

**Subject:** Remembrance Activities Preparation In Full Swing, RCAF Conference, Casino Volunteer Opportunities, and More!  
**Date:** Monday, October 21, 2024 at 9:56:52 AM Central Standard Time  
**From:** Valour Canada  
**To:** Janyn D. Bertram  
**Attachments:** RCAF Centennial Brief Program.pdf



## Valour Canada Newsletter • October 2024

---

As we approach Remembrance Day, we have an opportunity to reflect on the profound sacrifices made by our veterans to allow us to live the life we lead today. This year, we ask for your support in ensuring their stories continue to inspire future generations as we focus on our mission to educate youth about our Canadian military history, peacekeeping, and service.

Just over these past few years we have youth participate in our educational programs that have grown in numbers from 1100 in 2022, 3600 in 2023, likely over 5000 in 2024, and projected to over 8000 in 2025!

Your donations help fund these essential educational initiatives, including our upcoming and very popular Classroom at the Crosses. We invite you to come down to the Field of Crosses along Memorial Drive and check out what we are up to and see us in action...personally, I'll be in the army green modular tent helping manage the artifact handling with veteran volunteers and students. Aaron, our Lead Educator, will be teaching students in a classroom provided by the Calgary Curling Club.

I also ask that you please consider donating to preserve our military heritage and honour those who served...and for Valour Canada to continue with our mission.

[Donate Today!](#)

Thank you and I hope to see you over Remembrance...take care and all the best.

Sincerely,  
**John Q Adams**  
*President*

[jquadams@valourcanada.ca](mailto:jquadams@valourcanada.ca)



---

An inspiring lead-up to Remembrance Day:

## "Classroom at the Crosses" is Back!

Valour Canada is excited to announce that from October 28 to November 8, 2024, we will once again join forces with Field of Crosses to engage over 1,750 youth through educational programs designed to inspire, inform, and foster a deeper understanding of Canada's military history.



This year, "Classroom at the Crosses" will kick off one week earlier than last year with

- a bigger artifact-handing tent and more artifacts,
- new veteran and expert volunteers, and
- support from university students

Stay tuned for more details as we prepare to honour the fallen and their enduring legacies by speaking to hundreds of students, cadets, guides, and scouts, about Canada's military history.

---

Sign Up as a Backup Volunteer:

## Casino Fundraiser October 29 & 30

Thanks to the great support from our supporters and subscribers, all volunteer shifts are filled for our Casino Fundraiser on October 29 and 30 at Elbow River Casino.

If you haven't signed up, but would like to to be added to the backup volunteer list, please [reply to this email](#).

---

October 2 - 4:

## Education Programming in Ontario

285 students from three secondary schools—All Saints Catholic Secondary School, Henry Street High School, and Donald A. Wilson Secondary School in Whitby, ON—engaged with Valour Canada’s educational programming from October 2 to 4, 2024. The students explored the significance of Vimy Ridge and took part in the Battlefield Reconnaissance activity.

Special thanks to Sam Richardson, Acting Curator of the Canadian Tank Museum, for presenting the artifact-handling portion of the program!



---

November 14 - 15, 2024

## RCAF Centennial Conference: Registration is Live!

Register and attend the [RCAF Centennial Conference](#) on November 14 and 15, 2024 - a two-day academic conference dedicated to the socio-political history of the RCAF. Please refer to the attached conference schedule for more information.

In addition to the conference, to join attend the conference banquet (flyer below) at 6 pm on November 14, please email [info@canadacompany.ca](mailto:info@canadacompany.ca).



In partnership with University of Calgary  
Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies,  
**CANADA COMPANY** invites you to attend:



## RCAF Centennial Conference Banquet

### Keynote Address: *The Canadian Airman*

**SPEAKER: Billie Flynn, CD, MBA, MSc**

*Retired RCAF Combat Commander and Former F-35 Lightning II Senior Experimental Test Pilot*



#### DATE & TIME:

Thursday 14 November 2024  
6:00 pm (1800hrs)



#### DRESS:

Business Attire  
CAF: Tunic & Ribbons



#### LOCATION:

University of Calgary,  
MacEwan Ballroom  
2500 University Drive NW  
Calgary AB T2N 1N4



#### TICKETS:

\$90



#### TO REGISTER:

info@canadacompany.ca



#### CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:

We accept all major cards. Please email  
info@canadacompany.ca or call 416 869 8458 to  
arrange payment.

