

Canadian Aviation
Historical Society

CAHS

TO CANADA
FROM AUSTRALIA
AVIATION & FLIGHT
KNOWLEDGE
CONNECTIONS
IDEAS

AVIATION CULTURES
Spanning the Globe

MK VIII CONFERENCE

KF CENTRE FOR
EXCELLENCE

CAHS National Convention Aviation Cultures Mk VIII
17-20 June 2026 aviationcultures.org

PROGRAM



We are delighted to invite you to the

Aviation Cultures Mk.VIII Conference & the Canadian Aviation Historical Society Annual Convention

June 17-20 | Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada & Online

In June 2026, Aviation Cultures Mk.VIII Conference will run in partnership with, and at the same time as, the Canadian Aviation Historical Society (CAHS) annual Convention.

Live events will be in Kelowna, BC, Canada, hosted at the state of the art KF Centre For Excellence (CFE) aviation museum, conference centre and educational facility. Online sessions will run from the live event, with capacity for audience input and discussion.

Whether you join us in Canada or dial in online, you'll get shared ideas and knowledge on a range of topics and perspectives, plus experience the KF Centre For Excellence.



You will find the speaker program below, with advance details of speakers, panels and presentations on a range of themes.

You can find out more about Aviation Cultures at aviationcultures.org, about the CAHS at www.cahs.com, and details of the CFE aviation museum at KFcentre.ca.

It's going to be an exceptional event, and we'd love to see you at Aviation Cultures Mk.VIII, online or in person!

*Yours, Aviation Cultures Mk.VIII Conference co-organisers,
James Kightly, Edward Soye and Phil Vabre*

Click below to visit the registration pages:

ONLINE TICKETS

IN PERSON TICKETS



The Program

Aviation Cultures, the Canadian Aviation Historical Society, and KF Centre For Excellence are each organising a selection of presentations by topic experts. The event is open to all and we are very keen to enable audience questions and input, whether you attend online or in person. (As normal, please note that program details may unavoidably have to change, due to circumstances outside the organisers control. Any updates will be shared as soon as possible.)

Aviation Cultures is presenting three panel sessions:

Session 1: *Aviation Museums - Selecting What Stories to Tell*

- Erin Gregory & Valerie Wood - *Back(log) to the Future: Adventures in Uncatalogued Objects at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum*
- Jonathan Scotland - *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography / Dictionnaire bibliographique du Canada (DCB/DBC) and Canada's Second World War in the Air*
- John Weatherseed – *Mannock's 3rd, The Fascinating Story Behind an Innocuous Museum Artefact*

Session 2: *Aerodromes & Airlines*

- Jane Ferguson - *Plastic Passengers? Debating the Boundaries of the Human in Thai Aviation*
- Nik Zimmerman - *There's Something in the Air: RCAF Station Abbotsford, 1943-1945*
- Kimberly Fraser - *Wind beneath their Wings: 100 Years of flight at Canada's Oldest Operating Airport*
- Yasaman Lotfizadeh - *Airline Branding: Iran Airs's Mythical Homa Bird & Air Canada's Maple Leaf*

Session 3: *The Cold War and Beyond*

- Richard Goette - *The RCAF and the Establishment of an Air Transport Unit for the 1960 United Nations Congo Peacekeeping Mission*
- James 'Ted' Rolfe - *A Canadian Exchange Pilot in Op Desert Shield/Desert Storm*
- Jeff Schultz - *Forgotten Valour: Canadian Pilots and Aircraft in Korea*

Continues Overleaf

The Program Cont ...

Aviation Cultures is also hosting two independent presentations:

- Rénaud Fortier - *Game On! A brief look at the history of aviation themed board games*
- David Waechter - *Aeronautical Engineering at the University of Toronto: The Early History*



The Canadian Aviation Historical Society is hosting a range of presentations:

- Richard de Boer - *Warbird Hunters*
- Bruce Sutherland - *Hunting Russian Subs in the Cold War - Has Anything Changed*
- Martin Keenan - *The de Havilland Comet: The Canadian Story*
- Jerry Vernon - *The Grumman Goose in RCAF Service*
- Tim Cole - *Prospectors Airways — "A Canadian First"*
- Allan Snowie - *Halifax Cenotaph, Nova Scotia*
- Mark Peapell - *The Malton Lankys*
- Jacqueline A. Gibbons - *George Cayley: Scholar, Polymath, Guru*
- Jim Bates - *The Hawker Hurricane in Canada: HWE use and CCF production*



The event is immersed in the significant aircraft and artefacts of the KF Centre for Excellence, our hosts.

CFE staff will be presenting:

- Andy Moore, CFE Volunteer - *de Havilland Mosquito*
- Bob Garry, CFE Volunteer - *CF-104 Starfighter*
- Luke Staber, CFE aircraft maintenance engineer - *CF-104 Starfighter and Sabre*
- D'Arcy Barker, CFE chief aircraft maintenance engineer - *Tempest and others*

Times and dates of Aviation Cultures Mk.VIII Conference & Canadian Aviation Historical Society Convention, Hosted by the KF Centre for Excellence

(All times are the local Canadian Pacific Daylight Time, PDT, UTC-7):

Wednesday 17 June:

- 7 pm to 9:30 pm - Meet and Greet reception (all attendees; spouses and guests welcome at an additional charge)

Thursday 18 June:

- 8:30 am to 4:30 pm - convention sessions
- Free evening

Friday 19 June:

- 8:30 am to 4:30 pm - morning tours of the KF Centre for Excellence aircraft and KF Aerospace; convention sessions
- 6 pm to 9:30 pm - reception and banquet at the Four Points Sheraton

Saturday 20 June:

- 8:30 am to 10:30 am - CAHS annual general meeting
- 10:30 am to 4:30 pm - convention sessions
- Free evening

Sunday 21 June:

- 8 am to 10 am - farewell breakfast (details to be confirmed).

The event presentations will be live streamed at the above local times, a timetable for the online audience with exact details will be provided.

Join us! – Ticket Info

Online access will be provided through the Zoom platform, by Aviation Cultures, while the in-person event is being managed by the CAHS.

Online registration and payment are made through the Aviation Cultures payment website. The flat rate for attending the event is Can \$50.

Full **in-person registration** for CAHS National members is Can \$325 (Can \$350 for non-members, which includes a one year online membership in the CAHS). Daily rates are also available.

Click the buttons below to go to the ticket sites.

ONLINE TICKETS

IN PERSON TICKETS

We'll be sharing more details and timings as we get closer to the event. Do feel free to contact us with any general questions by email at info@aviationcultures.org. Details of the practical aspects of the in-person event and logistics, plus hotel details, can be best directed to Jim Bell, the CAHS Convention chairperson, at cahsconvention@gmail.com

We look forward to you joining us for this exceptional event!