Where Vision Takes Flight

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MANITOBA AEROSPACE





CALLING FOR NOMINATIONS

If you know an individual, team, or organization, whether on the shop floor, administration or in management that has gone beyond the call of duty over the past year and deserve recognition, now is the time to nominate them for this year's awards.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION September 26, 2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Wendell Wiebe

In collaboration with the Board of Directors, Manitoba Aerospace continue to work on the next five-year strategic plan: with a focus on Economic Growth, Adoption of innovative Technology, Enhancements of our Workforce Development strategies, Promotion of the local clusters capabilities and Advocate to governments on the values of our industry.

We have added New Board members who bring needed expertise to the Board. Those include Alberto Valasco-Acosta (Economic Development Winnipeg); Andrea Legary (Recoup Group), Heather Berthelette (Tribal Councils Investment Group of Manitoba Ltd.) Janfizza Bukari (RRC Polytech), and Philip Fergusion (University of Manitoba). Each have shared their expertise to help develop strategies to grow the local aerospace industry.

Additionally, we had some changes with company representatives. Scott Frissell joined the Board of Directors as Boeing's representative; and Scott McAllister joined the Board of Directors as Babcock's representative. Patrick Castonguay stays on the Board of Directors as PAL Aerospace's representative. The Board of Directors has also completed a thorough review of the By-Laws and made some updates to reflect current practices. A revied copy will be circulated prior to the AGM on June 26th.

For economic growth, we hosted our first Federal Government Procurement Workshop and B2B event in June 2024. We had Babcock, General Dynamics Land Systems, Boeing and Magellan speak about their procurement opportunities. Richard Klassen from Enduron, shared some lessons learned in working from being a supplier to GDLS. This is a great opportunity for our local companies to hear about procurement opportunities and not have to incur travel and living cost.

Manitoba Aerospace facilitated a Networking Breakfast with key members of the Future Aircrew Training (FAcT) Program in October (2024). SkyAlyne, KF Aero, CAE and EllisDon presented on their role in the FAcT Program. In March (2025), we hosted PAL Aerospace, another significant partner in the FAcT Program and a newer member of the association. Each provided an overview of their role in the contract and then shared their procurement requirements over the next 25 years.

Manitoba Aerospace has been working with the Manitoba Metis Federation to explore opportunities to introduce companies interested in exploring the aerospace and defence sector. Representatives from the MMF participated in the initial Procurement Workshop (June) and will join Manitoba Aerospace at several trade shows in 2025-26.

Under Innovation & Technology, we began discussions to explore the development of an industry wide technology roadmap. This will compliment our Aerospace Technology Adoption Program, a program to help SMEs explore advanced digital technology best suited to grow their business. We have hosted five (5) meetings with Boeing, Magellan and StandardAero. Magellan and StandardAero have each identified a project to explore automated visual inspection of a complex part. Each have begun to explore the technologies that will digitally inspect the part and then the technology that will analyse the data points and determine if the part is acceptable.

Under Workforce development, Manitoba Aerospace facilitated the gathering of all the partners to ensure a successful Women in Aerospace 2.0 and then launched Women in Aerospace 3.0 in March (2025). Plans are in the works to facilitate an Indigenous Women in Aerospace in September (2025).

We hosted our 17th AAiM Day (May 2025) to promote career opportunities within the aerospace & aviation industry to grade six students, teacher and chaperone. We are very grateful for all the volunteers that give up their day to make this a memorable day for the students.

In September (2024), we hosted a networking Breakfast profiling the Student Teams from the University of Manitoba. Each team shared what they built and how they performed at their respective competitions. This was followed by short briefings by various schools profiling their coop programs.

In November (2024) we hired Deb Tabor as our Director of Workforce Development. Deb brings a wealth of experience. She has incorporated a number of new initiatives which we will communicate once our funding has been approved. After 25 years of service to Manitoba Aerospace, Barb Bowen retired at the end of December. We are grateful for her dedication and commitment to our industry.

Under Promotion of our local cluster, we continue to work with Economic Development Winnipeg, YES Winnipeg, Global Affairs Canada, Investment & Trade and the World Trade Centre to explore ways to better market the capabilities in Manitoba on the world stage. We recently established a formal partnership with the World Trade Centre to expand our collaboration.

