREVIEW EVENING:** A few days before our public grand opening, friends and family of staff were invited for a sneak peek. This allowed staff to become comfortable with the new ticketing system before opening to the public.



## THANK YOU

to these partners for ensuring these projects were completed on time for our grand opening:

**Architecture 49**

**Reich+Petch**

**Kubik-Maltbie**

**County Workhouse**

**PSB integrations**

**Centric Productions**

**EOS Lightmedia**





The first visitor inside for the Pass Holder preview was Brian Toews, former RAMWC volunteer and avid supporter.

Over the course of grand opening week, we welcomed more than **2,800** eager aviation lovers into Winnipeg's newest world-class attraction.



An official grand opening was held on Thursday, May 19, when museum supporters, government, industry partners, media, and special guests attended a ribbon cutting and reception.

**LEFT:** The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, delivers greetings prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony.

More than **1,100** people visited the museum on May 21, our first day open to the public.





# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING



2022 WAS A BANNER YEAR FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING AT RAMWC. WE ADDED NEW PROGRAMS, NEW TEAM MEMBERS, AND MADE GREAT STRIDES ON THE RAMWC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE.

The mission of the RAMWC Centre of Excellence is to deliver an experience that informs and

inspires youth about specific careers in the aviation and aerospace industries, connecting them with resources to pursue these careers and provide hands-on experience and training while removing as many barriers as possible.

To achieve this goal, and to be in a position to partner with Manitoba's leading academic institutions at the elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels, we needed to enhance, expand and improve our

**Take Flight!** education programs, and build partnerships within the community.

In September, we launched five new STEM courses, bringing us to a total of 14 programs, 13 of which are STEM curriculum-based. These new programs were designed by Maria Nickel and Brian Ewenson.

Maria is a winner of the Prime Ministers Award for Canadian National Teacher of the Year, a Canadian Space Agency Astronaut Recruitment selection

"The programs and presenters were all fantastic! Everything was so well organized and presented with kindness, enthusiasm, and extreme knowledge! The students were excited to share what they learned and enjoyed once we got back to school, and continued to talk about it throughout the week!

"The other teachers and support staff raved about the positive impact the day had on the students and on them as well. Thank you so much for that.

"Without the gracious student aid funding that was offered to us, we most likely would have had to pass on this trip. I am so grateful we did not have to.

"So, with sincere appreciation, THANK YOU!"

KIMBERLY COOK, ROBERT SMITH SCHOOL

(2016 - 2017), and a Honeywell Educator Advanced Space Academy Alumni & Ambassador. Brian is an aerospace educator who has worked with Lockheed Martin's Space Day, the Canadian Space Agency, and NASA's Space Shuttle program.

We also hired two new museum educators in 2022. Both certified teachers, they have done a remarkable job of bringing Maria's and Brian's programs to life and inspiring students of all ages.

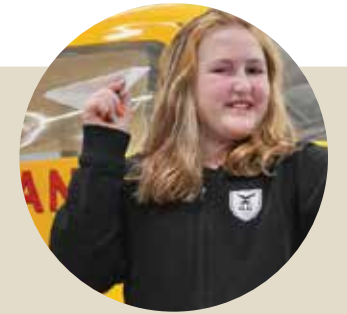
Strategic partnerships, such as the ones we have with the Winnipeg School Division (WSD) and another with the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology (MITT) are another integral part of the Centre of Excellence. Our partnerships are focused on:

- Educational programming that supports curriculum learning outcomes.
- Exploration of careers and pathways to employment in the aviation and aerospace industry.

- Engaging underrepresented groups, specifically Indigenous and female students in STEM education, and in aviation and aerospace and related careers.

Upcoming initiatives of our WSD partnership include a career fair and three, one-week residency programs for WSD1 schools which will immerse students in the museum and our programming. MITT, supported by museum volunteers, will provide design and manufacturing assistance for museum projects. The first initiative of this partnership is the design and manufacture of a wind tunnel to be used in our *Science of Flight* zone for education for our students and visitors.

