

### Message from Our Chair

Kendra Kincade

Dear Members & Aviation Enthusiasts,



I am honoured and thrilled to address you as the newly appointed Chair of the Alberta Aviation Council. As we soar into a new era of aviation, it is with great enthusiasm that I embrace this opportunity to lead our esteemed organization and shape the future of aviation in our region.

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my predecessors including past Chair, **Bram Tilroe**, who dedicated their time and efforts to laying a strong foundation for our council. Building upon their legacy, I am committed to further advancing our shared vision of fostering growth, safety, and innovation in the Alberta aviation industry.

Together, we will celebrate our aviation heritage while propelling ourselves forward to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future.

In the coming months, the Alberta Aviation Council will prioritize several key areas to drive progress and empower our members:

1. **Collaboration and Networking:** We believe that collective action and collaboration are essential for the success of our industry. We will continue to grow and facilitate opportunities for networking, knowledge sharing, and partnerships among aviation professionals, businesses, and educational institutions through the growth of the Alberta Aviation Conference which will be held in April 2024. By connecting individuals and organizations, we can leverage our collective expertise and drive innovation.
2. **Advocacy and Policy Development:** The Alberta Aviation Council will continue to actively engage with regulatory agencies, and industry stakeholders to ensure the voice of our aviation community is heard. We will advocate for policies and initiatives that promote sustainable growth, prioritize safety, and support economic prosperity in the aviation sector.

3. **Engaging the Aviation Professionals of Tomorrow:** We are thrilled to announce the launch of our Associate Board, dedicated to nurturing the development of young individuals in the aviation industry and inspiring them to become leaders in the aviation industry.

I firmly believe that by working together, we can achieve remarkable things. I invite each and every one of you to actively engage with the Alberta Aviation Council, share your ideas, and contribute to the continued success of our industry. Together, we will chart a course towards a vibrant and thriving aviation ecosystem that benefits all stakeholders in Alberta.

I am incredibly excited about the journey ahead and the boundless possibilities that lie on our horizon. Let us seize this opportunity, elevate the Alberta aviation industry to new heights, and leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I look forward to connecting with you soon.

### AAC Conference - A Success

The AAC hosted another successful conference at the Coast Nisku Inn in April 2023. We had over 150 delegates with several vendors participating. This year also included tours around YEG airport.

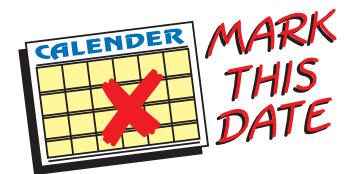
One of the highlights was the keynote speaker, **Kevin LaRosa II**, aerial coordinator and stunt pilot, known for his work with Top Gun Marverick. Kevin showed several thrilling movie clips from his work he has done over the years.



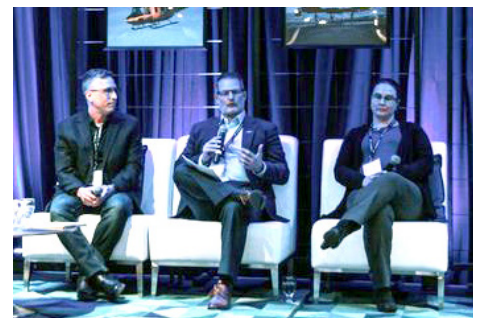
We were also excited to have **David C. Curtis**, former CEO of Viking/De Halvland provide the opening address to our delegates. David presented his views on the future of aviation in the next decade.



The conference featured sessions from a wide variety of organizations such as: Nav Canada, COPA, Transport Canada and panels consisted Alberta airports, airlines and Strategic Aviation Advisory Council (SAAC).



**AAC Conference - April 28 -30, 2024**



## MOVING FORWARD

### AAC Associate Board

The Board of Directors has created an associate board consisting of individuals who are involved in aviation and engage them with more networking and association with our industry.

The associate board will provide aviation enthusiasts who are entering aviation, an opportunity to learn aspects of leadership and board governance through mentorship.

