CANADIAN AVIATION CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW

November 17-19, 2026
Westin Bayshore Hotel, Vancouver, BC

ATAC
Air Transport Association of Canada
Association du transport aérien du Canada

Preliminary Program 2026

(Updated – November 16)

ATAC's Canadian Aviation Conference and Tradeshow is the premier national gathering offering Canada's best networking, learning, and sales opportunity for operators, suppliers, and government stakeholders involved in commercial aviation and flight training in Canada.

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- AAR MRO Services – Trois-Rivières
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- TKH Airport Solutions / JCAI
- Transportation Safety Board of Canada
- Universal Avionics
- Vmo Solutions
- Western Propeller
- Wings Magazine

CANADIAN AVIATION CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW 2026 - PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Committee Meetings and Plenary Sessions are closed to Media
Sessions are subject to change

The views expressed by the presenters at ATAC's conference are solely that of the presenter and does not necessarily reflect the views of ATAC, our Sponsors or other associated parties.

Monday, November 16 (Pre-Conference)

09:00 – 13:30
Oak

Board of Directors' Meeting (Board Members Only)
(Lunch Sponsored by WASCO)

13:30 – 17:30
Cypress

Pre-Conference Workshop: Beyond SAF – What ESG Really Means for Canadian Aviation
Stephanie Bertels, Professor of Sustainability - Simon Fraser University; Constance Drilhon, Snr Director Sustainability – CAE; Nancy Foran, President & Founder - ESG Partners; and Chelsea Jukes, Chief HR Officer, Rise Air

> This workshop will take participants through three practical steps:

1. **Understand the ESG landscape**
   Learn where ESG comes from, where aviation stands today, and where industry expectations are heading.
2. **Explore real-world case studies**
   Discover how aviation organizations are turning ESG into business value while understanding the risks of inaction.
3. **Participate in an interactive workshop**
   Exchange ideas with industry peers, discuss upcoming challenges and help shape a collaborative approach for the future of Canadian aviation.

16:00 – 17:00
Oak

Associations Presidents' Meeting *(by invitation only)*

18:00 – 20:00

"Usual Suspects Dinner" for Flight Training Community *(by invitation only)*

20:00 – 23:00
Marine

"Moose Milk" Reception / Welcome Reception *(Everybody welcome)*
(Co-Sponsored by Global Aerospace, Air Inuit, Apex Aircraft Sales, Northern Lights Aero Foundation and PAL Airlines)

Tuesday, November 17

07:30 – 17:30
Foyer

Registration

08:00 – 15:00
Tradeshow Hall

Exhibitor Set up

08:30 – 11:00
Seymour

Air Cargo Committee

> Welcome and Overview of Committee
> *Greg Fowler, General Manager, Morningstar Air Express*
> 1 to 2 Member or Industry Partner Presentations (TBC)
> Flow Control Impacts on Express Freight Movements at Major Airports
> *Greg Fowler and Members*
> Dangerous Goods Committee Highlights
> *Colleen Tieman, Chair, ATAC DG Committee (Purolator Courier)*
> IATA Air Cargo Update
> *John Bernardi, Regional Cargo Manager Americas*
> Hot Topics / Round Table
> IATA World Cargo Symposium – Calgary, March 2027

08:30 – 11:45
Stanley Park 1

Technical Operations and Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul (MRO) Committee – Session 1

> Updates from the LMIA project on skills shortages in aviation
> *Theresa David-Woodhouse, Canadian Council for Aviation and Aerospace*
> AME Competency Based Training
> *Benoit Lecours, Air Canada*
> Transport Canada Update
> *Bruce Kelly, Transport Canada*

08:30 – 12:00
Cypress

Flight Training Committee (Session 1)

> Opening Remarks & Key Issues Discussion
Bob Connors, Waterloo Wellington Flight Centre, Committee Chair

> Symbiotics and LIFT – A discussion and workshop on Leadership, psychometrics and the LIFT program
Aleksandra Kapela, EAAP Aviation Psychologist, Associate Aviation Psychologist at Symbiotics, MRAeS and Josh Bricker Director, Flight Operations Training & Recruitment at Porter Airlines

> Transport Canada Pilot Training and Licensing Update
Kimberly Lysak, Pilot Training and Licensing; Andrew Armstrong, Acting Chief, Pilot Training and Licensing; Frank Brzobohaty Acting Program Manager – Special Projects Group and Ajit Oommen Chief – Foreign Operations Division, National Simulation Evaluation Program

09:00 – 11:45
MacKenzie

Cabin Operations Committee

> Welcome & Introductions
Julie Mailhot, ATAC and Christopher Dann, Transport Canada

