This year marks the BC Aviation Council’s 80th Anniversary. What better way to celebrate than to invite our partners in the Airports, Aviation and Aerospace communities to join us as we discuss the events of today and take a peek into the future?

Join us and our speakers for this two-day conference as they update us on current and emerging issues. Take a journey into the near and distant future and meet the players that represent and regulate our industry at the national table.

Take a look at these highlights:

- Experience a territorial welcome from Squamish First Nation’s Political Spokesperson;
- Welcome the Director General, Civil Aviation, Transport Canada as he discusses plans for the future;
- Join our panel of national lobbyists as they discuss current and emerging issues in the world of airports, fixed and rotary wing operations, and the aerospace industries;
- Learn more about sources of funding for airport runways, taxi ways and ramps - necessary infrastructure for the growing industry of air operators;
- Discover General Aviation’s economic contributions to airports, aerospace and communities throughout Canada;
- Interact with a panel of experts in airport and aircraft security;
- Get the latest info on NAV CANADA’s Air Navigation Modernization Program and the move to space-based air navigation and air traffic control, enhancing air navigation and airport access;
- Participate in a discussion on VFR Flow Control at YVR and solutions to avoid last year’s impacts to regional airports, air operators and their passengers;
- Learn about airport staging requirements and air traffic control during Wildfire operations.

Plus, consider the messages from keynote speaker, Dr. Mike Trethewy, as he discusses the changes underway in Canada’s national air transportation system that will impact smaller airports, air operators and aerospace.

**TUESDAY, MAY 15th**

13:30  ACE CHARTERS DONATED BUS DEPARTS SHERATON RICHMOND, ARRIVES WHISTLER 16:30

18:00  “CELEBRATING SCHOLARSHIP” RECEPTION, PORTOBELLO’S, CHATEAU WHISTLER
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16th

07:15  BUSH PILOT’S BUFFET BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING COMPLIMENTS OF HARBOUR AIR

08:10  CALL TO ORDER AND SAFETY BRIEFING

08:15  WELCOME AND CONFERENCE THEME - Heather Bell, Chair, BCAC

08:30  TERRITORY WELCOME - Deanna Lewis-Kalkalith

08:40  BC MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE (video) - Honourable Claire Trevena

08:45  BUILDING THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR TOMORROW

   - Francois Collins, Director General, Aviation Safety Oversight and Transformation

Like the times, aviation is changing. New technologies, new aircraft and market demands are re-shaping the industry both in Canada and abroad. To keep pace, Transport Canada, Civil Aviation, is undergoing internal change that affects all segments of Canada’s aviation industry. On its work plan is a review of the Canadian Aviation Regulations, monitoring risk factors and prioritizing its oversight program.

09:15  CURRENT AND EMERGING ISSUES

This panel will be of interest to airports, air operators and aerospace entities. Topics will include the current and emerging issues related to each segment. The industry associations play a major role in the shaping of regulations and policies governing aeronautics in Canada. The associations’ professionals also represent your interests in the management and resolution of current and emerging issues.

   - Mike Mueller, VP, Operations/Communications Aerospace Industry Association of Canada
   - Les Aalders, Executive Vice President Air Transport Association of Canada
   - Daniel-Robert Gooch, President Canadian Airports Council
   - Fred Jones, President & CEO Helicopter Association of Canada

10:30  HOSTED COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK COMPLIMENTS OF CONAIR

11:00  SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SMS is a stable and contributory program for CAR 705 air operators for many years. Now, airports are required to have their own Safety Management Systems. So what’s the latest status for both airport and air operators? Transport Canada will provide an overview of the SMS regulatory framework and its contributions to the safe operations of Canada’s national air transportation system. Similarly, West Coast Helicopters and Nanaimo Airport will discuss their experiences and results of their functioning SMS programs.

   - Sean Borg, A/Chief, Technical Programs, Evaluation and Coordination, Transport Canada, Civil Aviation
   - Doug Strachan, CASO/SMS Programmer, West Coast Helicopters
   - Mike Hooper, President and CEO, Nanaimo Airport

12:00  HOSTED LUNCH

13:00  KEY NOTE SPEAKER - DR. MIKE TRETHEWAY, CHIEF ECONOMIST AND CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER InterVISTAS CONSULTING INC.

“AVIATION 2030: WHAT WILL IT LOOK LIKE?”

The world’s aviation industry is on the cusp of change. Some are in progress, others will unfold over the coming decade. Dr. Mike Tretheway is one of the leading transportation economists in the world. He is here today to provide us with a picture of the events that will impact airports, air operators and aerospace entities for the next decade.
14:00  GENERAL AVIATION’S ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO AIRPORTS AND THE ECONOMY
BERNARD GERVAIS, PRESIDENT AND CEO CANADIAN OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION
The Canadian Aviation Owners and Pilots Association (COPA) has the largest membership of all aviation associations in Canada. Their members’ economic contribution to airports, AMOs, and communities at large is staggering. Bernard Gervais has some very convincing findings to underscore the significance of General Aviation to the vitality of regional airports, the aviation and aerospace industries, and local towns and cities.

