

Silver Dart

Canada's LGBTQ+ Aviation Newsletter
Le bulletin LGBTQ+ en Aviation du Canada



Canadian Aviation Pride
Fierté en aviation canadienne



October 2023 Octobre

"Connecting Canada's LGBTQ+ Aviation Community Since 2008"
"Rassembler la communauté en aviation LGBTQ+ du Canada depuis 2008"



Bonjour Aviators:

Welcome to October! Things are cooling off and those pride decorations are probably down.

I am disheartened about some protests lately against schools teaching SOGI, sexual identity and gender identity curriculum. When I was a kid there was nothing, with no support or safe spaces, no Gay-Straight Alliances. I was in my 20's when I came out with the herd in the 90's. I had to unlearn the homophobia that permeated society and my head at the time.

Fast forward and now my old school has a Gay-Straight alliance type of thing. I was invited back to talk to the students and I realised that I grew up in the dark ages. Students now have and need this type of education to help combat homophobia, transphobia and fear.

If schools don't teach about this, a generation will not learn, and the hate will fester as it does, perpetuated by an emboldened conservative movement

which does not like diversity but wants conformity.

It's sad to see that anti- LGBTQ+ protesters outnumbered supporters of education. However I was happy to see many school boards not give in to the pressure and instead issue positive statements reaffirming that schools are a safe space for LGBTQ+ youth.

I hope the airlines will not waiver in their support. Also very happy to see Westjet marching in the Calgary Pride parade in September.

Let's stick together to confront homophobia and transphobia!

We had a couple of great events in Calgary and Winnipeg with our inaugural social events there helping to connect the community. We also had some swag at the Prince Edward Flying club and Victoria Flying Clubs events this past month.

I want to thank the volunteers for pitching in to help make this happen.

Next up is the Northern Lights Aero Foundation and the Elsie MacGill Awards October 21st.

The Elsie is named after Elsie MacGill, who was a Canadian woman who is acknowledged to have been the first female aircraft designer in the world. She designed the Maple Leaf II and was pivotal in the production of the Hawker Hurricane in Canada during the Second World War. MacGill also served in

Canada's Royal Commission on the Status of Women. Despite having a disability as a result of polio, MacGill went on to make very significant contributions to aviation and for women in Canada.

Canadian Aviation pride will be there and supports the NLAf organisation with their efforts to make Canadian Aviation a more inclusive industry.

We haven't finalised our year-end events yet but will publish those dates

soon so you can include them when bidding your November and December schedules. So watch the website and Facebook for updates.

If you missed the Pride events you can always get some CAP merchandise from our Amazon store. Pride epaulettes should be back in stock soon. CAP hats and beanies also make great stocking stuffers!

Happy flying,

Peter Litherland
Co-Chair
Canadian Aviation Pride
peter.litherland@aviationpride.ca





We it seems we are now officially into Fall, and with the Pride events over for the year, we can look back on what we accomplished in September.

Our thanks to Tara Meikle of Winnipeg for her excellent article on the first CAP event held in Winnipeg in September.

We also feature some photos of the Pride social held for the first time in Calgary.

Our Director Jessica Smuck has done a write-up of the upcoming Elsie MacGill Awards near the end of the month, and our thanks to her for the article, especially since CAP will be sending some of its volunteers to be present at the awards.

This month we feature two graphics which our Co-Chair Peter received from our graphic artists in Mexico.

The image of the up escalator at the airport leading to Gates L, G, B, T and Q struck me as most imaginative.

The image of “Diversity is always on board” speaks to CAP’s dedication to the principles of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which Peter mentioned above.

Over this fall, we will be updating our Strategic Plan, the last one having covered the 2017 to 2022 period. We will be looking carefully at our Mission, as well as our Goals for the next five years, from which we will construct each annual Work Plan. This will not only keep us on track, but as our Director René Kassie said so clearly recently “CAP has made significant strides in representing our community, but we must adapt to meet the industry's increasing call for diversity and inclusion”.

