



President's Message



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: new message

Val Wilson
President, Women in Aerospace Canada

Upcoming Events

WIA Lunch & Learn, Elliott-Matsuura Canada – April 27, 2017

WIA Canada is pleased to hold our second Lunch & Learn at Elliott-Matsuura Canada this April 27th.

Join us as Jeff Noble, Director & Practice Leader for BDO Business Transition Services has a comfortable 'fireside chat' with Emma O'Dwyer, Vice President of Market Development and Corporate Affairs of the The Matcom Group. Jeff will explore Emma's thoughts on what it takes to be an effective leader and her feelings on overcoming barriers to women in leadership. Emma has worked within her family's organization throughout her life including being a key member of the executive team during all five acquisitions the company has done since 2005. As one of the few females in the room she is accomplishing this through her commitment, energy and enthusiasm for the success of family businesses and SMEs in Canada.

Elliott-Matsuura supplies high quality machine tools for the Canadian metal cutting industry. We will have the opportunity to see some of these sophisticated tools during our tour.

Link: [Tickets](#)

OAC Annual Golf Tournament – June 5, 2017

Join us for OAC's annual Golf Tournament taking place on Monday, June 5, 2017 at Glencairn Golf Club. All who have attended in previous years have ranked this very popular event a great success. The day offers great networking opportunities while enjoying a fun day of golf at a prestige ClubLink setting. The tournament is a four person scramble (Best Ball) with a shotgun start at 11:30 am. Show your skill (or your luck) in the on-course contests – Closest to the Pin (men's and ladies), Longest Drive (men's and ladies), Most Accurate Drive, Beat-the-Pro, Closest to the Barrel and Putting.

Come and meet with WIA Board members at the "event WIA Canada is sponsoring" or mingle at the dinner afterwards.

Link: [OAC Annual Golf Tournament](#)

Recent Events

Speed Mentoring, Ryerson University – January 25, 2017

In order to mark National Mentoring Month, on Wednesday, January 25th 2017, Women In Aerospace – Canada held its 5th Annual Speed Mentoring event, in conjunction with Ryerson University.

Thanks go out to the Ryerson staff and personnel who have hosted the event for the past 5 years. This year approximately twenty influential Aerospace Leaders took up the invitation to act as mentors and generously gave their time to help prepare our future leaders. College and university students from half a dozen local and farther afield institutions took advantage of the incredible opportunity presented to them to ask questions, solicit advice and explore possible career paths. A special thank-you goes to our Key Note Speaker, Moira Harvey, Executive Director of the Ontario Aerospace Council. She provided a glimpse into the aerospace sector in this province which both Mentors and Mentees found to be extremely valuable. She also participated as a Mentor, offering insights she gained during her successful career in both the private aerospace sector as well as in her current role.

One of the Mentees summed up the experience by offering: "I cannot tell you how glad I was that I came. I almost cancelled because I had so much homework and I would have missed out on so much!" A Mentor contributed, "Thanks to WIA for organizing all this and I can't wait to come again next year."





WIA Lunch & Learn, MHI Canada Aerospace – February 16, 2017

It was a bounty of awesomeness beginning with a warm welcome from Mike McCarthy, President, MHI Canada Aerospace Inc, followed by an inspirational tale from MHI's Director of Supply Chain, Janet Wardle.



Our Keynote Speaker, Danny Pehar, shared his formula for effective communication. With humour and insight he had us engaged in his presentation. A Corporate Trainer, and Bestselling Author, all attendees were gifted with a copy of his best-selling book - *Awesome at Being Awesome: A Self-Help Book for People Who Hate Self-Help Books*. The event wrapped-up with MHI employees leading us on a plant tour.



CSSA – March, 2017

Barb to send write-up.

News

WIA Launches Two New Global Networks

One of WIA's key strategic goals is to position the organization to implement its mission globally. We are honored to announce that WIA Japan and WIA Mexico have been officially established.

WIA Mexico and WIA Japan join WIA's strong global network with WIA Europe, WIA Canada and WIA South Africa.

Give Hope Wings Breakfast – April 11, 2017

Give Hope Wings is an innovative fundraiser for Hope Air. In January and February 2018, two aircraft and their crew will fly 20,000 miles while circumnavigating Central and South America, stopping in 20 countries. Give Hope Wings is aiming to raise at least \$400,000 for Hope Air!

Hope Air is a national charity that provides free flights to Canadians who cannot afford the cost of an airline ticket to get to medical expertise or specialized medical technologies that usually exist only in larger urban centres.

Join us for an informational breakfast to learn about this unique fundraiser and meet the pilots behind the project.

Link: [Learn more here.](#)

OAC Scholarships for Aerospace Studies – May 15, 2017

The Ontario Aerospace Council is pleased to be able to offer **three** scholarships for the 2017-2018 Academic Year for students going into or currently enrolled in an aerospace studies program at a post-secondary institution (college or university) in Ontario. The value of each scholarship is **\$2,000.00 CAD**.

OAC Scholarship (2 available):

- High school students in their final year who are entering an aerospace studies program at an accredited Ontario college or university
- Students currently enrolled in an aerospace studies program at an accredited Ontario college or university and continuing their studies in the 2017-2018 Academic Year

WIA Canada Scholarship (1 available):

- Young women attending high school in their final year who are entering an aerospace studies program at an accredited Ontario college or university
- Women currently enrolled in an aerospace studies program at an accredited Ontario college or university and continuing their studies in the 2017-2018 Academic Year

Applications must be received no later than Monday May 15, 2017.

Link: [Aerospace Studies Scholarships](#)

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

Quebec: [Quebec Membership Link](#)

Maritimes: <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](#)