#### ALL CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO:

**CANADA COMPANY: MANY WAYS TO SERVE**  
Mail to Canada Company  
CIBC SQUARE, Tower One, 81 Bay Street, Suite 3800, Toronto, ON, M5J 0E7

Our [military history library](#) contains over 260 compelling and educational stories from Canada's military history.



### Women of the “Bombes”

Two women with ties to Canada, Nance Wright and Madge Trull, contributed to the Allied efforts at Bletchley, English during World War II by helping decode German Enigma messages.

### Cuban Missile Crisis

On October 16, 1962, President John F. Kennedy was informed that Soviet missiles had been installed in Cuba. Six days later he informed his Canadian ally Prime Minister Diefenbaker, which perceived the delay as a personal slight.

Our [YouTube channel](#) hosts over 180 short, Canadian military history documentaries. Check out these videos today:



[Anthony Sherwood lecture "Honour Before Glory"](#)



[War Trophies in Canada - Sir Arthur Doughty](#)



[When They Marched To War - Canadians in WW1](#)

Please subscribe, like and share our videos [here](#)!

---

## **WE NEED YOU!**

Your support helps us to continue providing free resources for students and teachers across Canada.

Receive a free 1-year membership for each annual \$50 donation, which covers the cost of bringing 3 students to our in-museum program. Every donation helps us to continue to keep our services offered at no cost to those students.

[\*\*Please consider a donation to Valour Canada as part of your annual giving.\*\*](#)



---

### **Valour Canada**

+1 (403) 685-2660

[contact@valourcanada.ca](mailto:contact@valourcanada.ca)

<https://valourcanada.ca>

1820 24 Street Southwest, Calgary, Alberta, T2T 0G6



This email was sent to [admin@rausi.ca](mailto:admin@rausi.ca). You received this email because you are registered with Valour

Canada. Want to change how you receive these emails? You can [unsubscribe](#) or [manage preference](#).

Copyright © 2024 Valour Canada, All rights reserved.



**RCAF Centennial Conference**

**November 14-15, 2024**

**Teaching Institute 160, University of Calgary**

*"I'll be with  
you, boys"*

*Fly and Fight  
with the*

**R·C·A·F**

# Sponsors

Thank you to our incredible sponsors for supporting and participating in this conference. Together we ensure the excellence and success of Canadian Air Power. We respect those funders who prefer to remain anonymous.

## Tier 1



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
Centre for Military, Security  
and Strategic Studies



## Tier 2



**Bow Valley  
College**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY**



## Tier 3



## Organizing Committee

Dr. Rob Huebert  
Interim Director CMSS  
Professor, Political Science

Dr. John Ferris  
Professor Emeritus, History

Dr. David Bercuson  
Professor, History

Dr. Ron Wallace

Ms. Mary Anderson  
Coordinator, CMSS



# Conference Schedule

**Thursday, November 14 (Day One)**

**Teaching Institute 160, The University of Calgary, 434 Collegiate Boulevard NW, Calgary AB**

7:45am	<b>Doors open</b>	
8:00am	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. John Ferris &amp; Dr. David Bercuson</li> <li>▪ Dr. Rob Huebert, Interim Director CMSS</li> <li>▪ Dr. Aoife Mac Namara, Dean Faculty of Arts</li> <li>▪ Hon. Mike Ellis, Deputy Premier, Minister for Public Safety and Emergency Services (with MLA Justin Wright, Military Liaison)</li> </ul>	
8:45am	<b>KEYNOTE 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deputy Commander of the Airforce, Major-General Jamie Speiser-Blanchet</li> </ul>	
9:45am	<b>Panel 1: Fighter Pilot Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Laurie Hawn</li> <li>▪ Gordon Todd</li> <li>▪ Bob Wade</li> <li>▪ Billie Flynn</li> </ul>	Moderator: Ron Guidinger
11:45am	<b>Lunch</b> Teaching Institute Atrium	
12:45pm	<b>Panel 2: Understanding the History of the Royal Canadian Airforce (RCAF)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Richard Mayne – Predecessors versus Predators: The challenges of writing government air force history</li> <li>▪ David Bercuson – Writing RCAF History</li> <li>▪ Seb Cox -- “No risk of its being forgotten”: the workings of the Combined Strategic Targets Committee and its influence on the strategic targeting policy of RAF Bomber Command 1944-45</li> </ul>	
2:05 p.m.	<b>Panel 3: The Second World War</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ted Barris – A Great Tide of Airmen</li> <li>▪ Randy Wakelam -- “This aircraft ... is considered missing”: the Heroism of Eddie Laporte</li> <li>▪ Rebecca Murray -- Taking a Gander for Grandma: How Servicewomen are Historicized in the Photographic Record</li> </ul>	
	<b>Break</b>	
3:50 p.m.	<b>Panel 4: Government of Canada and RCAF Policy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Erin O’Toole –</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Richard Goette -- Unification and Canada's Air Force</li> <li>▪ David Pratt -- The Ukraine conflict, NATO and Canada's Strategic Position</li> </ul>	
4:50pm	<b>Closing</b>	