Best wishes to you all,

Adrian Walker
Editor & Co-Chair
adrian.walker@aviationpride.ca

Aviation Cartoon



Caricature en aviation



by [Kelly Kincaid](#)

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Flight Plan 2023



Plan de vol 2023

Vancouver

Friday 1 December

Year end party - TBA

Toronto

Friday 24 November

Year end party – The Pilot

Montréal

Saturday 25 November

Year end party - TBA

External Organizations Organisations externes

Saturday 21 October

Northern Lights Award Gala, Pearson Convention, Brampton ON



Canadian Aviation Pride Lands in Winnipeg

On the 9th September, Winnipeg held its first ever Canadian Aviation Pride event. This ground-breaking event celebrated the intersection of aviation and LGBTQ+ pride, bringing together aviation enthusiasts, industry professionals, and allies for an unforgettable evening.

One of the standout features of the evening was the captivating performances by talented drag artists from the House of Solitude. These dazzling and charismatic performers brought the stage to life, enchanting the audience with their creativity and charm. From mesmerizing lip-syncs to jaw-dropping costume changes, the performers added a unique and exhilarating dimension to our celebration.



We were overwhelmed by the incredible response from the aviation community and allies. The crowd that gathered in Winnipeg showcased the strength and unity of our LGBTQ+ aviation family. It was truly heart-warming to see aviation professionals and enthusiasts from all backgrounds coming together to support and celebrate inclusivity and diversity.

Guests mingled, networked, and formed lasting connections throughout the evening. Conversations flowed as attendees shared stories, experiences, and a common passion for aviation. The spirit of camaraderie and the feeling of belonging that permeated the event highlighted the importance of fostering an inclusive and supportive LGBTQ+ community in aviation.

As we reflect on the success of Winnipeg's inaugural event, we are excited about what lies ahead. We are committed to creating more opportunities for our community to come together, celebrate diversity, and promote inclusivity within our industry.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and supported our inaugural event. Your presence and enthusiasm made it a resounding success. Together, we will make a positive impact in the aviation industry and continue to soar to new heights. Let's keep flying high and making a difference!



2023 Northern Lights Aero Foundation Awards Gala

October 21 @ 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

The Elsie MacGill Award, otherwise known as “The Elsie” was established in 2009. It is an annual award that honours outstanding women in aviation and aerospace in Canada. The purpose of the award is to celebrate the achievements of women and to motivate and inspire other women to pursue opportunities in these industries.



Vancouver-born Elsie MacGill was the first Canadian woman to graduate with a bachelor's in electrical engineering in 1927, the first woman in North America to graduate with a master's in aeronautical engineering in 1929, and the first Canadian woman to practise as an engineer in 1938. She was pivotal in the production of the Hawker Hurricane in Canada during the Second World War.

Canadian Aviation Pride is excited to celebrate the 14th annual awards gala, held at the Pearson Convention Centre in Brampton, Ontario. Tickets are available for purchase via the link below.

<https://northernlightsaerofoundation.com/attend-events/elsie-awards/>

If you wish to sit with Canadian Aviation Pride, please use the follow information on your individual registration.

