



# HARVARD HISTORICAL AVIATION SOCIETY

presents,

## Harvard Flyer

WINTER 2023 ISSUE



### WHAT ARE WE WORKING ON?

Harvard Historical Aviation Society is constantly working to preserve the history and artifacts from #36 Service Flying Training School (SFTS) Penhold, Alberta. This was an advanced facility for training aircrew during WW2 as part of the BCATP (British Commonwealth Air Training Plan). As part of these preservation efforts we are restoring 2 aircraft that were used at Penhold to train pilots and aircrew during WW2. We are currently working on a DH82 Tiger Moth, which will eventually be restored to flying condition. We are also restoring an Airspeed Oxford that was used for advance pilot training. The Oxford will be restored to static display condition. As we fundraise to support these projects, we also work tirelessly at community events to share our regions aviation history, and excite the next generation! You can find our volunteers at aviation and community events across the province, and support our cause from around the world!



### Support Our Aviation History!

Be a part of history! We are able to restore aircraft and artifacts thanks to generous donations from our supporters, and the purchase of memorabilia while visiting our booths at events around the province. Looking to support what we do? Donations are always needed and appreciated. All donations are tax deductible.

You can donate directly from the museum website:

<https://penholdbase.ca/donate/>

E-transfer to: [info@penholdbase.ca](mailto:info@penholdbase.ca). For a charitable tax receipt please email your name and mailing address.

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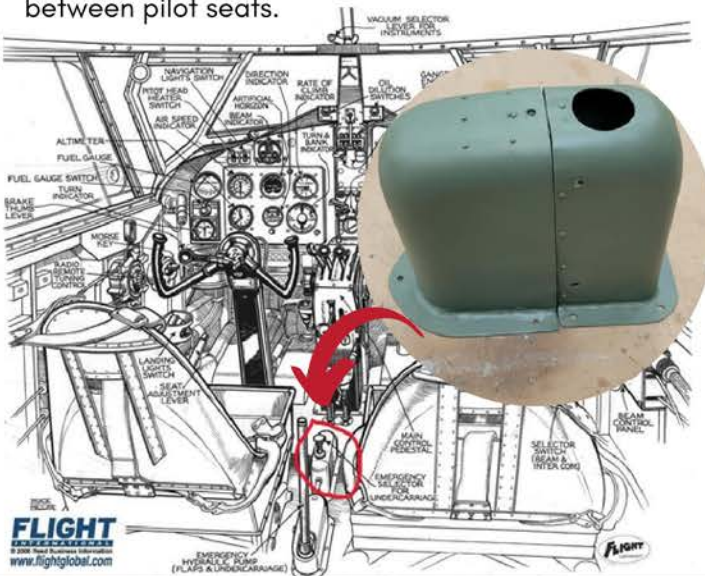
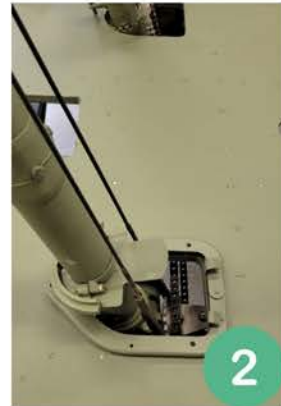




### The Airspeed Oxford Project

Our volunteers working on the Airspeed Oxford now get to work on our traditional "Oxford Green" components. Recently the team took on the test fit of control columns to cockpit floor. These are stressful moments, as these are components that were measured (over and over again) and built over a year ago! The team was very happy to report, these pieces fit like a glove (see photo 1, 2, 3 and 7). Continuing installation of hardware bits and pieces on cockpit floor. Picture 4 shows the top side of the floor with co-pilot seat rails installed.

The volunteers have started fitting the rudder pedal assembly to the cockpit floor. Photos 5 and 6 show you a view is the underside of the cockpit floor. Along with challenging projects, the Oxford team has started the cockpit side wall upper longerons, which are being glued and laminated after steaming, working hard to create a slight curve to match the profile of the cockpit sides. While our restoration team continues to work on the main wooden structure of the cockpit, there are many other parts and pieces that will eventually be attached to complete the cockpit. Picture 8 shows you a shroud for the emergency landing gear selector. To be mounted on the cockpit floor between pilot seats.







