

CANADA



**Canadian Centennial of Flight**  
**350 Terry Fox Drive, Suite 104**  
**Kanata, Ontario K2K 2W5**  
**+1 613 591 8787**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Aerospace Industries Association  
of Canada

Air Cadet League of Canada

Air Force Association of Canada

Air Transport Association of Canada

Canada Aviation Museum

Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame

Canadian Aeronautical Preservation  
Association Inc.

Canadian Aeronautics and  
Space Institute

Canadian Airports Council

Canadian Aviation Historical Society

Canadian Aviation Maintenance Council

Canadian Business Aviation Association

Canadian Owners and Pilots Association

Department of National Defence

NAV Canada

Silver Dart Centennial Association

Vintage Wings of Canada

## **BACKGROUND**

The year 2009 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first powered, heavier-than-air, controlled flight in Canada by J.A.D. McCurdy in the Silver Dart.

Very few nations in the world owe more to flight than Canada. Aviation opened up the country and remains a life-line to many remote and northern areas. The significance of aviation today and what it has done for Canada can be compared to what the Canadian Pacific Railway did for Canada in the years after Confederation. Aerospace activity now makes up a larger component of Canada's industrial base than it does for any other nation.

The Canadian Centennial of Flight Project was envisioned as a way to provide support to Canadians who want to make the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first flight in Canada an opportunity to celebrate not only the historical event of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1909 when the Silver Dart took flight, but also Canadian accomplishments in civilian and military aviation in the decades since then, at home and abroad.

Canadian Centennial of Flight celebrations will encompass the history of aviation and space activities; the education of youth; the technological and commercial aspects of aerospace; development and careers; and most of all – connecting with Canadians.

The national Headquarters of the Centennial of Flight Project is located in Ottawa. Its role is to act as a clearing house for all activities and events that will take place throughout the land in 2009, and to assist with their coordination, planning, promotion and staging.

Many of the activities will highlight achievements of the past 100 years, and will increase Canadians' understanding of the importance of aviation and space endeavours to their country.

The Canadian Centennial of Flight Project is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of key players in the aviation industry, including representatives of associations and organizations that share an appreciation for aerospace, are active in preserving its heritage and look towards shaping its future.

While the first flight took place on that cold February 23<sup>rd</sup> in 1909 in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, the Centennial of Flight Project will be coordinating a year-long commemoration with many exciting and educational activities planned from coast to coast to coast.