> Transport Canada Civil Aviation Cabin Safety Update
Christopher Dann, Civil Aviation Safety Inspector, Cabin Safety Standards, Transport Canada

> IATA Cabin Safety Update
Jonathan Jasper, Senior Manager – Cabin Safety, IATA

> UL Standards and Engagement Thermal Runaway Incident Program (TRIP)
David Wroth, Vice President, Technology and Operations

> Roundtable and Closing Remarks
Christopher Dann & Julie Mailhot

10:00 – 10:30
Foyer

Coffee Break in Foyer
(Sponsored by The Boeing Company)

10:30 – 12:00
Oak

Safety Committee (Session 1)

> Welcome & Introductions
Cathy Hornsby, Canadian North

> Collaborative Analysis Group (CAG) Update
Michel (Mike) Roy, Chief, Strategic Risk Management and Integration, Transport Canada

> SMS Modernization
Mireille Lapensee, Program Manager, Safety Oversight and SMS, Transport Canada

11:00 – 12:00
Seymour

Dangerous Goods Committee (Session 1) (MEMBERS ONLY)

> Welcome and In-Camera Session (SWAP SHOP)
Colleen Tieman, DG Programs & Reg. Affairs, PurolatorC

12:00 – 13:30
Stanley Park Ballroom

Industry Luncheon (Ticketed Event)
(Co-Sponsored by De Havilland Aircraft of Canada and NAV CANADA)

> ATAC Awards Presentation

> DCAM Award Presentation

> **Keynote Speaker: Neil Van Andel, Air Canada - Pioneering Aircraft Drone Inspection in Canada**

13:30 – 17:00
Seymour

Dangerous Goods Committee with Regulator (Session 2)

> Regulators – TBA & Hot Topics
Colleen Tieman, Chair

> IATA Air Cargo Dangerous Goods Update
John Bernardi, Regional Cargo Manager Americas

> UL Thermal Runaway Incident Program (TRIP) - Presentation
David Wroth, Vice President, Technology & Operations, UL Standards & Engagement

13:30– 17:00
Cypress

Flight Training Committee (Session 2)

> NAV CANADA Update
Anthony MacKay and Chris Rieken

> Panel Discussion - Identifying New Hire Pilot Strengths & Weaknesses and Training Area Congestion
***Moderator:** Lynne McMullen, Cygnet Aviation*
***Panel:** Jen Reynolds, Air Tindi; Paul Slaney, PAL Airlines; Darcy Coonfer, Pacific Coastal Airlines; Clark Duimel, Pacific Flying Club and Chris Walsh, Moncton Flight College*

> EVTOL Update
Patrick Coulter, FlightSafety International

13:30 – 16:45
Oak

Safety Committee (Session 2)

> Human Factors Exchange (Event Hosted by Flair Oct 20-21)
Jeffrey Lai, Pilot Training Development Manager, Flair Airlines

> C-Cast Update Spotlight – Abnormal Runway Contact (ARC) Hard Landing Study - Discussion
Steve Roberts, APS Aerospace; Capt. David Virgin, APS Aerospace and Benjamin Baker, APS Aerospace

> Global Action Plan for the Prevention of Airborne Conflict (GAPPAC) Procedure Conformance
Nick van Aalst, Manager, Strategic Safety Integration, NAV CANADA

14:00 – 17:00 **MacKenzie**

Security Committee (MEMBERS ONLY – NO MEDIA)

> Introductions from the Chair around the table
Ole Fisker, Voyageur Aviation-Committee Chair
> Transport Canada Update
Kathy Sieders, Associate Director, Operations, Western & Yukon Region
> IATA Global Security Update
Matthew Vaughan, Director-Aviation Security, IATA
> CATSA Update - Looking Ahead
Sara Frost, Director Program Operation, CATSA
> TSA Update
Zach Landis, International Industry Representative Canada, United States Transportation Security Administration

14:00 – 16:30 **Stanley Park 1**

Technical Operations and Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) Committee – Session 2

> Strengthening Local MRO Capability for Sustainable Aviation
Daniel Lapierre, ATAC
> Making Change Stick – How to Prevent Backsliding and Build Lasting Improvement
Jonathan Stymiest, Stymiest and Associates
> Transport Canada Civil Aviation
Dean Barrett, Transport Canada and Yvan Chabot, Transport Canada

15:00 – 15:30 **Foyer**

Coffee Break in Foyer
(Sponsored by Air Canada Maintenance)

MAINTENANCE

17:00 – 19:00 **Tradeshow Hall**

Opening Reception in the Tradeshow
(Sponsored by Air Canada Maintenance)