### Thursday, November 14 (Evening)

MacEwan Hall Ballroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor MacEwan Student Centre

\*Separate Registration/Fee email [info@canadacompany.ca](mailto:info@canadacompany.ca)

6:00pm	<b>Doors open</b>	
6:30 p.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hon. Rajan Sawhney, Minister of Advanced Education</li> <li>▪ President Ed McCauley, University of Calgary</li> </ul>	
7:00 p.m.	<b>KEYNOTE 2: "The Canadian Airman"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Billie Flynn, Retired RCAF Combat Commander and Former F-35 Lightning II Senior Experimental Test Pilot</li> </ul>	

### Friday, November 15 (Day Two)

Teaching Institute 160, The University of Calgary, 434 Collegiate Boulevard NW, Calgary AB

7:45 a.m.	<b>Doors open</b>	
8:00am	<b>Panel 5: RCAF Technical and Social History</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ James Fergusson -- The Neglected Command: An Historical Perspective on NORAD and the RCAF</li> <li>▪ Adam Coombs -- Flying on Ice: Hockey in the RCAF during the Early Cold War</li> <li>▪ Allan English – Creating an "Air Force Community": Women and the RCAF – 1952-1962</li> </ul>	
9:35am	<b>Panel 6: Air Operations Post Cold War</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seb Ritchie -- Operation Unified Protector, Libya, 2011: Air Campaigning in the Context of Coalition Warfare</li> <li>▪ Bob Bergen – Lessons Learned during Canada's bombing campaign during the 1999 Kosovo War; Russia's war against Ukraine; and the Israel-Hamas War</li> <li>▪ Richard Shimooka -- Adaptation and Upgrades: In-service Capability Modernization in the RCAF 1980~2024</li> </ul>	
11:30am	<b>Lunch: Ted Barris Book Talk: "Battle of Britain: Canadian Airmen in Their Finest Hour"</b>	

12:30pm	<p><b>Panel 7: RCAF Servicewomen</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sarah Hogenbirk - “Gone But Not Forgotten:” Leading Aircraftwomen Alice Lovina Anderson and Airwomen’s Deaths During the Second World War</li> <li>▪ Karen Davis – Women in the RCAF: Unification to the 21st Century</li> <li>▪ Erin Gregory – The New Few: The SWINTER Aircrew Trial, 1979-1985</li> </ul>	
2:05pm	<p><b>Panel 8: The North</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Whitney Lackenbauer - Per Ardua Ad Arcticum: The Royal Canadian Air Force and the Opening of the Canadian Arctic and Subarctic, 1920-1960</li> <li>▪ Jeff Noakes - Canada and the Strategic Air Command Refuelling Bases, 1958-1963</li> <li>▪ Patrick Carpentier (ret’d) - Communications, Energy and Transportation/Resilience and its role in Deterrence</li> </ul>	
	<b>Break</b>	
3:50pm	<p><b>Panel 9: Canadian Air Power</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Andrea Charron &amp; Col Chris Morrison – The Neglected Command</li> <li>▪ Brad Gladman -- From Strategy to Organizational Change: Analysis and Recommendations for the Future RCAF</li> <li>▪ Rob Huebert --</li> </ul>	
5:20pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	



In partnership with RCAF 2024