In January (2025), Manitoba Aerospace applied to join the Global Aerospace Cluster Partnership. This organization represent Aerospace clusters from around the world. They meet virtually every quarter and then in-person at the international airshow. Manitoba Aerospace will be officially accepted into the partnership at the Paris Airshow (June 2025).

Manitoba Aerospace has participated in several Trade Shows over the past year: Outlook Days (April), Aero Montreal's Innovation Forum (May), CANSEC (May); Farnborough (July), Aerospace, Defense and Security Expo (Aug); DEFSEC (Oct), AIAC's Summit (Nov); OAC's Aerospace Unplugged (Dec)); Western Innovation Forum - Virtual (March) and the Saskatchewan Aerospace and Defense Forum (March). At each of these events I have promoted the capability of Manitoba Companies as well as encouraged primes to participate in our Federal Government Procurement Workshop so that local Manitoba Companies can hear their respective procurement requirements.

Over the past year Manitoba Aerospace has been working with YES! Winnipeg and the Marketing & Communications Committee to enhance our marketing efforts at the events attended.

The Marketing and Communications Committee organized AAiM Day (May 2024), the Golf Tournament (Aug 2024), and the All-Star Awards Dinner (Nov 2024). All three events we very successful. \$14,000 was forwarded to the Student Endowment Fund at RRC Polytech. I also need to acknowledge the staff of Manitoba Aerospace. We are a good team that works well together. We have achieved a lot this past year, it was due to the collaborative efforts of the entire team.

In closing, I hope the AGM Report provides you with a snapshot of what Manitoba Aerospace achieved this past year. 2025-2026 promises to be another exciting and remarkable year for Manitoba Aerospace and our member companies and I encourage you to get involved in the events we have planned for the next 12 months.



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Manitoba Aerospace is a membership based, not-for-profit organization representing aerospace, aviation and defence companies and stakeholders driving the sustainable worldwide business growth of Manitoba sectors through collaboration, innovation and supply chain development.

Land Acknowledgement

Manitoba is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinabek, Inninewak, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene peoples and is the homeland of the Red River Métis.

Manitoba Aerospace acknowledges, respects and has the honour of working on lands in Treaty 1 Territory. It is important to recognize that the land on which we work and live is the traditional and ancestral lands of First Nations peoples who, prior to contact with Europeans, created and maintained important trade routes, belonged to the land and respected non-human species, and thrived in a culture that was celebrated through language, ceremony, tradition and a sustainable economy. Just as important is the acknowledgement that Treaty 1 Territory is also the homeland of the Red River Métis. A nation of people of mixed Indigenous and European ancestry with its own distinct culture, language, and history. We also acknowledge that Winnipeg's drinking water is sourced from Shoal Lake which is part of the traditional lands of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation.

The members of Manitoba Aerospace are dedicated to moving forward, recognizing, and reconciling the past, in a respectful way that honours individuals, communities and Nations.

Wendell Wiebe, M.Ed. B.A., CEO

Wendell is the Chief Executive Officer of Manitoba Aerospace, a position he has held since April 2016, when Manitoba Aerospace Human Resources Council (MAHRC) merged with Manitoba Aerospace Association (MAA). Before the merger, Wendell was the Executive Director of MAHRC, a position he had held since 2009. Prior to joining MAHRC, he was employed by Magellan Aerospace Winnipeg for 17 years. In his initial position as the Manager of Staff Development and then as the Director of Human Resources, Wendell was Magellan Aerospace's representative on the MAHRC Executive and from 1999 to 2004, he served as the Chair. Wiebe has been involved in adult education for over 30 years and holds a Masters of Education from the University of Manitoba. A highlight of his career was being asked to contribute to a book about adult literacy. The focus of his chapter was outlining the business case for the establishment of a workplace literacy program. The book, titled Adult Literacy Now, was published in 2000. On August 13, 2021, Wendell was appointed as the Honorary Colonel the for RCAF W/C William G. Barker VC Aerospace College, a position he still holds today.

Deb Tabor, Director of Workforce Development

Deb Tabor is a seasoned workforce development leader with over 20 years of experience driving transformative talent strategies across sectors. As the Director of Workforce Development at Manitoba Aerospace, Deb is at the forefront of building a future-focused talent ecosystem that bridges education, industry, and innovation. Her career spans global human resources, recruitment and retention, career coaching, program design, and crosssector workforce initiatives.

