As we say goodbye to 2016, we are very excited to welcome 2017. Women in Aerospace ended the year with our Annual Christmas “Landing Gear” Party. Thank you to Safran and UTC Aerospace Systems for co-sponsoring this wonderful event – it speaks to the collaborative spirit that can exist even between competitors. It has been a successful and busy year and the party gave us time to relax and visit with friends and colleagues.

There are many events planned for the coming year with our sixth Mentoring Event taking place at the end of January at Ryerson University. MHI is hosting us again with guest speaker Danny Pehar, “Once upon a Time… The Business of Awesome Storytelling.”

International Women’s Day is March 8, mark your calendar; the theme this year is #BeBoldForChange.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members for all their efforts and the time they give to this organization to make it so successful. Congratulations to Eva Martinez for her success in organizing the Maritime’s group. As the group gains traction in the Atlantic provinces, it’s wonderful to see the objectives of this organization reaching so far.

If anyone is interested in joining the Board of Directors, please contact Leigh Kras at leigh.kras@wia-canada.org. Due to career progressions and geographical moves, the Board has a number of openings that need to be filled.

“May 2017 give you the opportunity to realize your dreams, rediscover your strengths, muster your will power and rejoice in the simple pleasures that life brings your way”.

We hope that come the end of 2017, you will be able to look back and say you were inspired and bolstered by Women in Aerospace Canada.

Val Wilson
President, Women in Aerospace Canada

Looking ahead to next year, WIA Canada will be hosting our 5th annual mentoring event in collaboration with Ryerson. The event will be held at the Mattamy Athletic Centre. This is a wonderful opportunity for professionals from aerospace to share their experience and knowledge.

Aerospace Leaders: Once again, it is your opportunity to have a say in shaping and preparing our future leaders: consider being a Mentor. You will have more of an impact on the future of our industry sector than you can possibly imagine!

Students: Are you eager to get your careers off the ground? Do you have questions about your professional life after school? Sign up to be a Mentee and have an incredible opportunity to ask questions, solicit advice and explore opportunities with successful aerospace industry leaders who have varied and rich backgrounds.

Registration: [Link Here]
On Wednesday November 30, 2016, Women in Aerospace Canada Maritimes hosted a Lunch and Tour at Pratt & Whitney Canada (P&WC) in Halifax. P&WC had an opportunity to showcase their facility with a presentation and a shop tour following a networking lunch. The event allowed individuals with differing aerospace interests and diverse backgrounds to come together and get an inside look at the company’s products and new Advanced Manufacturing Centres.

The ability to see the inner workings of one of the foremost engine manufacturers was a noteworthy opportunity and based on feedback, a format we will duplicate for future industry events. Some of the robotics innovations and advanced material practices highlighted the importance of advanced skill sets and opportunities within the Atlantic region’s growing aerospace and defence sector. WIA-Canada Maritimes will be exploring additional networking opportunities throughout 2017!

For more pictures from the evening, please visit: http://wia-canada.org/7th-annual-christmas-party/

**Top 10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadian Awards – December 15, 2016**

His Excellency Luis Almagro Lemes, Secretary General of the Organization of American States, presented the awards at TD Bank’s “10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians” 2016. Since 2007, this award recognizes outstanding community members from across Canada. We are thrilled to see our very own Eva Martinez honoured for her work with Women in Aerospace. Way to go Eva!

We loved it so much last year, we decided to come back again this year. Our 7th annual Christmas party was held at Culinaria Restaurant, located in the historic Elliot House, a renovated farmhouse built in the Georgian style between 1836 and 1850. We all had the chance to roll up our sleeves, put on an apron and try our hand in Culinaria’s kitchen working alongside colleagues, WIA members and friends. In between, we were captive audiences for the craft beer master and the sommelier. There was also some friendly competition when it came time to show off our knowledge in the world of spices. The evening ended in the dining room where we were served the delicious meal we all helped prepare. What a wonderful way to end 2016!

WIA-Canada wishes to thank Safran Landing Systems for their continued sponsorship of this annual event.

WIA-Canada wishes to thank our newest sponsor UTC Aerospace Systems for their sponsorship of this event.

The benefits of membership with Women in Aerospace Canada are numerous.

- Networking
- Programming
- Career Resources
- Professional Development
- Recognition of Contribution to Aerospace

To join or renew your membership, go to:

Ontario: [Link here](#) to renew your WIA Membership

Quebec: [Quebec Membership Link](#)

Maritimes: [https://wiamartimesmembership.eventbrite.ca](https://wiamartimesmembership.eventbrite.ca)

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

And don’t forget to follow us on Twitter!!

@WIACanada