

As my first year as president of Women in Aerospace-Canada and as chair of the leadership committee of this great organization I am overwhelmed with gratitude. WIA-Canada is a fantastic organization, full of people who strive continuously to achieve the goal of more opportunities for women in this great aerospace industry that we love. 2012 was a great year for the growth and influence of WIA-Canada with over 200 members. I believe what makes WIA-Canada so successful is the involvement of volunteers and leaders from across our aerospace community. Our board members have provided strategic guidance to keep our organization aligned with our mission as well as setting the foundation blocks for continual growth.

2013 is shaping up to be a very exciting year with lunch and learns on an almost monthly basis. In June, Donna Messer, the Queen of Networking will facilitate "Making Connections – A Power Networking Gala" which will bring together women from WIA-Canada as well as other women-focused organizations.

Please remember to renew your membership so you can continue to receive the many benefits. And for those who have not yet joined, please do so immediately. The benefits are great and the cost savings substantial.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events.

**Val Wilson, President WIA-Canada**

### Objectives of 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.

The objectives of WIA-Canada are to:

- Identify, foster and promote the interests and professional development of women working in the aerospace industry and other related sectors.
- To be a networking platform for women and men in the aerospace industry and other sector areas related to aerospace.
- Advance aerospace education for women in schools, colleges, and universities.
- Develop alliances with aerospace associations (provincially, federally and internationally) and other relevant associations across Canada and globally.

### Recent Events

#### Honeywell Lunch and Learn – She Speaks He Speaks

On Tuesday February 12, 2013 a sold-out crowd gathered at **Honeywell Canada** where guest speaker, professional trainer, consultant, and performance coach Bina Feldman ([www.binafeldmanconsulting.com](http://www.binafeldmanconsulting.com)) presented a dynamic seminar entitled **She Speaks, He Speaks: Differences in Gender Communication**.

While highlighting the attributes that make us extremely effective communicators, Bina also used humour and real life examples to pinpoint the pitfalls that some of us may encounter and the consequences that these styles have at work. Clearly, the participants walked away with a better awareness of the mixed messages we might be sending that potentially undermine our professionalism and leadership. The presentation was followed by a tour of the facilities at Honeywell.

Congratulations to Cathy Zammit – winner of the post-event survey draw!

### International Women's Day

On March 8, 2013, WIA-Canada celebrated International Women's Day in grand fashion! Comedian Jessica Holmes presented a **60-Minute Perspective Makeover: Proven Tips to Living an Awesome Life!** following a hot breakfast at the Doubletree Airport Hotel. Jessica's cast of characters (Liza Minnelli, a glum Russian polka singer, and the incomparable Celine

Dion) coupled with her own genuine, spritely style had the audience laughing out loud, rolling in the aisles, and in some cases crying (tears of joy, of course!). Sharing personal stories about the merit of having levity in your life, her message about laughter and changing your perspective was fitting as we celebrated women! Many thanks to our generous sponsors – SPP Canada Aircraft, AV-Canada, and Porter Airlines.

Congratulations to Doug Hunter of Castle Metals – winner of the round-trip voucher for a flight anywhere Porter Airlines flies – and to Janice Crowther of Centra Industries – winner of the post-event survey draw!



As Liza Minnelli



"I'm so happy, happy, happy..."



Congrats Doug Hunter!



Thanking a good sport – Scott Goobie (Bombardier)



The girls from Cyclone and Val Wilson



Jessica and the WIA-Canada Directors

### UTIAS Lunch and Learn

On April 17, 2013, WIA-Canada went "back to school" with a gathering at the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies. In the company of faculty, students and professionals from aerospace, the event participants were given an overview of the programs and research initiatives currently underway at UTIAS. Guest speakers Jackie Serviss (Industrial Liaison Officer, University of Waterloo) and Lino DeFacendis (Director Partnerships, Innovations and Partnerships Office, University of Toronto) teamed up to provide informative presentations on the many liaison and partnering programs available. These presentations are available at these links:

[UTIAS Overview](#)

[UWaterloo Overview](#)

[UofToronto IPO Overview](#)

From UTIAS Jenny Zhang, Michal Osusky, and Rhea Liem took time out of their busy schedules to give guided tours through several of their labs including Experimental Fluids, Flight Systems & Control, and Flow Control & Experimental Turbulence, and the extremely popular Flight Simulator.



