

Silver Dart

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

Canadian Aviation Pride
Fierté en aviation canadienne



May **2020** Mai

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



Greetings from Vancouver.

I hope you are all staying safe and healthy. The perspective on time has really changed. I've been staying close to home with the daily walks and probably having more routine than I would have when I work. Stringing pride necklaces and gathering supplies for a postponed pride, I'll be ready for Pride when it comes.

My heart goes out to those that have lost their job or were about to hit the job market. Sunwing, Air Transat, Porter, flight schools and others have shut down. Air Canada, Westjet, Jazz and others have radically reduced their schedules.

Working with Sunwing, the company is taking advantage of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. They will be rehiring all the laid off crews, now that the program has been put in place. I hope others are able to take advantage of the program too.

If that isn't working for you, I hope you'll be able to take advantage of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

During my career I have seen lay offs before and it's not fun. The uncertainty and economic challenges can create a lot of stress. I've seen the recessions of 1991, 2001, 2008, disasters like Chernobyl, the nuclear annihilation threat in the 80's, 9-11, SARS, 2004 Tsunami in the Maldives etc.

This too shall pass. We'll all have stories to share and I'm sure in employment interviews, they'll ask, what did you do then?

How long will this last, what happens next? No one truly knows, but it will get better.

Until a vaccine is produced we will have to take measures to accommodate social distancing for the new normal. Transport Canada is working hard to come up with new procedures to accommodate the current situation such as mandatory masks when flying.

We are fortunate the Canadian government is taking a hands-on approach to a coordinated effort to deal with the emergency and come up with a recovery plan.

It's been an unprecedented event. In January, no one could have imagined air travel coming to a screeching halt like it did and closed borders. The economy has slowed right down. The longer this lasts, the harder and longer it

will be to get the economy back to where we were. Will a recession happen? Maybe.

It's going to be tough; those that just got into the industry and went straight from school to commuter carriers may get to experience what older generations had to do: work the ramp, pump gas, groom planes, dump the lav truck and not fly. They may have to do the entry level grunt work, go fly in the bush, It may be a couple of years to get back to where we were at the end of last year.

However, with Transport Canada's new duty rules coming into effect, this event will remove the airlines concerns of not enough pilots. Pilots close to retirement may go a little early as companies look to reduce payroll and offer early retirement packages. In a couple of

years, we'll be right back to a pilot shortage. Maybe those Max8's will be flying and need pilots.

In the mean time, stay healthy, look after each other and try and keep busy.

Over the last few weeks, CAP has been having a Zoom group call on Fridays at 5 pm PT, 8pm ET. Come join us, it's not often we all have time to connect. Check Facebook for details or email us for the access code.

Since the various Pride festivals are being cancelled now, we are making alternative plans for a virtual pride this summer, so stay tuned!

Stay safe,

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



10,000 moving parts flying in close formation ... US Navy Sikorsky MH-60 Seahawk



The past couple of months have seemed quite unreal to most of us. Many generations have some major world event which in part defines them – my grandparents had World War I, my parents World War II, and now we have Covid19.

As Peter has said so well, it's a difficult time but looking ahead, it will not last forever and we are already seeing healthy signs of improvement in Canada. We at CAP are already adapting to our new reality.

For the past few weeks we have been holding virtual 'pub nights' every Friday using Zoom as the video-conferencing app, and it gives all of us the chance to talk to others in a safe setting, complete with our glass of wine or beer! Please join us – the entry code and password are posted each week on our [Facebook Group page](#), and we have all the details in this newsletter as a "**Featured Event**".

As you'll see on our Events List, many public events have been cancelled over

the summer, and so we must adapt our own schedule. We will hold a two-hour virtual pre-Pride pub night in each of Vancouver, Toronto and Montréal, and the Toronto evening will be a joint event co-hosted between CAP and the NGPA.

We are also featuring an article from Tats on how isolation is becoming productive in Toronto, including a dip into historical movies! ☺ For those of you looking for some free movies, check this out – [5 pioneering LGBTQ Canadian films](#).

And on the home front, my co-Chair, Peter, has been not only organizing and coordinating some of our events, but has been busy stringing together those coloured necklaces we sell at our booths (not to mention drilling holes in every lego piece to make those necklaces too). He is setting up an Amazon account which will allow us to sell our souvenirs directly at all times of the year. We'll keep you informed!