We have seven individuals selected for the associate board:

- Anas Abdulazim
- Matthew Bleakney
- Ronan Court
- Almina Kovcic
- Ethan McCaig
- Hannah Mckay
- Alissa Stirling

**Welcome Aboard!**

### Casino News

AAC would like to thank all the volunteers who assisted us at our casino. We use these funds to support our scholarship programs, facility map and education sessions as well as supporting our Alberta aviation museums.

We would also like to thank the Alberta Provincial Committee of the Air Cadet League of Canada (APC) for assisting us with volunteer positions. Through a MOU signed between the two organizations, the APC will receive 25% of our funds towards their goals of the organization.

Now that we have the funds in hand, AAC will be updating our facility map for our membership. The data is being checked for accuracy before we move forward with the printing. We anticipate the map will be available in late 2023.

## Upcoming Aviation Events

- Canadian Business Aviation Association (CBAA)

Jul 11-13, 2023  
Calgary



- Alberta International Airshow

August 4-6, 2023,  
Villeneuve, AB



- Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame Gala

September 14, 2023  
Calgary



- ATAC 89th Conference & Tradeshow

Nov 13-Nov 16, 2023  
Hotel Fairmont,  
Montreal



- AAC 2024 Spring Conference

April 28-30, 2024,  
Calgary, AB



## SAVE THE DATE - AAC Spring Conference 2024 - April 28 - 30

### Spring Conference

The Council is already planning the 2024 conference in Calgary. Dates have been selected and we are currently assessing the venue.

We are planning breakout sessions, panel discussions and plenary sessions with a wide range of topics for the aviation/aerospace community. We are anticipating other sectors of the aviation community will also join us.

Stay tuned to our website for more details more details.

### Tentative Schedule

#### Sunday, April 28

- Meet & Greet

#### Monday, April 29

- Opening Remarks
- Breakout Sessions
- Plenary Sessions
- AAC AGM
- Evening Banquet - Banquet & Keynote Speaker

#### Wednesday, April 30

- Plenary Sessions
- Panels

## AAC AGM - Directors Re-elected

We held the AGM during the AAC Conference. The minutes were approved from the last AGM, the financial statements were presented and approved, and the election of the directors occurred. Re-elected:

- Kendra Kincade - Chair
- Brian Andrus - Vice Chair
- Ryan Albizzatti - Treasurer
- April Caron - Secretary

- Bram Tilroe - Past Chair
- Bruno Bradley
- Scott Clements
- Steve Michoulas
- Trevor Rehberg-Beseler
- Michael Stimac
- Kim Van Vliet
- Sophia Wells
- Kevin Wong

## Memberships

We would like to thank all of our members and your continued support during these unique times.

The AAC is a registered charity and provides charitable receipts. If you are considering your 2023 charitable donation, please consider the AAC before year end.

*We would like to thank our members for their continued support.*



LinkedIn



## AAC CONTACT INFORMATION

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## KEN LETT - Canada's Hall of Fame Inductee



Major General **Ken Lett** is a former President and an honorary life member of the Alberta Aviation Council which was formed

in November of 1962. Through his strong leadership as president during 1980's the council was rejuvenated and he was able to attract many new board members.

Ken's success as a leader in the aviation industry is due in large part to his ability to build strong relationships with his colleagues, partners, and cus-

tomers. He is known for his approachability, his willingness to listen, and his ability to inspire those around him to achieve their best.

Overall, Ken's impressive career in aviation and leadership roles speaks to his dedication, skill, and commitment to excellence. He is a highly respected figure in the industry and a role model for aspiring aviation professionals. In 2023 Ken will be inducted into the Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame.

Canada's Hall of Fame Gala will be held September 14, 2023, in Calgary, AB

## SAAC

The Strategic Aviation Advisory Council (SAAC) discusses an item, formulates a recommendation and then forwards the recommendation to the minister of Transportation for consideration. Transportation Minister is Devin Dreeshen.

The minister would action the SAAC recommendations or would consider that further information required by Transport or redirected to the recommendation to other Alberta Government ministries.

