



Royal Canadian Air Force Association

RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing

Newsletter – 2nd Quarter 2020

Vol 4 Edition 2



1. RCAF Mission Statement:

The Royal Canadian Air Force Association is a national aerospace and community service organization that commemorates the noble achievements of the men and women who have served as members of Canada's air forces since its inception; advocates for a proficient and well equipped air force; and, supports the Royal Canadian Air Cadet programme.

2. Last Flight:



Dr. Brian Westgarth-Taylor, D.V.M Passed away on January 10th, 2020 in his 74th year.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Brian Westgarth-Taylor, D.V.M. on January 10th, 2020. He was a long time members of 441 (Huron) Wing having joined in 1967. He is lovingly remembered by his mother, Lolly Westgarth-Taylor, who has also been a member of our Wing for 45 years as well as his wife Judy, and three sons, Jeff, Colin, and Peter and their families. A Celebration of Life will take place in the spring.

3. COVID 19 and its Impact of Wing Activities:

Who could have seen the significant change that has taken place in our normal routines and planned activities as a result of the COVID 19 virus. The duration of the impact is anybody's guess at this time. From what I have seen, the vast majority of Canadians are following the social distancing guidelines, so hopefully, public events will start to take place again. Below is the current status of planned RCAF Assoc event.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Status</u>
21 Mar	RCAF Assoc Ontario Gp Central Region Meeting in Mount Hope	Cancelled
1 Apr	16 Wing Mixed Mess Dinner	Cancelled
14 Apr	Next Wing meeting at the Legion – Speaker Art Cameron	Cancelled
24 Apr	Charter and Awards Banquet – Speaker HCol Armstrong-Lehman	Cancelled
02 May	Presentation of NORAD Trophy to Milan Kroup at Edenvale	Delayed to June or July
8 May	VE Day 75th Anniversary – Military Heritage Park Ceremony and Reception Afterward	Still on – TBC
12 May	Wing meeting at the Legion – Speaker Capt Methot	Still on – TBC
15-17 May	Ontario Group AGM in Cornwall	Cancelled

09 June	Joep Diening will speak about the 75th anniversary of the Liberation of Holland.	Still on – TBC
13-14 June	Borden Armed Forces Day and Air Show – https://bordenairshow.ca/	Still on – TBC
08 Sept	Guest speaker - MPP Andrea Khanjin	Still on – TBC
14 Sept	Battle of Britain Flag Raising – Barrie City Hall	Still on – TBC

4. Wing Fund Raising Activities:

The Wing would like to thank Les Ball and Michael O’Shea for their efforts to raise funds for the Wing, so that it can carry out its mandate of supporting the two Royal Canadian Air Cadet Sqns. Les set up the “**\$ 100 Month Draw**” for 2020. All 300 tickets were sold, thanks to the efforts of many of our Wing members. The winners of the first three draws in 2020 are:

- January – Donald Levedag;
- February – Allister ‘Mac’ MacDonald; and
- March – Dave Wismer.

For the second fund raiser, Michael O’Shea liaised with the Kiwanis Club of Barrie to piggy-back on their “Dinner for Two Anywhere in the World” tickets. The prize of a \$5,000 travel voucher and \$2,500 to cover hotel, ground transport and a very decadent meal was won by Brian Skalitzk of Port Severn Ontario, a Special Olympics Volunteer. Although it was agreed that half of the money raised from the tickets sold by 441 Wing members will be donated back to the Wing by Kiwanis, they increased the amount that they gave us to \$1,000 from the \$865 that we would have received from ticket sales. Thank you Kiwanis.

5. Wing Presentations:

At our 14 January, 2020 meeting Past-President Bob Coxon inducted Maureen Kennedy as a new member to our Wing. Chair Bill Sergeant presented Major Colleen Halpin with her 5-years RCAF Association Membership Pin. As well, Michaela Jokobi was recognized for rejoining 441 (Huron) Wing after an absence of 3 years and presented with a letter from the National Executive Council welcoming her back to the Association.



Maureen Kennedy



Major Colleen Halpin



Michaela Jacobi

Due to the cancellation of the Honours and Awards Banquet, presentations of the Wing Awards for Member of the Year, Awards of Merit and Certificates of Appreciation are anticipated to be made at the 11th May General Meeting.

6. VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebration – 8 May 2020:

A ceremony is being planned to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. It will take place at the Military Heritage Park, beside the South Shore Centre (SSC); commencing at 1800 hours. Following the ceremony, there will be a reception in the SSC. 441 Wing will receive eight (8) VIP tickets for distribution to its members. It was decided by the Directors that the tickets would be given to the four award winners and the members who have been with the Wing the longest. The tickets grant entry to member and their spouse / guest to attend the VIP reception. The Skyliners Band will be performing, and food and refreshments will be provided. Cost to purchase a VIP ticket is \$75.00. All Second World War Vets in Barrie and surrounding area are eligible to receive a complimentary VIP ticket as well.

7. RCAF 96th Anniversary Pins:

The Boeing CC-707 aircraft pins commemorating the 96th anniversary of the RCAF have been ordered. Delivery should be by mid-April.