Our innovative and engaging *Science of Flight* zone is the heart of all our educational programming and was made possible thanks to a generous \$1M donation from the Tallman family that will enable us to inspire students for years to come.



## OUR NEW PROGRAMS

**TOYS IN SPACE:** In this investigation, students play the role of scientists and STEM engineers in examining the physics of popular toys on Earth and space.

**INVISIBLE FORCES:** Students construct and test a gravity assist device in three challenges, learning about Newton's three laws and the Design Engineering Process.

**SHIP THE CHIP:** Acting as a team of manufacturing engineers, students are given the challenge of designing the smallest, lightest package possible using everyday materials.

**SAVE THE SUIT:** Student teams design, construct, and test a model spacesuit through various challenges using Scientific Inquiry and the engineering design process to protect astronaut Mark Whatney's spacesuit from damage.

**GREEN FUEL ROCKETS:** Students design an environmentally friendly "green" spacecraft propellant. They will then test their propellant using a variety of surface areas, solid fuel and temperatures of liquid fuel, measuring the thrust produced.

## GIVING TUESDAY

On November 29, we ran a GivingTuesday fundraiser to support our Access to Education fund. We ended up raising more than \$8,000—enough to fund programming for more than 500 students!





# ADVANCING TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION & INDIGENOUS INCLUSION

AS PART OUR COMMITMENT TO TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, THE RAMWC SEEKS TO HONOUR AND COMMEMORATE THE HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND AVIATION IN WESTERN CANADA. THE EXHIBIT COMPLETION TASK FORCE, WHICH INCLUDED INDIGENOUS CURATOR DR. NIIGAN SINCLAIR, ENSURED INDIGENOUS VOICES AND PERSPECTIVES WERE REPRESENTED AND WOVEN INTO THE STORIES OF OUR NEW MUSEUM.

One of these stories, the Felixstowe repair at Pikangikum Lake has been in our collection for 40 years. The story is told through a series of photographs containing images of unnamed—until recently—individuals.

The museum's account of this story was always one-sided as the identities of the Indigenous men in the photos were unknown, so staff contacted Pikangikum First Nation for help.

Museum staff and volunteers were introduced to Gerald Neufeld and his father who were doing ancestral



ABOVE: Grand Chief Garrison Settee (right) with his assistant, Mark Sweeny (left) and RAMWC VP of Marketing and Strategic Partnerships, Brent Phillips.



RIGHT: G-CYBT undergoing repairs at Pikangikum Lake.



One of the individuals identified with the help of Gerald Neufeld and his father was Abraham Keeper, the paddler in the canoe on the right.



The second Pikangikum First Nation resident identified, Peter Quill (facing camera) assists with the repair of G-CYBT.

research in Pimachiowin Aki. The museum shared photographs taken in 1922 at Pikangikum, which included several community members helping repair Felixstowe G-CYBT. They were successful in identifying two individuals in the photographs: Peter Quill, great grandfather of Chief Dean Owen, and Abraham Keeper, both community leaders whose descendants make up a large portion of Pikangikum's population today.

We remain in contact with Pikangikum First Nation in an effort to identify additional individuals in the photos and facilitate access to these and other photographs. The oldest images of their relatives that the community knows to exist.

This project is an example of a larger initiative to identifying Indigenous people in photographs and archives, providing awareness and access to these records, and decolonizing the museum's collection.

**RAMWC is committed to the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and to facilitating a safe space for reconciliation to occur. As part of this commitment, we were honoured to welcome and provide complimentary admission to 2,032 Indigenous visitors in 2022.**

## LINWOOD STREET MEMORIAL

On June 24, 1972, a plane carrying eight students attending residential schools in Stonewall and Portage la Prairie, bound for Bunibonibee Cree Nation (formerly Oxford House), crashed on a vacant lot on Linwood Street in Winnipeg shortly after takeoff.

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, all died in the crash.