Known for her collaborative leadership, Deb brings together industry leaders, educators, and government partners to address critical skills gaps while fostering long-term growth. Her passion for career development and empowering individuals defines her approach, resulting in innovative, inclusive pathways that connect people to meaningful opportunities. Under her guidance, Manitoba Aerospace is not only responding to today's workforce needs but actively shaping a resilient, competitive future for the industry.

Sahar Boctor, BCom (Honours), Director of Finance

Sahar started with Manitoba Aerospace in August of 2010. She is responsible for the financial management at Manitoba Aerospace. Sahar is from Egypt and immigrated to Canada with her family in May of 2006. Before coming to Canada, Sahar worked at the Ministry of Finance in Cairo as an internal auditor from 1994 to 2006. Before 1994, Sahar worked as an accountant in two private companies in Egypt. She also volunteered and served as treasury chair of the Superintendent's Budget Taskforce for El Salam Coptic Association between August 1989 and August 1992. Sahar graduated from the Faculty of Commerce at Ain Shams University in Egypt where she majored in accounting.

Heidi Abraham, Executive Assistant

Heidi joined Manitoba Aerospace in March 2014 as the Executive Assistant, with experience in both administration and accounting. Heidi provides administrative support to the CEO, the Director of Finance and the Director of Special Programs. She is responsible for updating the Manitoba Aerospace website as well as creating and distributing the Upcoming Events' weekly email. Before joining Manitoba Aerospace, Heidi worked as an Operational/GL Accountant at Financial View. Prior to that, Heidi was employed at Alico (now MetLife) and was promoted several times , starting as a Department Secretary and ending as a Life Insurance Underwriter. Heidi completed her "Foundation Studies in Accounting" from the CGA of Manitoba. In addition, Heidi has several certificates from the Life Office Management Association including a certificate in "Foundations of Customer Service".

Raquel Coto Gonzalez, *BA*, *Social Media and Events Coordinator* Raquel joined Manitoba Aerospace in April 2022 and is responsible for updating social media platforms and working on career awareness events. Having recently graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Arts, Raquel is passionate about connecting the public with Manitoba Aerospace's message of developing a world-class aerospace industry and local workforce through partnerships with Manitoba's educational Institutions and other key stakeholders. Raquel's favorite part of her job is being able to be creative while showcasing all the amazing opportunities the local aerospace industry has to offer.

Aerospace Technology Adoption Program (ATAP)

ATAP seeks to drive innovation and enhance technology adoption in the local aerospace and aviation sectors. Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) face challenges to adopt new microelectromechanical systems (MEMS). These challenges include minimal research and development investment and low adoption rates by larger companies. The ATAP response aims to address these issues by supporting projects with high growth potential, assisting in design for manufacturability, and helping SMEs integrate MEMS capabilities. By bridging the digital knowledge gap and fostering collaboration between academia, large corporations, and SMEs, ATAP seeks to drive innovation and enhance technology adoption in the aerospace and aviation sectors.

Key Milestones:

- **Industry Engagement:** Between October 2024 and March 2025, we hosted 5 Steering Committee meetings with Boeing, Magellan and StandardAero. Magellan and StandardAero have identified Automated Visual Inspection as their respective projects. We also hosted a session for SME's and three member companies are considering participating in the next group.
- **Industry 4.0 Workshop:** March 2025, we hosted our second two-day workshop where 11 participants delved into the intricacies of the nine transformative technologies driving Industry 4.0.
- **Curriculum Tailoring:** Partnering with RRC Polytech, we continue to develop curriculum that supports the 9 key technologies profiled in Industry 4.0.

Supporting Our Members:

As we embrace Industry 4.0's potential, we stand ready to guide and resource our member companies.

We're paving the way for boundless innovation and advancement in the aerospace industry.

For more information, reach out to Wendell Wiebe at *wiebe@mbaerospace.ca*.





PRE-REQUISITES

 Companies seeking to increase productivity and profitability by integrating digital technologies and processes into their operations.

COURSE LENGTH & TIME

• Two days of instructional time plus pre-course reading.