This month's cover photo was taken on 24th November 2008 from a Beech King Air C-90, flying back from simulator training in Wichita, Kansas to Vancouver BC. Down below are the Gulf Islands south of Vancouver. The sunlight and beauty beyond the dark clouds is, perhaps, symbolic for these days.

Best wishes,

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

Aviation Cartoon

Caricature en aviation



by [Kelly Kincaid](#)



Featured event

Événement vedette



Toronto Pre-Pride Virtual Pub Night

Save the Date:
Friday June 26, 2020
5-7pm ET

YYZ Virtual Pride
Drag shows, entertainment and prizes

Fierté en aviation canadienne
Canadian Aviation Pride

NGPA
NATIONAL GAY PILOTS
ASSOCIATION



Virtual Pride Summer Social Parade

Calling all CAP members - this is your moment to shine! With the promise of large in-person Pride events cancelled across Canada this summer, Canadian Aviation Pride is promoting the celebration of our identity as LGBTQ+ aviators online through social media. We want to see a parade of queer aviation images online, and we need your help!



Each month this summer, we will be featuring LGBTQ+ flight crew, ground crew, office staff, air traffic controllers and FSS, aircraft maintenance engineers, general aviation hobbyists and enthusiasts, and all other aviation-related folks. Send us a photo of yourself, tell us a little bit about what you currently do, when and how you got into aviation, and — if you're comfortable doing so — your identity (Allies - tell us why you choose to be an ally!) Your photo could end up in our virtual pride parade online!

Include the sentence, "I'm a proud CAP member because...."

We'll post selected photos, along with a short write up, on our Instagram and other social media accounts throughout June, July and August 2020.

During this time when people can't get out and into their usual "safe" spaces, it's especially important for vulnerable lesbian, gay, bisexual/pa sexual, trans, two-spirit, queer and others to see themselves reflected in strong, confident pictures around them. CAP wants to help make that happen, but we need your participation!

Send us your photos and a few sentences to chair@aviationpride.ca by May 15, to be considered for our virtual summer pride social parade.

Include "**CAP Virtual Pride submission**" in the subject line, so we don't miss your email.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Featured event

Événement vedette



TGIF Weekly Virtual Pub Night



Pride Friday Zoom virtual social
Every week on Friday, until May
29, 2020

5pm PDT
6pm MDT
7pm CDT
8pm EDT
9pm ADT
9:30pm NDT

An informal online virtual
gathering of Canadian LGBTQ+
& Allies in Aviation. Grab a glass
of wine and come online.

You'll need to download the Zoom app from www.Zoom.us Topic: Canadian Aviation

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 233 664 493

Password: CAP

OR ...

One tap mobile

+16473744685,,233664493# Canada

+16475580588,,233664493# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Meeting ID: 233 664 493

Password: 236482

Find your local number:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9605580588>



Flight Plan 2020

Plan de vol 2020



The COVID-19 pandemic has caused numerous cancellations and postponements of public festivals this summer, and since these affect CAP's own events, we have reflected all known changes in our events list.

Our Pre-Pride pub nights this year will be held as virtual events on Zoom, like our successful TGIF Zoom get-togethers which started in April. Go to zoom.us and at the top right "Join a Meeting", or "Resources/Download Zoom Client". We will publish the meeting code and password in our next newsletter and on our Facebook Group page.

Vancouver

Wednesday 1st July

Friday 31st July

Sunday 2nd August

7th – 9th August

December

Canada Day fireworks party - CANCELLED

Pre-Pride Virtual Pub night, 5:00 – 7:00 pm on Zoom

Vancouver Pride Booth - CANCELLED

Abbotsford Airshow – [possible postponement or cancellation](#)

Year end party

Toronto

26th – 28th June

Friday 26th June

August

Wednesday 2nd September

Saturday 12th September

Saturday 19th September

November

December

Toronto Pride Booth - CANCELLED

Pre-Pride Virtual Pub night, 5:00 – 7:00 pm on Zoom

WWFC Fun Day – Kitchener Booth - CANCELLED

Brantford Airshow

Outdoor CAP get-together - TBA

Girls Can Fly – Kitchener Booth

LGBTQ+ Aviation Youth Mentoring Event

Year end party

Montréal

Friday 14th August

Saturday 15th August

December

Pre-Fierté-Pride Virtual Pub night, 5:00 – 7:00 pm on Zoom

Montréal Pride Booth - CANCELLED

Year end party

Ottawa

23rd – 30th August

Ottawa Pride Booth - CANCELLED

External Organizations Organisations externes

20th – 26th July

17th – 20th September

Saturday 26th September

EAA AirVenture – Oshkosh WI – [no decision yet on cancellation](#)