MAINTENANCE

Wednesday, November 18

07:00 – 17:30 **Foyer**

Registration

07:15 – 08:15 **Tradeshow Hall**

Hot and Cold Breakfast in the Tradeshow
(Sponsored by Deutsche Aircraft)

DEUTSCHE AIRCRAFT

08:15 – 09:00 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

92nd Annual Meeting

> Chair's Remarks
> Treasurer's Report
> President's Annual Report

09:00 – 09:20 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

ATAC Year-in-Review
Julie Mailhot, Air Transport Association of Canada

09:20 – 10:00 **Tradeshow Hall**

Coffee Break in the Tradeshow
(Sponsored by Air Support)

AIR SUPPORT

10:00 – 11:00 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

Plenary Session with Transport Canada Civil Aviation
Opening remarks: Deputy Minister Michael Vandergrift
Panel: Michel Béland and Jamie MacDermid, Transport Canada

11:00 – 11:15 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

Update on APPR
Vincent Millette, Transport Canada

11:15 – 12:00 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

Plenary Session on Human Factor of Pilot During Cyber Threat
Hans Obas, A330 Captain

12:00 – 13:30 **Tradeshow Hall**

Buffet Lunch in the Tradeshow
(Co-Sponsored by Avmax)

13:30 – 14:30 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

Fireside Chat with CEOs
Speakers: Joseph Sparling, Air North; Shelly De Caria, Canadian North; Joey Petrisor, Perimeter Aviation and Derek Nice, Rise Air
Moderator: Tracy Medve, KF Aerospace

> Together, these northern aviation leaders will explore the critical challenges shaping air transportation across Northern Canada, including airport infrastructure and funding, navigation and weather services, regulatory requirements, duty time constraints, workforce shortages, and the long-term sustainability of regional air service. From runway standards and airport modernization to pilot recruitment, fatigue regulations, and sustainable funding models, this conversation will examine what must change to ensure northern communities have access to safe, reliable, and affordable air transportation.

14:30 – 15:15 **Stanley Park 1-2-3**

Plenary Session with Chair of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada
Yoan Marier, Transportation Safety Board of Canada

15:15 **Coffee Break in room**
Stanley Park 1-2-3 ***(Sponsored by ATR)***

15:15 – 15:30 **Introduction of New Chair of the Canadian Transportation Agency**
Stanley Park 1-2-3 *Alain Langlois, Canadian Transportation Agency*

15:30 – 16:30 **Plenary Session with NAV CANADA**
Stanley Park 1-2-3 *Marie-Pier Berman and Amanda Sarginson, NAV CANADA*
> Strategic Initiatives (TBO and CNMU, DAATS) including joining SESAR
> ANS Outlook – i.e. DME expansion/resiliency
> Traffic Forecast and Financial Strategy Update
> System Performance: Summer 2026 Retrospective
> Training and Recruiting
> LOS - Aeronautical study updates, VAMP
> ADS-B in Classes C, D, and E

16:00 – 19:00 **ATAC Tradeshow Connect (Ticketed event for invited guests)**
Tradeshow Hall This is a new networking opportunity taking place in the tradeshow area for full-conference delegates, as well as exhibitors who wish to bring local employees, customers, prospects, and operational staff, particularly those who directly use exhibitors' products and services.

16:30 – 17:00 **Plenary Session on Lithium Battery**
Stanley Park 1-2-3 *David Wroth and Marie White, UL Standards & Engagement*
Turning Lithium Battery Incident Data into Aviation Safety Action
Lithium battery thermal runaway incidents continue to be a growing concern across the aviation sector. Learn how TRIP (Thermal Runaway Incident Program) is helping the industry better understand and mitigate those risks.
1. Understand the emerging risk landscape.
2. Discover how industry data is driving safety improvements.
3. Explore the power of industry collaboration.

17:00 – 19:00 **Chair's Reception in the Tradeshow**
Tradeshow Hall ***(Sponsored by Air Canada Maintenance)***

Thursday, November 19

07:30 – 15:00 **Registration**
Foyer

07:30 – 08:30 **Hot and Cold Breakfast in the Tradeshow**
Tradeshow Hall ***(Co-Sponsored by The Benefits Trust)***

08:25 – 12:00 **Legal Committee ** Eligible for CLE ** (LEGAL COMMUNITY ONLY)**
Oak
> Round the table introductions and opening remarks – Chair
Amanda Sarginson, NAV CANADA
> HR Legal Update
Lauren Jamieson, Emond Harnden LLP
> Recent Developments in Canadian Aviation Law
Carlos Martins, WeirFoulds LLP
> Cyber Security Update
NAV CANADA
> Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) Regulatory Update
Lawrence Chow, Director General, CTA