MODULES



CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS

DIGITAL MANUFACTURING Digital Transformation Workshop

OVERVIEW

Canadian manufacturers can maximize their productivity and profitability if they understand where digital technologies and processes can be effectively utilized within their operations. Digital technologies and processes can benefit all manufacturing sectors and can be cost-effectively integrated with current operations, processes and equipment. Digitalization of production and office processes is a logical extension of LEAN. This course provides manufacturers at all organization levels with a fundamental understanding of the 9-digital technologies and processes sufficient to plan and begin the digital transformation journey. Concepts are also introduced that will allow you to begin to define how best to move forward on the digitalization journey.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To become familiar with the 9 digital manufacturing technologies and to identify the linkages between LEAN and digital manufacturing.
- To develop a basic understanding of the business case/necessity, for digital transformation.
- To provide a number of user-case examples that can be used to link digital technologies and processes to manufacturing operations.
- To enable the development and definition of next steps, how to identify the digital value proposition, prioritize and plan a digital transformation.

COST (Includes materials, lunch and reference materials)

\$525.00 for **one** attendee | **\$892.50** for **two** attendees | **\$1260.00** for **three** attendees (includes GST)

DATE, TIME, and LOCATION

March 10-11, 2025 | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm (both days)

Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters | 200-1479 Buffalo Pl. Winnipeg, MB R3T 1L7

For more information, contact Heidi Abraham at <u>habraham@mbaerospace.ca</u>

To register, please click here

PROMOTION, BRANDING & ADVOCACY

Marketing and Communications Committee

The committee is comprised of professionals from the aerospace industry, as well as staff from Manitoba Aerospace. The current members of the Committee are: Chair, Amanda Extence- Robinson, StandardAero; April Scrapneck, StandardAero; Karleigh Danowski, Magellan Aerospace, Winnipeg; Barb Gmitrowski, Boeing Canada Winnipeg; Lauren Badiou, Southport; Wendell Wiebe, Raquel Coto Gonzalez, and Heidi Abraham, Manitoba Aerospace.

The mandate of the Marketing and Communications Committee is to support Manitoba Aerospace as it delivers its mission of promoting the growth of the aerospace industry in Manitoba through business development activities and workforce development initiatives.

Manitoba Aerospace Golf Tournament

The 2024 Manitoba Aerospace Annual Golf Tournament was held on August 21st, 2024 at the Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club where we were provided with a beautiful venue, delicious food, and excellent service.

The proceeds from the annual Golf Tournament support the Manitoba Aerospace student endowment fund. For over 15 years, the Manitoba Aerospace Annual Golf Tournament and the All-Stars-Awards Dinner have raised over \$400,000 for the endowment fund and have provided awards to over 150 students.

Thank you to our generous Sponsors!!

- Gold Level: Magellan Aerospace, Winnipeg, StandardAero
- Silver Level: Babcock, Hub International
- Cart Sponsor:
 Canadian Propeller
- Driving Range Sponsor: Del Halliday
- Hole Sponsors: CCAA (Canadian Council of Aviation & Aerospace) Yes! Winnipeg Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada NETES (Neeginan Education, Training and Employment Services, Inc.)

Congratulations to the following:

- Putting Contest:
 1st- Keri Zegher
- Long Drive: Mens – Kyle Lenton Ladies – Karley Middleton
- Closest To The Hole: Mens- Brent Ostermann Ladies- Michele Brown

Teams with the lowest score:

- 1st: Martin Petrak, Derek VanDenDriessche, William Bumstead
- 2nd: Jim Ross, David Ross, Curtis Gibson, George Gibson
- 3rd: Derek Kochenash, Brad Peters, Christian Robin, Peter Sklepowich



Save the date

August 20, 2025

Larters at St. Andrews Golf & Country Club

Lunch at 11:15AM • 12:00PM Shotgun Start • 18 Holes Texas Scramble Dinner and Awards ceremony



The Manitoba Aerospace All-Stars Awards Gala



The Manitoba Aerospace All-Stars Awards Gala was held on November 28th, 2024, at the Victoria Inn, Winnipeg. The event brought together industry leaders, professionals, and enthusiasts to celebrate excellence in our local aerospace community. It was a night of recognition, inspiration, and camaraderie.

As with the annual Golf Tournament, the proceeds from the All-Stars Award Gala support the Manitoba Aerospace student endowment fund.

We honoured the following recipients in three categories:

- Manitoba Aerospace Award of Excellence for Leadership
 17 Wing Winnipeg | RCAF Centennial
- Manitoba Aerospace Award of Excellence for Industry/Government Collaboration StandardAero | Women Transitioning to Careers in Aerospace 2.0
- Manitoba Aerospace Award of Excellence for Education
 Randy Herrmann and Peter Jordan | ReNew World Ideas: Indigenous
 Ingenuity in the 21st Century

Manitoba Aerospace was also proud to partner with RRC Polytech to present one of RRC Polytech's highest honours, the Distinguished Graduate Award to Ron Drepaul, General Manager of Magellan Aerospace, Winnipeg. Ron is one of 41 outstanding graduates featured in the College's Polytechnic Proud campaign in 2024.

