



SUBMISSIONS BEING SOUGHT FOR THE J. A. WILSON AIR POWER AND HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

The Royal Canadian Air Force Journal is pleased to assist the RCAF Heritage Fund (RCAF HF) in announcing the first annual J. A. Wilson Air Power and History Essay Contest. The top prize in the contest is \$1,750, with the runner-up garnering \$750.

ESSAY TOPICS

The essay contest is open to individuals who produce a well-researched, scholarly paper relating to one of the following subject areas:

- a. Canadian military aviation—history / historical operations;
- b. the RCAF and national security;
- c. RCAF policy and doctrine;
- d. RCAF organizational and development issues;
- e. RCAF operations;
- f. the RCAF and equipment acquisition;
- g. Canadian space policy and issues;
- h. Canadian air defence, sovereignty-policy and issues; and
- i. Global air and space power issues (e.g., coalition operations, air policing, future aviation technology, space).

Questions concerning the suitability of a topic should be referred to the RCAF Chief Historian, Dr. Richard Mayne, at Richard.Mayne@forces.gc.ca.

SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

The following guidelines shall be followed for all submissions to the J. A. Wilson Air Power and History Essay Contest:

- a. Submissions may be made in either of Canada's two official languages.
- b. Submissions are to be between 3,000 and 5,000 words in length, not including endnotes/footnotes.

- c. Submissions are to be written in accordance with the conventions of *The Chicago Manual of Style*.
- d. Authors should follow *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* or *Le Petit Robert* spelling conventions.
- e. Essays should be submitted digitally in Microsoft Word or rich-text format.
- f. All supporting tables, images and figures that accompany the text should be sent in separate files (i.e., not embedded in the text). Original vector files are preferred; high-resolution (not less than 300 dpi) .psd or .jpg files may be submitted.
- g. Copyright permissions are required for all material that is not Department of National Defence (DND) or author originated.
- h. The author must include a brief biographical sketch (not more than 250 words) that includes their current position/occupation and contact information (telephone number, email address).

SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND DETAILS

Submissions to the J. A. Wilson Air Power and History Essay Contest are to be sent to the RCAF Chief Historian at Richard.Mayne@forces.gc.ca and should include the contest name in the subject line. Entries must be received no later than Friday, November 26, 2021. Late submissions will not be considered. Essays must be original. Those that have been published elsewhere will be rejected.

Submissions will be vetted by the RCAF HF. Selection criteria for essay prizes are subjective in nature and are solely based upon the RCAF HF committee's opinion as to the applicability and utility of the submissions in furthering Canadian air power and historical studies. Individuals whose submissions are not chosen will be notified via email.

Winning authors agree that the right of first refusal for the publication of their essay will rest with the editor of the *Royal Canadian Air Force Journal*.

BACKGROUND

John Armistead Wilson was born in Scotland in 1879, trained as an engineer and moved to Canada in 1905. Although he was not an aviator himself, he was heavily involved in the formation of the Royal Canadian Naval Air Service. He was a key figure in the formulation of the Air Board Act of 1919 and most post-war aviation policy for Canada. While he was dubbed "the Father of Canadian Civil Aviation," the policies he spearheaded ensured the mechanisms and political support essential for the successful creation and eventual growth of the RCAF. He was inducted as a member of Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 1974, twenty years after his death. He is generally regarded as one of Canada's first "airminded" thinkers.

The RCAF HF is an independent organization designed to promote and preserve Canadian military aviation history and heritage projects that have difficulty finding support from other sources.