

Last month at the Paris Air Show, Women in Aerospace International held their annual luncheon. It was a wonderful opportunity for our organizations to discuss and exchange ideas in person, with representatives from Canada, Europe, South Africa, and the USA. South Africa, our newest group, is in the startup phase and in the process of recruiting members. USA gave an update on their annual conference, which comprised of a full day of speakers and a luncheon with attendance in excess of 200. Europe has opened chapters in three countries to carry out the mission and the activities of the group. Canada will be hosting the 65th IAC conference – a notable event for our international members. I would like to thank Mairead Lavery for hosting the luncheon at the Bombardier Chalet.



L to R: Judy Duffy and Val Wilson (Canada), Souad Elmallem (South Africa), Fiorella Coliolo (Europe), Mairead Lavery (Bombardier) and Sandy Coleman (USA)

Have a wonderful summer and please mark your calendars for our first event in Montreal, a Nine and Dine golf event on September 5, 2013.

Val Wilson, President WIA-Canada

Recent Events

Canadian Women in Aviation – 13th Biennial Conference

On June 19-22, military and civilian women from across the country gathered at the Novotel in Mississauga for the 12th Biennial Canadian Women in Aviation Conference, providing an excellent opportunity for valuable networking, a chance to renew old friendships and create new ones under the theme of “Prepare to Succeed”. Focused on promoting the visibility of women in aviation, the CWIA brings together women in non-traditional roles working as pilots, navigators, maintenance engineers, air traffic controllers, airport operations, airline management and in the military to encourage other women to become involved in aviation.

Organizers of this year’s conference brought together a splendid assortment of guest speakers to provide inspiration, guidance, and how-to. From spiritual learning aimed at identifying vision and purpose to the paramount impact of leadership and how organizational changes will continue to influence the groundswell that is increasing the presence of females in aviation, the conference was vibrant and memorable. The participants, which included over 100 extremely accomplished and extraordinary women, benefited from several lifestyle, mentoring and operational sessions.



Barb Moser and Eva Martinez representing WIA-Canada at trade show



Eva Martinez at the podium giving her keynote address

With similar objectives, Women in Aerospace Canada participated in the trade show portion of the conference. The event culminated with a spectacular Gala Dinner featuring Jacquie Perrin as the emcee and WIA-Canada’s Eva Martinez as the keynote speaker. Eva retold the entertaining and inspiring story as Canada’s first female United Nations Military Observer and the only female in the international contingent to oversee a ceasefire following a 36-year long civil war in Guatemala.

Making Connections – A Power Networking Gala

On Wednesday June 5, we gathered at the Canadian Forces College Armour Heights Officers Mess for a highly interactive power networking session with Donna Messer from ConnectUs (www.connectuscanada.com). Donna expertly shared her networking know-how, her list of resources, and her motivational attitude to drive measurable and profitable connections with all the participants.

Demonstrating how increased connectivity equals increased opportunities, Donna spoke to the merits of identifying who you are, learning your strengths and the **where, why and how** to network. Leveraging on the common goals and objectives of other women-focused organizations, the participants benefited from representation from other male-dominated industries such as power generation, engineering, nuclear, communications, and a healthy handful of independent consultants.

In addition, the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre provided an excellent overview of the many career and employment opportunities within the CF for women to consider – recognizing that the audience could play a role as ambassadors when reaching out to young women contemplating their options.

Congratulations to Elena Miroshniechenko – winner of the prize for completing the post-event survey.

It was a fun-filled and enjoyable evening, graciously sponsored by:



GE Capital

Honeywell

ThyssenKrupp



Donna Messer and the CF Recruiters



Leigh Kras and Marlene Conway



Rod Jones and Christine Douglas showing off Donna’s book “Effective Networking Strategies”



The incomparable Donna Messer “The Queen of Networking”



Elena Miroshniechenko and Ellie Cochien



Networking in Action



Catalyst Canada at Cyclone Manufacturing – May 8, 2013

On Wednesday May 8, we gathered at Cyclone Manufacturing – a privately-owned, state of the art aerospace manufacturing company. On behalf of the Sochaj family, Lily Sochaj proudly presented her family's story and how Cyclone became a vertically integrated full service provider, offering 3, 4, and 5-axis machining, heat treatment, shot peening, CMM inspection, surface treatment, assembly, water-jet technology and sheet metal fabrication.

Alex Johnston – head of the Catalyst Canada office, presented an insightful and thought-provoking presentation on **"You and Your Career: Women's Advancement in the Workplace"**. Sharing research findings and important market information, Alex provided an overview of the challenges for women looking to further their careers and the importance of communicating the business case for diversity and inclusion. By explaining such concepts mentoring vs sponsorship and defining "Hot Jobs", participants were given the opportunity to reflect on their own careers and the roadmap to advancement.

