President’s Message

It is a great honour to serve as President of Women in Aerospace Canada, and I am looking forward to the year ahead, as WIA Canada continues to build on the incredible successes of 2015. We are very excited about the many events we have planned to enhance your professional development, expand your network, and broaden your visibility in the aerospace community. With the help of an extremely committed and dedicated Board of Directors, WIA Canada has a new website and a full calendar of events. Quebec has done an amazing job, increasing their membership by holding excellent events. The Maritimes first official meeting is scheduled for the spring.

I am excited about the year ahead as we work together to grow and expand opportunities for our members.

Val Wilson
President, Women in Aerospace Canada

WIA Canada’s NEW WEBSITE – Coming Soon!

In the spirit of continuous improvement, WIA-Canada is excited to announce that our new Women in Aerospace – Canada website is near completion. We will continue to improve our on-line services, make event registration even easier than before, and provide timely communications about topics of interest to you, our members and professional partners.

Watch for a notice in the upcoming weeks launching our new website.

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

Upcoming Events

WIA Lunch & Learn, MHI Canada – February 24, 2016

Join Women in Aerospace Canada at MHI Canada’s Mississauga facility for a lunch and learn A Practical Guide to Accelerating More Women into Leadership event on Wednesday, February 24, 2016. Our speaker, Darlene Minatel, VP, Operations & Strategic Accounts for Manpower Canada will present insights from more than 200 global leaders, taking a deep-dive into generational, gender and geographical divides on attitudes to achieving gender parity and providing practical solutions to make progress faster.

Ticket information at Link here to register

International Women’s Day – March 8, 2016

On International Women’s Day, join Women in Aerospace Canada at the Country Club in Woodbridge for an interactive workshop, Managing Up. During this interactive workshop, participants will explore:
- what they want from their jobs;
- how to build trust and credibility in a sincere and direct way;
- how to work with different leadership styles.

Language plays an important role in any relationship. What is the language of accountability? How can you make this work for you? Managing Up is all about a mindset, the right attitude and a skill set, knowing how to use your skills in the best way to feel more fulfilled at work. The workshop will focus on how to build a better relationship with your leader.

Ticket information at Link here to register

WIA Career Day – May 27, 2016

Please mark your calendar to join Women in Aerospace Canada on Friday May 27th for WIA Career Day at the Fanshawe Jazz Hanger in London, Ontario. There is a full day of activities including two forums with participants from academia, government and industry. The keynote guest speaker is astronaut and test pilot, Bjarni Tryggvason. Look for more details coming soon to our website.

Recent Events

Annual Golf Tournament, Quebec – September 28, 2015

WIA Quebec held its annual golf tournament on September 28th at the prestigious Montreal Country Club in Saint-Lambert. We welcomed almost sixty women and men of the aerospace industry, who networked and played golf during a friendly tournament style “Vegas”.

After the tournament, we enjoyed a nice cocktail party and dinner. We had the pleasure to host, Ms Joëlle Cournoyer, VP Quality and Engineering at Bombardier, as a guest speaker. She led a brief discussion about the challenges and issues experienced by women in management, in a traditionally male environment.

For this edition, we are thankful to Aéro Montréal, Thyssenkrupp, Bombardier, Air Canada Foundation, Altitude Aerospace, Groupe Investors, PwC and La Maison ISHI for their collaboration and kind donations.

Bring Your Boss to Work Event, Bombardier
November 7, 2015

Take Your Boss to Work at Bombardier’s Downsview Facility

On Thursday November 5, 2015 Women in Aerospace Canada came together for our 5th year celebration. With an audience of 195 people Graham Kelly, Vice President, Global Operations & Toronto Site kicked off the event with an overview of the Downsview site.

Keynote Speaker Edyta Pacuk, President of MarchFifteen Consulting engaged the audience with her awareness of current trends, subject matter expertise and thought provoking questions. After our networking boxed lunch we broke into groups to tour the Q400, Global 5000 and Global 6000 aircraft assembly lines. WIA Canada would like to extend our gratitude to the Women in Leadership Team at Bombardier for their support and hard work in making this event such a success!
Women in Aerospace at AIAC Conference, Ottawa
November 2015

Apopex Aircraft President Anna Pangrazzi with Lynch Dynamic's Ken Mah and Ivana Skobo.

WIA Annual Christmas Party – December 9, 2015

At this year’s Christmas Party held at the Culinaria Restaurant, in the historic Elliot House, we realized many of our members are amazing chefs. We all enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by ourselves under the watchful eye of the Chef. Earlier in the evening we were treated to three events, Wine Tasting, Craft Beer Tasting and a Herb & Spice Sensor. A good time was had by all.

A special Thank You, to Messier-Bugatti-Dowty for their annual sponsorship of this wonderful event.

WIA 4th Annual Speed Mentoring Event– January 20, 2016

In order to mark National Mentoring Month, on Wednesday, January 20th 2016, Women In Aerospace – Canada held its 4th Annual Speed Mentoring event, in conjunction with Ryerson University. This year approximately two dozen influential Aerospace Leaders took up the invitation to have a say in shaping and preparing our future leaders. During the many rounds of speed mentoring, the college and university students took advantage of the incredible opportunity presented to them to ask questions, solicit advice and explore possible career paths. A special thanks goes to our Key Note Speaker, Tracy MacMillan, Director of Business Administration for MHI Canada. Not only did she provide valuable advice in her speech, she participated as a Mentor, offering insights she gained during her successful career as an HR professional.

Survey Winner: Rebecca Verlaan, Mechanical Engineering Student

News

Women of Aviation Week March 7-13, 2016

The week is designed to raise awareness of aviation opportunities available to girls of all ages while celebrating the accomplishments of past and present women of aviation.

Free aviation events including free flights for girls and women who have never flown in a small aircraft. Locations include Durham Flight Centre, Oshawa, ON, and Lachute Airport, Lachute, QC.

More locations and details at: http://www.womenofaviationweek.org/location

Northern Lights Award Nominations

The Northern Lights Award Foundation is now accepting nominations for its 8th Annual Awards Program. Each year, the national not for-profit foundation honours outstanding Canadian women who have made a significant contribution to Aviation or Aerospace, and who continue to lay the groundwork for other women to enter or excel in these industries.

The 2016 winners will be selected by a judging panel comprised of industry experts and veterans, and will be honoured at a Gala Awards Dinner and Ceremony in the Toronto area on Saturday, October 1, at the Toscana Conference Centre.

To nominate an outstanding woman, visit: www.northernlightsaward.ca.

Nominations submission deadline is: March 31, 2016.

Membership and Benefits

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: https://ontwiamembership2016.eventbrite.ca
Quebec: https://wiaqmembership2015.eventbrite.ca

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