While there is a memorial for the victims in Long Plain First Nation

where two of the students attended school, no memorial exists at the crash site in Winnipeg.

After receiving funding from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fund through Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage to support activities that will advance reconciliation and enhance Manitoba's efforts towards creating a more equitable and inclusive society, the museum set out plans to honour the students.

When city councillor (now Mayor of Winnipeg) Scott Gillingham heard the story and the museum's plans to erect a monument to honour the

victims, he became invested in the project and plans evolved to include a park and plaza area, thanks to additional support from the City of Winnipeg.

We commissioned a solid polished granite pedestal engraved with the names of the students and pilots, and the city is creating a small park with seating areas and trees selected by family members, one to honour each of the victims.

Due to the scope of the project, the plaza area is now expected to be completed in June of 2023.



# FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

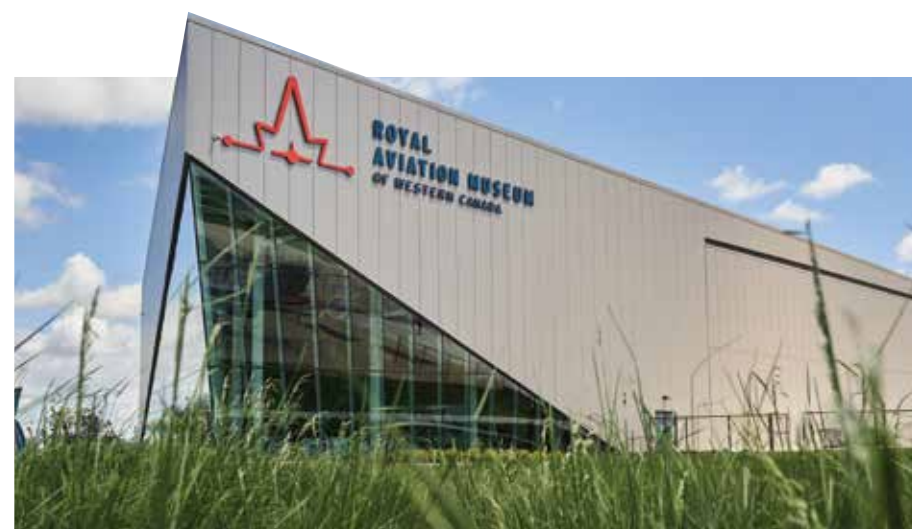
OUR VICE PRESIDENT OF FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS, JOEL NELSON, WAS KEPT VERY BUSY DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF OUR NEW MUSEUM, COORDINATING CONTRACTORS, AIRCRAFT STORAGE, AND MORE. NOW HE OVERSEES ALL OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE BUILDING AS WELL AS TWO OTHERS.

## 2088 WELLINGTON AVENUE 56-YEAR LEASE

The Royal Aviation Museum holds 86,000 square foot of display space, offices, classrooms, meeting rooms, and archival storage on four acres of Winnipeg Airport Authority (WAA) land allowing for indoor and outdoor displays and programming.

From admissions to venue rentals, from the high-end Landing Zone Boutique to school programming, this purpose-built facility is the heart (but not the only piece) of RAMWC's facility footprint.

There are two other facilities in our portfolio that help to drive revenue and fulfill our public trust commitment to care for aviation heritage and artefacts.



## 3 INDUSTRIAL ROAD, ST. ANDREWS MUSEUM-OWNED PROPERTY

Located 31 kilometres from the museum, the St. Andrews storage facility is comprised of two buildings totalling approximately 9,500 square feet of space on approximately two acres of land.

Neither building is climate controlled and artefacts in this indoor space are subjected to temperature and humidity swings, but are kept predominantly out of the weather. Only the sturdiest of artefacts can be safely stored in this environment, particularly in the outdoor storage yard.

There is a long-term plan to identify options for divesting the museum of this space and moving the artefacts to a more appropriate facility closer to the museum.



Aerial view of our storage facility in St. Andrews, Manitoba.