08:30 – 12:00 **Flight Training Committee (Session 3)**
Cypress
> ATO Update What you need to know?
Rick Stevens, AeroCourse
> Canadian Electronic Conspicuity Framework
Bernard Gervais, NATA
> CCAA Workforce Insights
Canadian Council for Aviation and Aerospace
> "An employment and labour law update"
Lauren Jamieson, Emond Harden LLP

08:45 – 09:45 **ATAC Exhibitor Committee with ATAC's President (All Exhibitors Welcome)**
MacKenzie *Julie Mailhot, ATAC*

09:00 – 10:00 **Stanley Park 1**

Joint Environment and Flight Operations Committee

> **Taking off Permafrost: Impact of Climate Change to Northern Runways**
Dr. Michael Allard, Université Laval and Dr. Fabrice Calmels, Yukon University

10:00 – 10:30 **Tradeshow Hall**

Coffee Break in the Tradeshow
(Sponsored by Vancouver International Airport)

10:30 – 12:00 **Stanley Park 1**

Environment Committee

> Update on Blueprint action in Canada and Letter to BC MP
Juliana Lisi, C-SAF
> Update on Corsia - SAF
Fiona Lopez Cambronel, IATA
> Update on latest TCCA environmental topic (TBC)
Drew Dutton, David Bilcock and Jon Obnamia, Transport Canada

10:30 – 12:00 **Stanley Park 3**

Flight Operations Committee with TCCA and NAV CANADA (Session 1)

> Technical Expertise is not Enough: The People Skills Behind Effective Aviation Leadership
Aleksandra Kapela, Symbiotics
> Upgrade Readiness: How the Industry Can Support Safe, Competent Transitions
Josh Bricker
> Panel Discussion: Assessing & Developing Soft Skills for Command Upgrades
Aleksandra Kapela, Symbiotics; Josh Bricket, Consultant; Rick Stevens, AeroCourse and Brent Card, Porter Airlines
> Panel Discussion on True North: The Switch from Magnetic North
Anthony MacKay, NAV CANADA and Rob Astwood, Calm Airs

12:00 – 13:30 **Tradeshow Hall**

Buffet Lunch in the Tradeshow

13:30 – 17:00 **Stanley Park 3**

Flight Operations Committee with TCCA and NAV CANADA (Session 2)

> Transport Canada Civil Aviation Update
Jamie MacDermid, Transport Canada and Yvan Chabot, Transport Canada
> YVR Apron Management Service
Brett Patterson, Vancouver International Airport
> NAV CANADA Update
Jeff Dawson , Bob Fiege and Chris Bowden, NAV CANADA

13:45 – 16:30 **Cypress**

Flight Training Committee (Session 4) **(CLOSED SESSION – FTUs ONLY)**

> When Defenses Fail: A Nighttime Runway Incursion Case Study"
Chris Walsh, MFC
> Beyond the Simulator: Using a Mixed Reality Ecosystem to Train Pilots for the Real World
Rachel Lawless VP, Corporate Affairs. CTS Aero
> From Curiosity to Connection: The Power of Learning from Each Other **(FTUs Members Only)**
Amanda Devine, Select Aviation and Mike Adam, Air Tindi

13:30 – 17:00 **Oak**

Human Resources Committee

> CCAA - Updates from the LMIA project on skills shortages in aviation
Theresa David-Woodhouse, Canadian Council for Aviation and Aerospace
> Transport Canada Update - AME Shortages
Bruce Kelly, Transport Canada
> Labour market update - Bill C-39
Lauren Jamieson, Emond Harnden
> Defining 2026-2027 HR Committee Objectives
Daniel Lapierre, ATAC

13:30 – 18:00 **Tradeshow Hall**

Tradeshow Teardown

14:15 – 16:45 **Seymour**

Accessibility Committee

> Round the table introductions and opening remarks
> Toward Common Forms: Harmonizing Service Dog and Emotional Support Dog Documentation
Sheila Duhaime, Accessibility Manager, Flair Airlines
> "Air Travel Requirements Assessment Form" NACC Accessibility Committee
Jim Ferrier, Director Public Policy, NACC
> New Air Canada Travel Policy To Help Accessible Travellers
Kerianne Wilson, Director-Customer Accessibility, Air Canada and Ben Almond, Bisco Solutions
> CTA Update
Lawrence Chow, Director General, CTA and Susan Clark, CTA

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee Break in Foyer**
Foyer *(Sponsored by Air Canada Maintenance)*

MAINTENANCE

16:30 – 19:00 **Closing Reception**
Marine *(Sponsored by KF Aerospace)*

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