AAC is very fortunate to have two of our directors sit on this Council, **Brian Andrus** and **Kendra Kincade**.

## Bram Tilroe - Outgoing Chair's Comments



I congratulate **Kendra Kincade** for stepping up and taking over the Chairperson position from me. It has been a roller coaster ride for quite a number of years to keep the AAC afloat and viable. It has been a struggle to attract directors and volunteers, however I believe we have turned the corner and I will be leaving the position in good hands. The AAC has a long history and was formed in November of 1962.

I was on the AAC board in the 1980's and early 1990's mostly as the director and vice chair of CASARA which was managed at that time through the AAC. During that time I organized many airtours. Until the early 2000 it was a robust and well managed and funded organization.

However after that it got splintered up and CASARA, the Airport Management Association, and the Aeri-

al Applicators decided to all go their own way. A secretariat therefore was no longer sustainable and we could not afford paid staff and a president. It was left to various chairpersons to hold it together and for various reasons they decided we were not viable and should close our doors and the Chairman resigned. Therefore, I got back on the board by 2008 as Acting Chairman and by 2012 I took over as Chairman. I could not let the AAC die as I felt this is an extremely important organization for aviation in Alberta.

Subsequently I had to let our paid executive director go and we became wholly dependent on the volunteer working board. It has been a struggle to keep it afloat however we are now in a rebuilding phase with renewed interest on the board and I see a bright future for the AAC. We will have to work aggressively on sustainable funding. On to the future!

It was a pleasure to serve as Chairman

## Bram Presents at BCAC Conference



**Bram Tilroe** made a presentation at the BC Aviation Council conference in Prince George this June. His presentation covered topics such as SAAC, De Havilland's new manufacturing center near Calgary; \$5 million grant from the Alberta Government to Elevate Aviation in support human resource development; student aid for supporting the Commercial Pilot that reflects the \$100,000 training cost; increased spots at SAIT for additional AME training students.

## Good link for Resources

The British Columbia Aviation Council (BCAC) has collected a number of useful resource links related to COVID- 19 and the aviation industry.

[LINK](#)



MEET & GREET AT THE ROADHOUSE

AAC e-News Summer 2023



FOUR AAC DIRECTORS AT THE ROADHOUSE

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**Alberta Airtours 2023  
(COPA Flight 220)**

The Alberta Air Tours is a series of group flights, organized by COPA Flight 220 of pilots in Alberta.

On June 3, 2023, Alberta Air Tours flew their first tour of the summer



with over 40 planes from across Alberta flying into the Olds-Didsbury, Brooks and Stettler. Airport. In addition to the aircrafts, visitors and families enjoyed face painting, food trucks, a bouncy castle, and various arts and crafts.

**NEXT AIRTOURS**

- July 1 - Grande Prairie and Fairview
- August 26 - CYRM, CFB6 and CZVL

Please register with or get more information from Jennifer Wallace at wallajl7@gmail.com.



**DEL BONITA - WORK SESSION - ANOTHER SUCCESS**

Annual "Hands Across the Border Work Session" occurred June 13, 2023 at Del Bonita airstrip in collaboration with AAC, Alberta Flying Farmers, Montana Pilot's Association and Montana Aeronautics. Aircraft from both Montana and Alberta flew in without having to clear customs either way; both the Canada Customs Agency and the US Customs and Border Patrol were notified and invited to share in the BBQ. This year saw a total of 12 aircraft including three C172's flew in from Super T Aviation in Medicine Hat, with 6 students. Terry Super, the owner of Super T also attended. They

ended up doing touch and goes afterwards as they do not get a chance to fly of grass strips otherwise. Other participant either flew in or drove from both Montana and AB for a total attendance of 50 participants. Great food as usual provided by the Alberta Flying Farmers. President Rosella Bjornson and Don Althen, Canadian event organizer also attended. The strip has been mowed, holes fixed and fencing checked, and is in excellent shape. It is extremely important to keep this border strip open as it is the easiest way for GA aircraft to cross the border.



**Thank You to  
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