## 1500 KING EDWARD STREET FIVE-YEAR LEASE

This space contains 15,000 square feet of collections storage, restoration facilities, and new building material storage. Located approximately three kilometres from the new museum, this facility allows for climate-controlled storage of archival artefacts and a safe and comfortable space for restoration projects.



ABOVE AND BELOW: Restoration areas of our King Edward facility.



Fairchild 24 in storage at our King Edward facility.

The new museum building was designed with minimal storage space and therefore much of the extra exhibit and building materials have been moved offsite to this facility. Having ready access to the rest of our collection and a space for our restoration team gives us the ability to change out exhibits and enhance our displays continuously, keeping the museum fresh and boosting repeat visitation.

The move from our prior storage facility on Church Avenue was completed in late summer of 2022. Organization is ongoing and electrical and welding improvements are planned to aid in the completion of upcoming projects.



# FEEDBACK

We loved our visit! I'll be posting about it on Twitter today. Such a fabulous balance of direct teaching, experiential learning, movement, and independent learning. Fantastic! We will absolutely be coming back with our grade 6s next year! Wonderful job done by the entire team!

**JENNIFER TESSIER-STOUTE,  
ECOLE VISCOUNT ALEXANDER**

Visiting the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada, was a great experience for myself and my family. There is so much to look at and interact with, my kids loved going so much that they asked to come visit again, even before we left the first time.

**AMANDA CHAHARYN**

Winnipeg should always have been proud that we had this museum, but its reinvigorated form, through the new building, and interpretation, truly makes this world class. It should be on the top 10 places to visit on any trip to Winnipeg!

**JIM TURNOCK**

We really enjoyed our day and how structured it was with tie-ins to the curriculum. Candace & Joel helped make sure this wasn't just a 'one-off' field trip with kids wandering aimlessly- we want to make these days as meaningful as possible and we just had to show up to make that happen!

**MEL CLENDENAN, JAMES NISBET COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

The Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada is a must-see attraction. My kids, my wife, and I all love it and we will be back. The new building is the perfect location for the wonderful aircraft that are on display.

**CHRIS NOVAKOWSKI**

One of Manitoba's best museums. Modern approach to exhibits, including great job connecting past with present, being inclusive of Indigenous involvement and impact, contributions of women in aviation.

**LORNE KLETKE**

Such a gem, I held a team meeting at their facility and it went over extremely well. The staff were friendly and very helpful. The meeting room had a massive display and AV system. Highly recommend it for your next off-site.

**TED THIESSEN**

It's a fantastic place!! You can see floatplanes, fighters, and more!! All the workers are friendly and nice, I feel welcome. A good place for kids too.

**LILLIAN CHEN**



# PHOTO CREDITS

## FRONT COVER

Photo by David Lipnowski

## INSIDE FRONT COVER

Photo by Joey Senft

## PAGES 4-5

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Lockheed Electra photo courtesy Air Canada, A-26B Invader photo courtesy Ross Robinson, DHC-5 Buffalo photo courtesy Brent Phillips

## PAGES 22-23

Bellanca propeller installation photo courtesy Canadian Propeller, finished aircraft photo (bottom pg 23) by David Lipnowski, all other photos by Vanessa Desorcy

## PAGE 24

Photo by James Mitchell

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Top photo by Vanessa Desorcy, bottom photo courtesy Air Canada

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(clockwise) Photos by Vanessa Desorcy, Dave Brandt

## PAGE 31

Top photo by Brent Phillips, bottom by Nik Rave

## PAGE 32

Main image by David Lipnowski, bottom row by Vanessa Desorcy

## PAGE 33

Photos by Joey Senft (top and middle), Vanessa Desorcy (bottom)

## PAGE 34

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Top left photo by Steve Salnikowski, remainder by Joey Senft

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Top photo by Vanessa Desorcy, inset courtesy RAMWC archives