### REBUILD OF THE LINK TRAINERS

Wanting to Assist With A New Project? The Harvard Historical Aviation Society has been donated two Link Trainers; and are hoping to get one of these Link Trainers running and functional! Looking to take on the challenge? Get in touch with our team at [penholdbase.ca](http://penholdbase.ca)



### 2024 CENTENNIAL YEAR OF RECOGNITION



1 April 2024 marks 100 years of service for the Royal Canadian Air Force as a distinct military element. The Centennial milestone places the RCAF in a unique position to honour its distinct heritage; recognize its tremendous people today; and generate excitement for its bright future. This is an opportunity to fuel internal and external support in the organization that instills pride in Your Air Force, while creating an enduring legacy that propels the institution forward into its next century of service. Canada's Air Force will be showcased in a past, present and future context, with a focus on highlighting contributions to national safety and security, international peace and global stability.

The RCAF 2024 Team are curating a year-long program that includes International, National and Regional events, such as the RCAF Run, RCAF Gala, Legends of the Sky, and allied air demonstration team participation in Air Shows across Canada, as well as activities to Inspire future generations of Canadians through STEM initiatives, such as the RCAF Gaming Tournament. Check out their website to see which events will take place near you, you just may see the Harvard Historical Aviation Society team there, representing Central Alberta and our RCAF history!

The RCAF Centennial is an opportunity to showcase Air Force personnel and their accomplishments, demonstrate air and space power, enhance the reputation of the RCAF, and proudly honour its distinguished history and heritage.

# 100

YOUR AIR FORCE  
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### The Tiger Moth Project

Work continues on our Tiger Moth Wings, a very detail oriented job that takes great skill and attention! Our dedicated volunteers are starting to clean up the right hand lower wing, and a few minor wood repairs are required, before squaring and covering. Photo 7 shows volunteers Bruce Heaton and Craig Nelson working on the details. As we continue on repairing ribs, seen in photos 1, 2, 3, and 4; it is all hands on deck to ensure that no repair goes without a complete repair! Remember, this airplane is being restored to FLYING CONDITION! If you would like to volunteer to help on this project, we meet on Monday evenings at the Innisfail airport .Contact Gary Hillman if you wish to join in the fun with this restoration! Gary @ 403-886-4187 or [gary@hillmanair.com](mailto:gary@hillmanair.com).





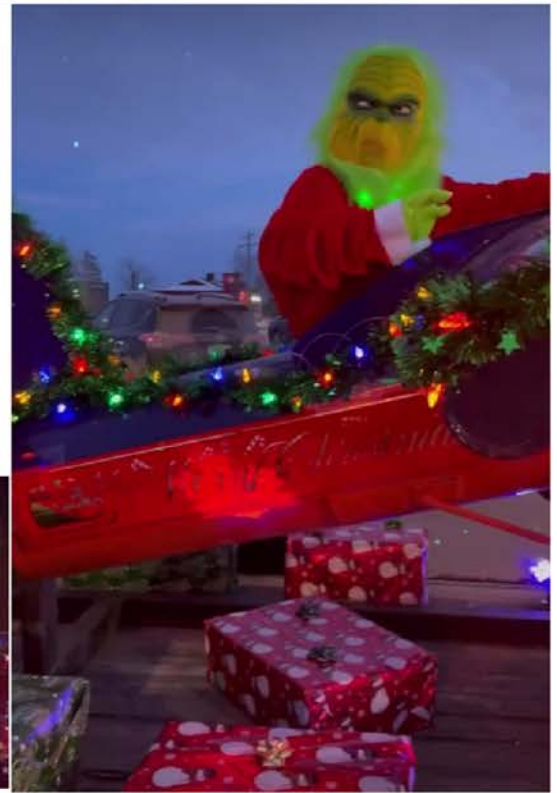
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## WISHING YOU AND YOURS A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

As we enter 2024, we hope that you have all had a safe and happy holiday season with your friends and loved ones. Here at the Harvard Historical Aviation Society, we have celebrated the holidays with an amazing Christmas Parade at our local Springbrook community. Lucky for us, our youngest volunteer was ready to spread some holiday cheer – or take it away – as a Grinch flying through the parade with a beautiful smile! Riding in style with all of the stolen presents, the crowd loved the interaction they were able to have with our float! Huge thank you to the volunteers who joined us for this event, and to the Red Deer Regional Airport for pulling our float and volunteers through the parade route! We can't wait to continue with such wonderful community events in 2024. Happy New Year!