8. Wing Participation in “Canadian Armed Forces Day”:

CFB Borden is planning to hold its Armed Forces Day and Air Show from the 13th to 14th of June. At the last Armed Forces Day, some 441 Wing members and some Edenvale Classic Aircraft Foundation (ECAAF) members volunteered at the Air Annex of the CFB Borden Military museum to promote the RCAF and the RCAF Assoc. If you wish to participate in this activity, please contact Norm Marion. He is planning to volunteer at the Annex this year and has volunteered to co-ordinate the scheduling of other Wing members who volunteer.

9. 441 Wing Executive Elections:

Our Wing Elections are up-coming on 12 May 2020. As nominations for Executive/Directors normally take place at the April General Meeting it would give us a heads-up to see what a member's intentions are for the coming fiscal year by submitting [this acceptance form](#). The Elections normally take place at the May General Meeting with the new Executive/Directors being installed at the June General Meeting. Also bear in mind nominations can be made from the floor with the nominated person either present or this form of acceptance signed by the nominee and submitted to an attending member for presentation at the nomination meeting. As per Art.13-b of our By-Laws any Regular Member who has served as a Director for one full year is eligible to stand for election to the offices of President, 1st Vice-President or 2nd Vice-President. The offices of Treasurer and Secretary are normally filled by members who feel qualified and are willing to fill the post. If you would like to 'self nominate' to serve on the Wing's Board of Directors or be one of the executive members, please fill out the form at [THIS LINK](#) and send it to Andy Galton.

10. 102 RCAC (Silver Fox) Squadron Update: Submitted by WO1 Préfontaine

This worldwide Pandemic is something that no one expected and that nobody planned for. Most of 102 squadrons plans that were in place for this time have been cancelled and postponed but the staff and senior team have been working hard to ensure that we keep cadets interested in our squadron, as well as to give them an escape and normality from all of the stress that comes with self isolation and the Corona Virus.

Our squadron has been doing wellness checks with cadets in the form of a phone tree call out and we plan to continue to do these phone calls weekly. These calls allow us to check in with cadets, to see how they are doing, to see if they are in self isolation, as well as to just give them a friendly conversation over the phone. We also give cadets a lot of information about competitions and training during these phone calls.

To keep cadets engaged the senior team has been working hard on preparing squadron wide competitions. The first competition that we have started is a coin designing competition to design 102 Squadron's coin. In the future we plan to do a boot polishing competition, a squadron T shirt competition, as well as online scavenger hunts for aviation facts and much more. As a squadron we want to give cadets the sense of normality and to do this we have decided to start an online format for Monday night training and conversations.

At our last staff meeting we tried the online format Zoom which a lot of the colleges and universities are using for their online classes. It is meant for online meetings and it is perfect for what we need. We have 5 servers so that level 1-4 can be in a class with their own level and instructors. Zoom allows the cadets to see familiar faces, learn more about aviation, leadership, and really anything cadet related. Our fifth server is for seniors and staff to continue planning for anything upcoming. Our goal with this is to keep a routine and to keep cadets engaged in the program, but as well as to give them something to do and allow them to see their friends.

Cadets Canada has released some more information for cadets, all training that requires a physical presence has been cancelled until at least April 30. We are planning to do our online format until we get back. We are still waiting to hear more information regarding our Europe trip and end of the year training like our Annual Review. We are still going to plan for our Annual until we know more. Due to the fact that so much is changing so fast we are going to continue planning more as we hear more information, as well as we are going to do the best that we can to keep engagement and to keep everyone mentally happier through this tough time.

11. Canada's Follow-On Fighter Acquisition: Opinion piece by John Venable

John "JV" Venable, a 25-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force is a senior research fellow for defense policy at Heritage.

The F-35 Lightning II is now the world's most dominant multi-role fighter. Its detection range, geolocation, threat identification, and system response capabilities allow the jet to detect, find, precisely fix, and destroy the world's most advanced threats, including every element within the layered Russian SA-20 surface-to-air missile (SAM) system. While it still has several rough edges, the F-35 has crossed several thresholds that make it the most lethal and cost-effective fighter in or nearing production within the NATO Alliance. The U.S. Air Force should forgo plans to buy the F-15EX and accelerate the acquisition of the F-35A.

12. Contact Information:

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13. RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing Board of Directors 2019-2020:

POSITION	NAME	PORTFOLIO(S)
Chairman	Bill Sergeant	Newsletter
Deputy Chair	Wally Capsticks	Special Events
Past President	Bob Coxon	Initiation of New Members
Treasurer	Andrea Sloan	Membership Chair / 16 Wing Liaison O
Secretary	Andrew Galton	Honours and Awards Chair
Director	Art Cameron	RCAF Ad Astral BoD Member
Director	Murray Conley	Director of Ceremonies
Director	Joep Dening	Wing Web Master
Director	Michael O'Shea	Deputy Treas/Special Projects
Director	Norm Marion	Public Relations / FaceBook
Director	Gerry Pepler	RCAF Ad Astral Board Chair
Member	Jane Coxon	Special Events / Scout Group Liaison
Member	Jim Purchase	Sick and Visiting
Member	Randy Rice	Veterans Groups Liaison
Member	Sherry Tobin-Green	RCACS Liaison for 102 Silver Fox Sqn and 714 Wasaga Beach Sqn
Wing Padre	Rev Doug Crocker	Wing Padre