Special thanks to the Honourable Wab Kinew, Premier of Manitoba, and the Honourable Jamie Moses, Minister of Business, Mining, Trade and Job Creation, for joining us and providing greetings on behalf of the province.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended the gala and/or volunteered their time to make it a remarkable event. Your commitment to our local aerospace industry is invaluable.

Thank you to our generous Sponsors!

Partner: RRC Polytech Gold: Magellan Aerospace, Winnipeg, StandardAero Silver: Southport Aerospace Bronze: MITT (Manitoba Institute of Trades & Technology), Fast Air, Winnipeg Airports Authority

The 2025 Manitoba Aerospace All-Stars Awards Gala will be held on November 20th, 2025,

Please be sure to get your nominations in by September 26, 2025.



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AAiM Day 2025

Since 2007, Manitoba Aerospace has been collaborating with partners to organize AAiM Day— an annual event that sparks curiosity, inspires dreams, and propels young minds into the thrilling world of aviation and aerospace. Every May, this dynamic gathering brings together over 700 students, educators, and industry professionals as volunteers, to explore hands-on activities that soar beyond the classroom.

Hosted at RRC Polytech's Stevenson Campus, students and their teachers explored five key areas of the industry: Repair/Overhaul, Manufacturing/Composites, Space, Flight, and Rocketry.

But AAiM Day isn't just about aerospace—it's about having fun with science. We want students, teachers, and parents to glimpse the boundless opportunities in Manitoba's thriving aerospace and aviation sectors. It's a chance to envision the great careers that can take flight right here at home.

Huge thanks to our amazing industry partners, volunteers, and sponsors for helping us inspire the next generation of innovators.





Honouring the Retirement of Barb Bowen, Director of Special Programs



This year, Manitoba Aerospace bids a fond farewell to Barb, our long-serving Director of Special Programs, who retired after 25 years of dedicated service. Barb's tenure with the organization began in June 1999, and over the decades, her impact has been nothing short of extraordinary.

Barb's leadership shaped many of the programs and partnerships that have become the backbone of our organization. She spearheaded initiatives like AAiM Day and Girls in Aviation Day, inspiring countless young people—especially those from underrepresented backgrounds—to explore careers in aerospace and aviation. Her ability to bring together industry partners, educators, and community organizations has left a legacy that will continue shaping the sector for years to come.

From the earliest partnerships with Tec Voc High School and the Winnipeg School Division, to working closely with Neeginan Education, RRC Polytech and Stevenson Campus, the University of Manitoba's Price Faculty of Engineering and ENGAP, MITT, WISE, and Career Trek, Barb was instrumental in weaving together a community that believes in the power of education and opportunity.

It's no exaggeration to say that Barb's warmth, integrity, and sense of humor have left an indelible mark on everyone she worked with. Whether she was rallying support from member companies, organizing innovative events, or mentoring new colleagues, Barb brought energy, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

In her own words, Barb credits her success to the people she's worked with alongside advisors, mentors, colleagues, and friends who supported her journey, and to her family, whose love and encouragement were constants through every challenge and triumph. Her gratitude for these relationships was clear in her retirement address, as was her pride in the sector and faith in the future of Manitoba Aerospace.

As a testament to the strength and maturity of the programs she built, the role of Director of Special Programs will not be replaced. Instead, the work Barb guided is now deeply embedded across the organization, carried forward by a team inspired by her example.

On behalf of the Board, staff, and partners, we thank Barb for her years of service, leadership, and friendship. Her legacy lives on in every program, partnership, and person she touched. We wish her all the best as she embarks on her next adventure—and look forward to seeing her around (hopefully, only occasionally lost without her calendar full of meetings!).

Barb, from all of us: thank you for everything.



Honouring the Retirement of Barb

Introducing **Deb Tabor**, Director of Workforce Development

Recognizing the critical importance of workforce development to our sector's future, Manitoba Aerospace made a pivotal move in 2024 with the creation of a new leadership position: Director of Workforce Development. This role represents more than just a title change, this reinforces our commitment to fundamentally rethinking how we attract, develop, and retain talent across the aerospace industry.