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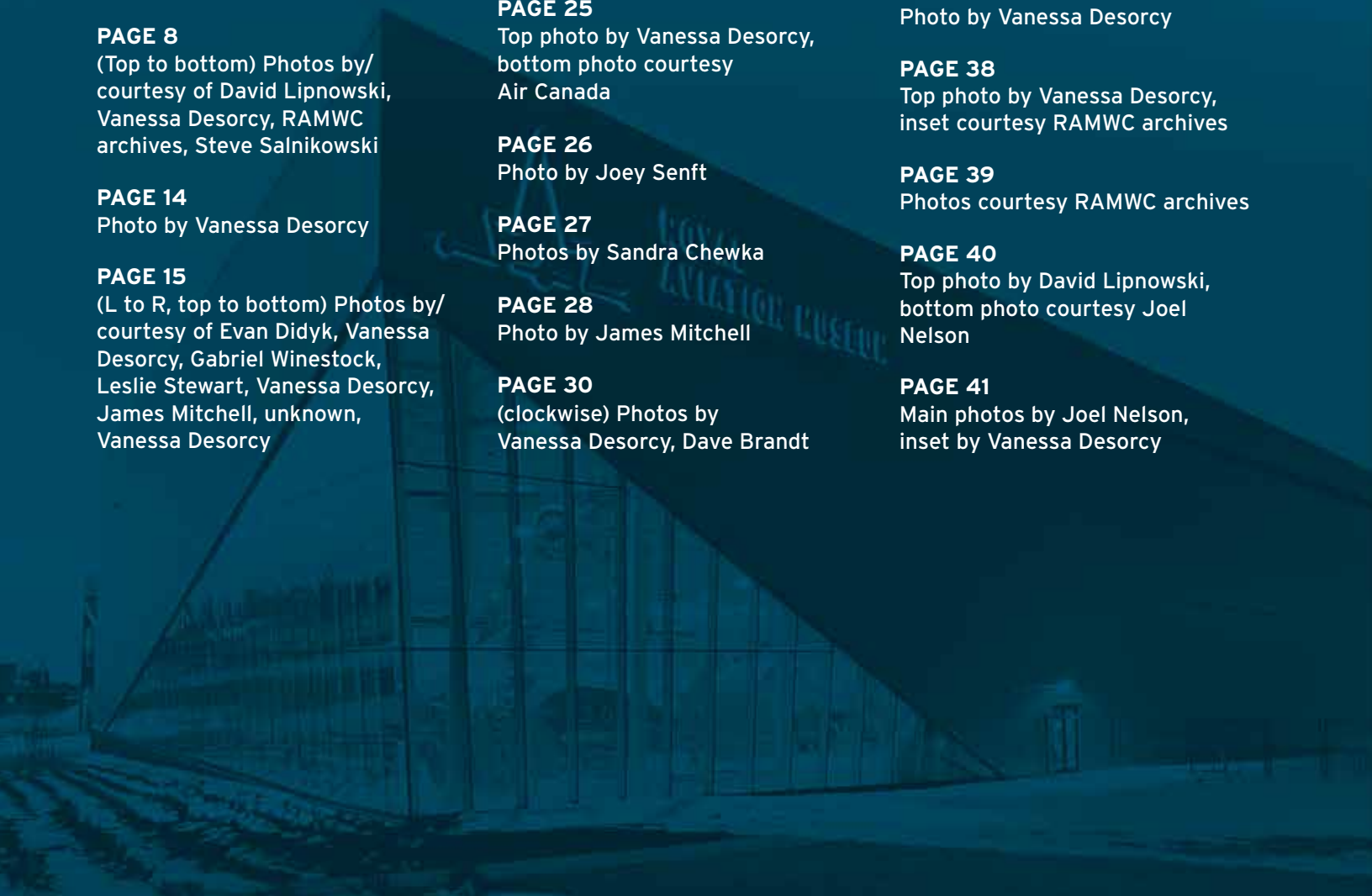
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Top photo by David Lipnowski, bottom photo courtesy Joel Nelson

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