

Activities report, 2021 Regina Chapter, Canadian Aviation Historical Society

2021 was a challenging year for the Regina Chapter of the CAHS but we were still able to hold several presentations for our members and guests, all using the Zoom platform. We recorded many of these presentations and had them uploaded to the National CAHS You Tube channel. A brief overview of our year included the following.

January – Zoom presentation by Will Chabun on select photos from the collection of the late Brian Findlay, a local pilot, flying instructor, air traffic controller, aviation artist and photographer.

February – on Zoom, presentation by expat Reginan Michael Gropp on his career flying military Sea King helicopters and his postwar time on air ambulance helicopters.

March – Joint Zoom presentation with members of the Winnipeg and Toronto chapters on the 1987 visit of a Concorde supersonic transport bearing the president of France to Regina.

April – Member Peter Maw's Zoom account an airplane-spotting tour of the east coast of the US in 1986.

May – Recording of an earlier presentation by Doug Chisholm and Dan Dennis on the 1955 crash of an Associated Airways Avro York freighter in the Northwest Territories, the events leading up to it, and the recent search for the wreck.

June – Zoom presentation by author Marie Donais Calder on the 1946 crash of an RCAF Dakota transport at Estevan, claiming the lives of all 21 airmen aboard, and the book she recently wrote on this tragedy. As an outgrowth of this, chapter members Gary Williams and Will Chabun attended a well-masked, properly distanced, open-air memorial ceremony at 15 Wing on Sept. 15 that commemorated those killed in the 1946 tragedy. A copy of the article our chapter prepared on this appeared in both the CAHS email newsletter and *Air Force*, magazine of the RCAF Association.

September - Zoom presentation with CAHS Ottawa chapter member John Henderson on some interesting aspects of the history of the RCMP's air arm over the last 85 years.

October – Zoom presentation by Saskatoon's Don Bradshaw on the Second World War-vintage Messerschmitt Bf-109G fighter he is restoring in Saskatoon.

November – Zoom presentation by Gordon Barnes on the aviation career of his late father, Ken Burns, a senior draftsman with Avro Canada during the development of the legendary CF-105 Arrow interceptor.

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December - informal virtual “aviation kitchen party” built around an open mike session, vintage slides from Goose Bay in 1957 and a spotters contest.

Over the same period, our chapter has published its monthly *Windssock* newsletter, using a mix of articles on presentations, pertinent regional aviation news and “canned” articles that have appeared earlier or elsewhere.

We look forward to the end of public health restrictions and the possibility of gathering and showing off our chapter to the public.

Blue skies,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light green background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Roland Groome'.

**Chapter President, Roland Groome (Regina) Chapter
Canadian Aviation Historical Society**

Prepared by Will Chabun, Program Director