NGPA Cape Cod Classic - Provincetown, MA

Northern Lights Award Gala



On average, a Panda feeds for approximately 12 hours per day. This is the same as an adult at home under quarantine, which is why we call it a "Pandemic"

Hey there, how is your self-isolation going? Are you fed up with the whole thing yet? In a cruel twist of fate, the COVID-19 pandemic brought us just the right mix of ingredients to seriously dampen anyone's mood: plenty to worry about and plenty of time to mull over our worries now that our industry is largely on hold and we are all shut in our homes.

At least we are not alone: the whole world just got handed a giant heap of lemons, and it's up to you to figure out how to make the most palatable lemonade out of your bunch! While frustrating, this forced pause can give us opportunities to do things that we've never had time for in the past

and might not have time for in the future, once the industry begins to pick up steam again!

As a CAP member and one of the many temporarily-laid-off-due-to-COVID-19 pilots, I wanted to share how this pandemic is impacting my family and what we are doing to take care of our mind, body, and soul.

MIND

Fortunately, there has never been a better time to learn something new: most of us have plenty of time to spare, and there are a lot of online courses offered for cheap or free, especially in the light of the pandemic. Even with the brunt of the household chores falling to me, as my partner is working 10-12 hour days from home, I find myself able to regularly practice my French and my guitar playing ([Fender Play is currently offering three months of free guitar instruction.](#))

I also finally have the time to really dive into that AOM, so when I am eventually called back to work, I should be able to not only fly the mighty Q400 but also take it apart and put it back together again (when the AMEs are not looking, tee hee!)

BODY

Working out during the pandemic can be a little trickier, especially if you are used to relying on the gym to get your workout fix in. Luckily, many gyms are offering online training programs that can be followed at home with minimal space and equipment. We are also fortunate in Canada in that we are allowed to go outside for physical exercise, so walking, jogging, biking, and rollerblading are all great for getting out and moving, especially now that the weather is finally getting warmer. Another way to take care of your body during this pandemic is by nourishing it properly. Home-cooked meals for the win... just don't do too much stress-baking!

SOUL

Last but not least, it is important to connect with our friends, families and communities, to avoid the feeling of isolation and loneliness that social distances measures might bring. Luckily, the internet affords us previously unimaginable opportunities to connect to others from home. Everyone now knows what Zoom is! In addition to reaching out to friends and family, take advantage of the many online events and groups that have popped up to replace offline gatherings. I personally am extremely fortunate to have the support of my colleagues on our airline's Facebook group. A few of us even have a book club going! And of course CAP has been hosting weekly [Friday night "pub" sessions on Zoom](#) using the log-in and password given in our *Featured Event* article in this newsletter - you are all welcome to drop by!

Those of us with partners and families might, ironically, experience too much interaction. As aviation workers, many of us are used to being away from home for long stretches of time. Our partners, kids and roommates may not travel quite so much, but most of them are definitely used to being at work or school during the day.

In my family, we find the four of us plus the dog jammed into a small two-bedroom apartment, with the added complication being that my partner is working from home. While it isn't always easy in such a small place, we found that carving out personal space for everyone drastically improves everyone's mood, so we can come together to connect and have fun rather than fight and bicker.

So that's what I'm doing for COVID-19. I hope you are finding something meaningful and even fun to do with your time in isolation! As for me, I am off to watch *Airplane!* with the wife and kids! Can you believe they've never seen it? Clearly that's a gap that urgently requires filling!

Author: Tatiana Kachira



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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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[FB Group](#)



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[Twitter](#)

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We greatly appreciate the contributions from each of the following sponsors and partners who are supporting our outreach programs. Their support allows us to maintain our diversity and inclusion initiatives, our encouragement of youth entry into aviation and our promotional programs.

Canadian Aviation Pride is Canada's own federally incorporated LGBTQ+ Aviation organization, and encourages and assists both individuals and industry in reaching their inclusion goals. **Please support these progressive companies and organizations.**



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Member Profile

Profil du membre



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. Email us at 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. Envoyez-nous un courriel à info@aviationpride.ca.

Ciel bleu et vent arrière!



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