Seating Group ID: GALHKZWRG
Last/Family Name: SMUCK





CAP Pride Social in Calgary



Westjet marching in the Calgary Pride parade



Calgary Tower lit up for Pride



Dinner at Palomino Steakhouse

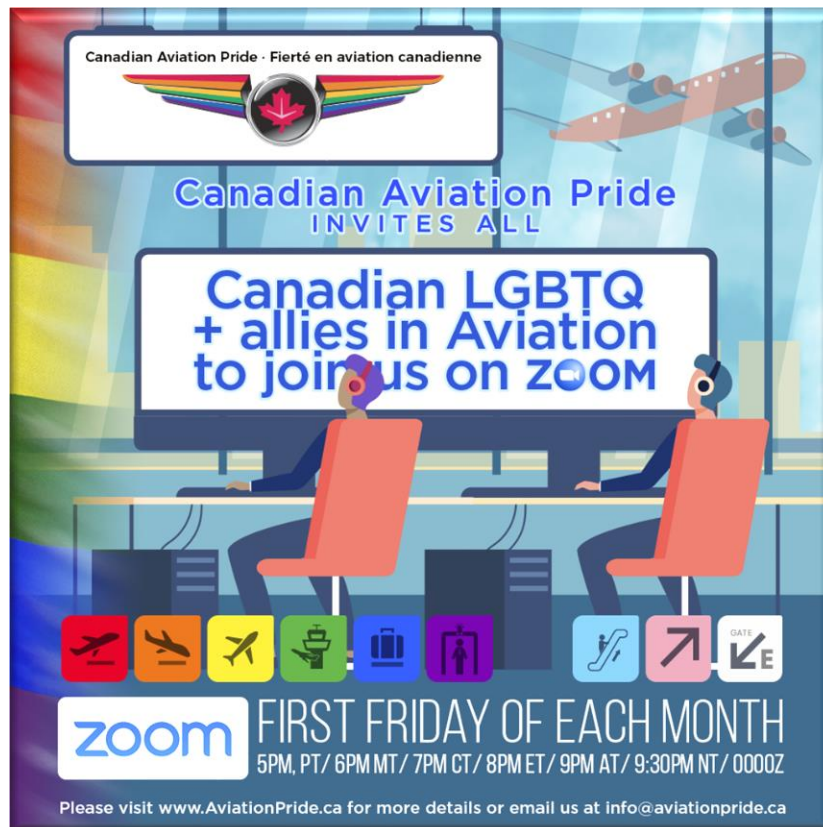


CAP 'swag' at the social



Zoom Social

Coming up this Friday 6th October at 5:00 pm PST, 8:00 pm EST is our monthly Zoom social. It's a chance to connect and reconnected with other LGBTQ+ Canadian Aviators, allies and enthusiasts from you home, work or on the road. Share all the news and rumours in the industry!



Each month we may have a theme, so check with Facebook or Instagram to find out the latest. You'll need the zoom app, a browser or you can even call in. otherwise click the link to join. We challenge you to use a virtual background with a Canadian Aviation Theme. Occasional prizes and gifts for participants. Please the Join Zoom Meeting by clicking the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84449880517...>

Meeting ID: 844 4988 0517

Passcode: 1867



Merchandise



Marchandise



Canadian Aviation Pride Merchandise



We're online!

You can now show your Pride with these great items and support Canadian Aviation Pride! Using the Fulfilment by Amazon you don't have to wait until Pride any more to get some swag.

visit our online store at:

<https://www.amazon.ca/s?me=A2NEMH43RX2WJO&marketplaceID=A2EUQ1WTGCTBG2>

On Line



En ligne

Web Page - Page Web



Canadian Aviation Pride's Web Page contains information about our organization, our objectives and who we are. Check it out, including our Resources and Newsletter pages!

<http://www.aviationpride.ca>

La page Web de Canadian Aviation Pride contient de l'information sur notre organisation, nos objectifs et qui nous sommes. Découvrez-le, y compris nos pages des ressources et des bulletins!

Social Media - Médias sociaux



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Sponsors & Partners



Commanditaires et Partenaires

CAP is Canada's own federally incorporated LGBTQ+ Aviation organization, and we appreciate the relationship with each of the following sponsors and partners who support our outreach programs. This allows us to maintain our diversity and inclusion initiatives, promotional programs and encouragement of youth entry into aviation. **Please support these progressive companies and organizations.**



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Member Profile



Profil d'un member

Would you like to be featured in our Monthly Member Profile? Everyone is welcome to submit their profile, whether you're a long time member or are new to Canadian Aviation Pride. You can answer as many or as few of the questions as you feel comfortable with, and use of your last name and employer are optional. If you'd like to share your story, [CLICK HERE](#)

Souhaitez-vous figurer dans notre profil de membre mensuel? Tout le monde est invité à soumettre son profil, que vous soyez un membre de longue date ou un nouveau membre de Canadian Aviation Pride. Vous pouvez répondre à autant de questions que vous le souhaitez, ou en utiliser le moins possible, et l'utilisation de votre nom de famille et de votre employeur est facultative. Si vous souhaitez partager votre histoire, [CLIQUEZ ICI](#)



In Closing



En clôture

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter. As we get closer to each event, we will send out further details and a reminder.

If you would like to volunteer or help lead an event, or if you have ideas you would like us to consider, please don't hesitate to let us know. info@aviationpride.ca.

Blue skies and tail winds!

CANADIAN AVIATION PRIDE
FIERTÉ EN AVIATION CANADIENNE
www.aviationpride.ca

Merci d'avoir pris le temps de lire notre bulletin. Plus proche de chaque événement, nous enverrons d'autres détails et un rappel.

Si vous voulez être un bénévole, ou aider à diriger un événement, ou si vous avez des idées à nous soumettre, n'hésitez pas à nous le faire savoir. info@aviationpride.ca.

Ciel bleu et vent arrière!



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