14:45  HOSTED COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK

15:00  WILDFIRE AIRPORT AND AIR OPERATOR SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
The wildfires of the past year were among the most destructive the Province has experienced. To protect and save natural resources and threatened homes and towns, the region’s fleet of fixed and rotary wing aircraft were called into service. Our panelists will provide an overview of wildfire airport staging requirements and aerial operations and the safety management systems developed to ensure operations are safe and effective.
  • Michael Benson, British Columbia Forest Service
  • Jeff Berry, Conair Aviation Group

15:45  CONFERENCE DAY ONE ENDS

16:00  REGIONAL AIRPORTS MEETING

18:00  PROCESSION FROM LOBBY TO CONFERENCE DINNER AT SQUAMISH LIL’WAT CULTURAL CENTRE
TRADITIONAL WELCOME AND FEAST BLESSING – Deanna Lewis-Kalkalith
FIRST NATIONS INSPIRED CUISINE
GUEST DINNER SPEAKER – John Morris, Accountable Executive/Steve Grey, Whistler Base Manager, Blackcomb Helicopters

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

07:30  PLATED BUSH PILOT’S BREAKFAST COMPLIMENTS OF HARBOUR AIR

08:30  MC RECAP AND INTRODUCTION OF THE DAY’S AGENDA

08:45  AIRPORT AND AIR OPERATOR SECURITY
Airport and in-flight security is of interest to all. While much of the content of aviation security is confidential, our panelists will provide highlights of airport and air operator security requirements and procedures.
  • Ron Perkio - A/Regional Director, Security, Transport Canada
  • Jim Doucette, Director Service Delivery – Pacific, Canadian Air Transportation Security Agency
  • Patrick Sihota, Airport General Manager, Dawson Creek Regional Airport

09:45  AIRPORT FUNDING
Airport funding for capital projects is critical for airports and the air operators that rely on their infrastructure. Both the federal and provincial governments have programs to assist smaller, regional airports. Get the latest updates on the criterion for funding and the processes to access these funds.
  • Warren Walrond, Senior Program Policy Analyst, Transport Canada
  • Reg Faubert, Manager, Air/Marine Policy, Transportation Policy Branch, BC Government

10:30  HOSTED COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK COMPLIMENTS OF METASOFT

11:00  ANS MODERNIZATION AND SPACE BASED AIR NAVIGATION
Canada's air navigation infrastructure is aging and the need to evaluate ground based navigation aids is necessary to modernize the National Air Navigation System. The system overhaul will affect both air operators and airports. NAV CANADA's ANS Modernization Program is now underway to achieve an updated Air Navigation System. Satellite based navigation and communications have been with us for many years now; however, the next generation of space-based air navigation will be introduced in the near future. Nav Canada, along with several other partner countries, is leading the way in the adoption of new space based technologies to improve efficiencies, capacity and safety of flight operations. Rudy Kellar is with us today to provide an overview of Nav Canada's Aireon's implementation of ADS-B technology.

- Rudy Kellar, Executive Vice President, NAV CANADA

12:00  HOSTED LUNCH AND NETWORKING

13:00  THE VANCOUVER FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION
Operating procedures within the Vancouver FIR are critical to the safe and efficient use of airspace to keep airports functioning and air operators on time. NAV Canada is here to discuss details of achieving these objectives in one of the most complex airspace structures in Canada. Les Aalders and Steve Foley will join the panellists to represent the local operators that are affected by delays in the ATC system.

- John Reed, General Manager, Vancouver FIR, NAV CANADA
- Brent Bell, Manager Vancouver Tower and Nanaimo FIR, NAV CANADA
- Les Aalders, Executive Vice President, ATAC
- Steve Foley, Director, KDAir

14:30  HOSTED COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK

14:45  THE GLOBAL PILOT SHORTAGE: A CANADIAN REALITY, A BC CRISIS
Houston, we have a problem…
The critical shortage of pilots impacts every person in British Columbia. This session will highlight the widespread impacts of the critical pilot shortage; a crisis that calls upon all of us, Operators, Industry, Government at all levels, and Communities to Take Notice, Take a Stand and Take Action.

- Heather Bell, Chair, British Columbia Aviation Council
- Teara Fraser, CEO, Raven Institute

15:30  BCAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Council will conclude the day with its Annual General Meeting. Both members and non-members are encouraged to stay.

16:15  CONFERENCE ENDS

17:00  BUS TO SHERATON RICHMOND DEPARTS, ARRIVES RICHMOND 20:00