Prof Lavoie, Jackie Serviss and Lino DeFacendis



Flow Control and Experimental Turbulence Lab



Val Wilson and Connie Phan in the Flight Simulator



Aircraft Flight Systems Lab



Flight Systems and Control



Experimental Fluids Lab

## Upcoming Events

### Making Connections – A Power Networking Gala

Donna Messer from ConnectUs ([www.connectuscanada.com](http://www.connectuscanada.com)) is a freelance journalist who writes for more than a dozen national publications. As a motivational keynote speaker, she travels across Canada and throughout the world sharing her contacts and teaching effective networking skills to make measurable and profitable connections. Known to many as the Queen of Networking, Donna Messer will facilitate a highly interactive evening of power networking to demonstrate how increased connectivity equals increased opportunities. Learn the necessary phases of networking – everything from identifying who you are, learning your strengths and what you want to the **where, why and how** to network. Take this opportunity to learn how you can contribute to Donna's up and coming book about Women in Non-Traditional Careers.

Join WIA-Canada on Wednesday June 5, 2013 at the very historic (and well-hidden) Armour Heights Officers Mess at the Canadian Forces College in Toronto. We will also be opening up this event to other "Women in ..." organizations – mining, electricity, nuclear, science and engineering, etc in an effort to broaden our outreach and leverage our strength as women in industrial environments.

The first 25 registrants will receive a copy of Donna Messer's book – "Effective Networking Strategies" – a Canadian best seller!

Register early to avoid the disappointment of a sold out event!

**Date:** Wednesday June 5, 2013  
**Location:** Armour Heights Officers Mess, Canadian Forces College  
215 Yonge Boulevard, Toronto, ON (<http://mapq.st/OXh0F2>)  
**Schedule:** 6:00-10:00 pm  
**Tickets:** \$35 members / \$45 non-members – available until May 31, 2013  
**Format:** Hot and Cold Hors D'oeuvres / Cash bar

[Click Here to Register](#)



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### Canadian Women in Aviation Conference 2013

Every two years women from all areas of aviation come together with experts, specialists and role models at the Canadian Women in Aviation Conference. Participants can expect speakers and panel discussions to enhance their knowledge of aviation and also prepare to succeed at their careers. This is an excellent opportunity for valuable networking, renew old friendships and create new ones.

The Canadian Women in Aviation conference was developed to bring these women together as a network of support. To provide a friendly environment where women who have made it to the top of their careers are eager to share their experiences with women who are looking to follow their path, whether it be in the military or in the civilian aviation industry. Learn from the knowledge these pioneers have gained, you will be inspired by their stories.

The 12th Biennial CWIA Conference will take place June 19 - 22 at the Novotel Toronto Mississauga Centre. Planned speakers will inspire, motivate, educate and entertain you, thereby ultimately preparing you to reach your aviation goals. There will also be many networking opportunities during social activities and aviation tours. A Gala dinner will conclude the event featuring **Eva Martinez** as the keynote speaker.

Visit our website at [www.cwia.ca/conference.htm](http://www.cwia.ca/conference.htm) or contact Lisa Graham at [cwiaconference.2013@gmail.com](mailto:cwiaconference.2013@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Events in 2013

June	WIA Global Luncheon at Paris Air Show
August/September	Lunch and Learn
October	Fall Gala – Dinner Event
December	4 <sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.wia-canada.org).

## Other Items

### Women of Aviation Worldwide Week – Fly It Forward

From March 4 to 10 2013, more than 5,300 girls and/or women flew in a small aircraft for the first time and more than 17,000 girls and/or women were directly exposed to the opportunities available in aviation. Women Of Aviation Worldwide Week is the largest diversity outreach initiative ever created. Locally, the Buttonville Flying Club flew 400 women and girls, giving them an up-close and hands-on experience! Anna Pangrazzi (member of WIA-Canada and organizer of Buttonville's Fly It Forward event) said it was a great opportunity to expose females to the world of aviation in the hopes of increasing the number of women who enter the fields of aviation and aerospace.



Megan Kras, Anna Pangrazzi and Leigh Kras at Fly It Forward

### 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.

**Networking:** formal and informal discussions and interaction with leading aerospace professionals from government, academia and the private sector.

**Programming:** access to and participation in high-quality programs and events including topics of critical importance to the aerospace industry, usually at a reduced price.

**Professional Development:** Practical, substantive guidance and insight in addition to direct contact with leading industry players to facilitate professional growth and development at all stages of a career.

**Recognition of Contribution to Aerospace:** forum to recognize and showcase outstanding women in the aerospace industry for their leadership and achievement.

**Career Resources:** mentoring relationships, career building workshops and other events aimed at providing opportunities for aerospace professionals to expand their career options.

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!

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