The Director of Workforce Development position is designed to do more than manage workforce planning. Instead, it's a mandate to build an integrated talent ecosystem—one that bridges education, industry, and innovation. Through this role, Manitoba Aerospace is tackling both the immediate need for skilled workers and laying the groundwork for sustainable, long-term industry growth. Our approach is strategic, forward-thinking, and rooted in the belief that a thriving sector depends on robust partnerships and a steady pipeline of diverse talent.

Leading this initiative is Deb Tabor, a seasoned workforce development leader with more than two decades of experience building and transforming workforce development strategies and driving organizational impact. Deb's background spans Global Human resources, Recruitment and Retention, career coaching, program design, and cross sectorwide workforce development. She is known for her collaborative approach, bringing together industry leaders, educational partners, and government stakeholders to create solutions that address urgent skills gaps while fueling future growth.



What truly sets Deb apart is her passion for career development and her commitment to empowering individuals at every stage of their professional journey. She has a proven track record of creating innovative pathways that connect people with opportunity, and her work has established her as a trusted voice in the field. Deb's leadership ensures that our sector is not just reacting to workforce challenges, but actively shaping a future where Manitoba remains a competitive force in the global aerospace market.

Manitoba Aerospace is investing in our members and partnerships that will drive our industry forward. This new chapter in workforce development is about more than meeting today's needs—it's about building a resilient, adaptable workforce for tomorrow.



Manitoba Aerospace Social Media in 2024-2025

The interactions and followers on Manitoba Aerospace's social media platforms have been on a steady increase this past year. Our postings on the various platforms aim to deliver engaging content and information about aerospace and aviation career pathways and workforce development while highlighting our educational partnerships, member companies and other stakeholders.

The platforms including some statistics are:

Linkedin – 6.7 k followers Twitter – 860 followers Threads – 142 followers Facebook – 4.8 k likes and followers Instagram – 1 k followers

The posts that achieved the most reach and engagement were scholarship postings, AMMOP postings, and networking breakfast postings.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Manitoba Aerospace's Workforce Development Pillar plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of the sector's workforce. Here are the key areas we focus on:

Training of Existing Employees:

- We collaborate closely with our member companies to enhance the skills of their current workforce.
- Leadership Course
- Digital Transformation Workshop
- Federal Government Procurement Workshop

Career Awareness:

• We believe that informed choices can lead to successful careers. Through targeted initiatives, we raise awareness about exciting opportunities for careers in aerospace and aviation. Whether it's participating in workshops, information sessions, or career fairs, we connect individuals with the right information.

Engagement and Partnerships:

We also work with our member companies, other stakeholders and our educational partners to ensure a steady supply of students into educational programs that produce a steady stream of workers ready to take on aerospace careers. Our educational partners include:

- Engineering Access Program at the University of Manitoba
- Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba
- Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology (MITT)
- Neeginan College of Applied Technology
- Red River College Polytech Stevenson Campus
- Tec Voc High School



Federal Government Procurement Workshop with B2B Sessions & 2024 Annual General Meeting

On June 19th, 2024, Manitoba Aerospace had the honour of hosting both our Federal Government Procurement Workshop with B2B Sessions and our 2024 Annual General Meeting at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada.

Our day began with greetings from the Honourable Jamie Moses, Minister of Business, Mining, Trade and Job Creation, and Sean Barr, Assistant Deputy Minister, Manitoba Region, Prairies Economic Development Canada.

Thank you to our line-up of speakers who provided a morning filled with engaging presentations:

- Kelsey Debets, Procurement Assistance Canada (PAC)
- Stewart Campbell, Prairies Economic Development Canada
- Richard Klassen, Enduron / Custom Inc.
- Rakkappan Selvam, Boeing Canada Winnipeg
- Peter DeJong, GDLS Canada
- Patrick Castonguay, Babcock Canada
- Kyle Lenton, Magellan Aerospace, Winnipeg

After lunch, the afternoon continued with valuable networking opportunities and insightful conversations at the B2B sessions. In total, 51 people attended the workshop, our B2B session hosted 22 participants, and over 40 meetings were scheduled.

Our day concluded with Manitoba Aerospace hosting our AGM. Thank you to everyone that made the evening a great success!

Our AGM hosted 32 attendees.