Congratulations to Karla Telidetzki from UTIAS – winner of the post-event survey draw!



Lily Sochaj shares the story of Cyclone Manufacturing, hosts of our wonderful Lunch and Learn



Alex Johnston presents **You and Your Career: Personal Strategies for Advancement**

Upcoming Events

Montreal Area Nine and Dine Golf Event – September 5, 2013

The past two years, women from the aerospace industry in the Montreal area have gathered for an informal Nine and Dine organized by Suzanne Benoit from Aero-Montreal, with approximately 30 people in attendance. The event will take place at www.countryclubmontreal.com.

Start time: 1:00 pm for 18 holes or 3:00 pm for 9 holes
Cocktails: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm
Tickets: \$100 per person (approximately)

Maximum capacity is 150; however, a minimum of 30 people is required. Lots and lots of gifts and prizes will be available. For more information, contact Anne-Marie Bertrand at ambertrand@HerouxDevtek.com.

Back to School Lunch and Learn – September 18, 2013

Join us for a Lunch and Learn at Comtek Advanced Structures in Burlington, Ontario on Wednesday September 18. In the spirit of back-to-school, the theme of the presentation will be to highlight some of the current movements in education to entice more girls and women to become involved in science and technology. Participants will learn how they can get involved as individuals or through their companies to encourage more and more young girls. The Lunch and Learn will also include a tour of Comtek Advanced Structures.

Date: Wednesday September 18, 2013
Location: Comtek Advanced Structures
1360 Artisans Court, Burlington ON (<http://mapq.st/11HQjIF>)
Schedule: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Tickets: \$15 members / \$35 non-members
<http://comteksept2013.eventbrite.ca>
Format: Buffet Lunch

Northern Lights Awards Dinner – September 27, 2013

The Northern Lights Award Foundation (NLAFF) has announced the winners of its 2013 aviation and aerospace awards. The Foundation's prestigious

award program, called the Elsie MacGill Northern Lights Awards, is named after aviation pioneer Elsie MacGill who had a pivotal role in the design and production of the Hawker Hurricane in Canada during the Second World War, earning her the title, "Queen of the Hurricanes." MacGill was the first Canadian woman to graduate with a degree in electrical engineering and the first woman in North America to earn an advanced degree in aeronautics.

The national award program was established in 2009 to recognize and honour the outstanding achievements of women in aviation and aerospace in Canada. Since its inception, the program has grown from one to six separate award categories that now include: Flight Operations/Maintenance (LCol Maryse Carmichael), Business (Marcia Strang), Government (Catherine Fletcher), Education (Elizabeth Wieben), Pioneer (Felicity McKendry) and Rising Star (Natalie Panek).

To learn more about the Northern Lights Award Foundation, the Awards Dinner, and to see full biographies of the 2013 winners, visit www.northernlightsaward.com

Upcoming Events in 2013

October	Fall Gala – Dinner Event
November	Lunch and Learn
December	4 th Annual Christmas Party

Be sure to check out our website for the most current and up-to-date information about Women in Aerospace Canada www.wia-canada.org.

To weigh in on future events, please complete our poll - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WIAEventPoll>

Other Items

Welcoming Men

Given the demographics in the aerospace field, WIA-Canada's doors are open to men as well as women. Since women do not exclusively network amongst themselves and many of us have benefited from male mentors or advocates who have assisted our career development, WIA-Canada recognizes the importance of including these allies in furthering the goals of our organization. Men can be equally devoted to the advancement of women in aerospace so it is important that the organization welcome both genders in support of the cause.

Membership and Benefits

The benefits of membership with the WIA-Canada are numerous including networking, excellent programs and events, and professional development opportunities. Women are making outstanding strides in the aerospace industry with regards to leadership and achievement and WIA-Canada provides tremendous exposure to resources!

To join or renew your membership, go to <http://wiamembership.eventbrite.ca/>

Sponsorship Opportunities

In support of our objectives, WIA-Canada organizes a number of events throughout the year such as Lunch and Learns, Networking, Mentoring and celebrations to mark key dates like International Women's Day and the Christmas Holidays. The success of our organization and the quality of the events and programs offered are hugely dependent upon sponsorship from corporations, consultants and individuals. Lending your name and financial support to an event will provide exposure to your business.

Visit <http://www.wia-canada.org/sponsorship.html> to learn how you can sponsor our organization!

WIA-Canada

Women in Aerospace Canada (WIA-Canada) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to expanding women's opportunities for leadership and professional development as well as increasing their visibility in the aerospace community by creating a professional network in Canada and across the globe. To learn more, please visit our website – www.wia-canada.org

To be added or removed from the WIA-Canada distribution list, please send an e-mail to Leigh.Kras@wia-canada.org