## Volunteer Spotlight: DAN SMITH

Dan is always working behind the scenes to make the Harvard Historical Aviation Society more visible, and working to create more engagement for our supporters! Recently Dan took over the volunteer work of coordinating our new website build. You can always find Dan jumping in to help; and usually has our youngest volunteer in tow! Dan has an attachment to the base not only through his volunteerism with the historical society, but he was also stationed at CFB Penhold, where he met the love of his life – Jodi Smith – our HHAS President!



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The following is an excerpt from Ian Anderson, Former Journalist at Maclean's, showcasing the history many may not be aware of, that indigenous men and women enlisted to volunteer and support Canadian war efforts were stripped of their status.

Some 10,000 Indigenous men and women enlisted to fight for Canada in the two World Wars. But technically you could not call them Canadian – because there was no citizenship for Indigenous peoples during the First or Second World Wars – or during Korea for that matter. While Indigenous peoples in the U.S. attained citizenship and the right to vote in 1925 (partly in recognition for their service in WWI), Canada withheld citizenship until 1960 when John Diefenbaker finally acted.

But that sad information was just the start for me. Of the 4,000 Indigenous men and women who enlisted in WWI, none were provided the post-war benefits available to non-Indigenous vets – land, loans, education. As so-called “wards” of the state, Indigenous veterans were considered ineligible. In fact – and this is beyond callous – information about government programs for WWI vets was usually posted in local Legions. And for most Indigenous vets at that time, the Legions were off limit.

Edith Anderson Monture from Six Nations in Brantford (pictured here in her WWI uniform) is celebrated as Canada's first Indigenous registered nurse. And she was. But she had to take her nursing degree in the U.S., since any Indigenous person in Canada seeking education beyond grade school was required to give up Status, which she refused to do. So in WWI, as an American-educated registered nurse, she served on the front lines with the American Army Nursing Corps – note the U.S. on her shoulder.

Sergeant Tommy Prince from Manitoba (pictured here with his brother Morris) was the most decorated Indigenous soldier in WWII. In fact he received medals for valour from both the Canadian and U.S. armies. And he received them at Buckingham Palace from King George. After the war – and before he volunteered for Korea – he said he “wanted to show that (First Nations soldiers) were as good as any white man.” And he did. But he died penniless in 1977, very likely suffering PTSD.



Following World War II, a truly remarkable program was announced for Indigenous veterans. They could be enfranchised! But only if they gave up their Status. It seems just 250 chose to do so. Others did not get the choice. Incredibly some Indigenous vets returned from WWII to discover they had lost their Status as a result of being absent from their reserves for more than four years, a provision of the Indian Act at that time. I know this madness is difficult to believe. My friend's grandfather got his Status back in the mid-1950s after the Korean War. He had to apply for it. And five years later Parliament made him a citizen and allowed him to vote. On this the 60th anniversary of Indigenous Canadian veterans being permitted to call themselves Canadians, Salute the First Nations, Metis and Inuit men and women who loved and bravely served this country that was so slow to reciprocate their love. Their greatness – along with the greatness of all veterans – should never be forgotten. **And just as they fought for a better world, so must we.**







Are you looking to support local Central Alberta history, and don't know how to make a difference? Consider a membership at your Harvard Historical Aviation Society! Our organization continues to grow, working to support the restoration of artifacts, the telling of historical stories, and the preservation of our local history. Looking to get your hands dirty? Volunteer to support an aircraft build (no experience necessary), or volunteer to work at a local aviation event selling Harvard Historical Aviation Society merchandise! Reach out to [info@penholdbase.ca](mailto:info@penholdbase.ca) today to inquire on how you can help preserve history and share the pride in aviation within Central Alberta!

## YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS

- ✓ Retention of History
- ✓ Preservation of Artifacts
- ✓ Community Programming
- ✓ Facility Retention and Growth
- ✓ Recovery & Restoration of Historic Aircraft

1 year: \$20.00  
Lifetime: \$200.00



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