Special thanks to Michel Dion (INSAT), Major Mitch Leenders (RCAF), and Mike Mueller (AIAC) for their presentations at last year's event!



NANITOBA CAROSPACE

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Aerospace WOWs at UofM

Women Transitioning to Careers in Aerospace 2.0

Background

In 2022, Manitoba Aerospace, with funding through the Manitoba Status of Women Secretariat, launched the "Women Transitioning to Careers in Aerospace" program. This 18-week initiative provided up to 15 women (and those who identify as women) with basic technical skills training for 12 entry-level positions at StandardAero Winnipeg. The program was a resounding success, resulting in 10 women securing full-time employment at StandardAero by July 2022.

In early 2023, StandardAero approached us to organize a similar program, aiming to equip women with the skills needed for careers within their company. We submitted a proposal to the Government of Manitoba for funding, and in late December, we received positive feedback from the Winnipeg-Eastern Service Area in the Career Development branch. They expressed interest in collaborating with us to initiate the program.

The Initiative

We revamped our plans and partnered with the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technologies (MITT). After discussions with StandardAero and MITT, we set the program's start date for March 25th, spanning 21 weeks. To spread the word, we utilized our social media platforms, engaged with employment agencies and educational institutions, and hosted an information session on February 17. Approximately 60 women registered, with 40 attending the session. By the end of February, 23 women submitted their applications, and StandardAero conducted interviews in early March. Ultimately, StandardAero selected 15 participants who then eagerly started their training at MITT on March 25th.

The training schedule includes weekdays from 4:00 PM to 9:30 PM and Saturdays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Participants will attend MITT from March 25th to June 23, followed by 14 women starting work at StandardAero from June 24th until August 8th. Unfortunately, one student had to leave the program due to personal reasons.

Curriculum and Achievements

The women are diligently studying various subjects, including the Test of Workplace Essential Skills (TOWES), human factors, work readiness training, and technical modules. Thanks to support from Workplace Education Manitoba, their Essential Skills are improving weekly. All their hard work will culminate in MITT-approved micro-credential certificates that will be awarded at the program's end in August.

Kudos to these dedicated women who seize this opportunity! They continue to impress their instructors daily. Both MITT and StandardAero have been unwaveringly supportive, overcoming challenges and barriers. We also extend our gratitude to the Centre of Aboriginal Human Resource Development, which allows the class to use Neeginan College's aircraft engines on Saturdays as part of their training.

Women Transitioning to Careers in Aerospace 2.0 is gearing up to be another great success!







2024 Golf Tournament















2025 **BOARD OF** DIRECTORS

Brent Ostermann, Board Chair, MAI StandardAero Vice President (VP), Product Assurance and Quality

Ron Drepaul, Past Chair, MAI Magellan Aerospace General Manager

Leslie Galbraith, Treasurer, MAI **Argus Industries** Vice President – Finance / Administration

Wendell Wiebe, Secretary, MAI Manitoba Aerospace Inc. Chief Executive Officer

Daniel Verreault GE Aerospace Vice President, Government **Relations & Business Development**

Alan Tay Illumia Labs Inc CEO

Howard Loewen MicroPilot President

Martin Petrak Precision ADM Co-Founder & CEO

James (Jamie) Wilson **RRC** Polytech Vice President Indigenous Strategy, Research and Business Development

Philip A. Ferguson University of Manitoba Price Faculty of Engineering Director, STARLab / Associate Professor Department of Mechanical Engineering

Alberto VelascoAcosta Economic Development Winnipeg Vice President, International

Patrick Castonguay Babcock Canada Senior Manager, **Business Development**

Scott Frissell **Boeing Canada** Director of Human Resources

2025 MEMBER COMPANIES





Manitoba is home to a host of complementary world class aerospace companies that play a vital role in the global aerospace industry. Manitoba provides strategic advantages to the aerospace industry: a network of collaborating companies, a solid workforce, tailored education programs, international R&D capabilities, supportive governments, and an ideal geographic location. Together, these factors create a thriving and globally competitive business environment.

If your company is looking for a partner with access to North American markets and advanced aerospace technology, look to the Manitoba aerospace industry. If you are seeking a cost-competitive site to do business, look to Manitoba, Canada. If you need a source of aerospace component manufacturing or engine maintenance services, engine icing and other environmental testing, or composite materials manufacturing or R&D, look to Manitoba companies.



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