



Manitoba Aerospace honours industry excellence

On November 28, 2024, Manitoba Aerospace held its 21st annual Aerospace All-Stars Awards of Excellence to recognize four recipients for their achievements in the local aerospace and aviation industries.

The event recognizes teams or individuals who have demonstrated excellence in a variety of areas from leadership to business growth. Nominated by their industry peers, the 2024 Award of Excellence recipients are:

Award of Excellence for Leadership 17 Wing Winnipeg RCAF Centennial

Since its establishment in 1925, 17 Wing in Winnipeg has been a cornerstone of our community, employing approximately 800 aviation personnel and supporting nearly 2000 DND/CAF members who ensure the safety of Canadians every day. As we celebrate the RCAF's 100th anniversary in 2024 and 17 Wing's 100th anniversary in April 2025, we honor the dedicated members and their families. The squadrons and units that make up 17 Wing include 402 Squadron, 435 Transport and Rescue Squadron, Barker College, the Canadian Forces School of Survival and Aeromedical Training (CFSSAT), and the RCAF Band. These entities work tirelessly to benefit Manitobans and the RCAF. They have also created partnerships with local organizations, such as the Grace Hospital and the United Way of Winnipeg, which foster community growth and support. The families of our military members also contribute valuable skills and volunteer efforts locally, enriching our community in countless ways. It is because 17 Wing is a pillar of excellence and community leadership that it deserves this esteemed 2024 Award of Excellence.



Award of Excellence for Industry/Government Collaboration

StandardAero

Women Transitioning to Careers in Aerospace 2.0

StandardAero strives to foster a workplace culture prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion, to ensure all employees feel valued and empowered. This commitment is exemplified by the Women in Aerospace 2.0 program, addressing gender equality, workforce diversity, and economic empowerment. In collaboration with Manitoba Aerospace, MITT, Neeginan College, and with funding through the Winnipeg-Eastern Service Area (Province of Manitoba), the program tackled skills shortages through a strong industry and government partnership. It insured relevant training, job placements, internships, and guaranteed employment for graduates, offering them immediate opportunities as well as long-term career growth through mentorship, coaching, and continuous learning. The program helped the women gain good paying jobs and also created role models who can inspire future generations of women to pursue aerospace careers. By challenging gender stereotypes and increasing women's workforce representation, programs like this foster a more inclusive, innovative, and collaborative industry. Congratulations to StandardAero for its commitment to gender equality and workforce diversity, thereby earning this distinguished 2024 Award of Excellence.



"We are excited to recognize the recipients of the 2024 All-Stars Awards for their significant contributions to the Manitoba Aerospace Industry," said Brent Ostermann, Chair of the Board of Manitoba Aerospace Inc. and StandardAero's VP of Product Assurance and Quality.

College Polytechnic and the University of Manitoba - Price Faculty of Engineering.

Aerospace in Manitoba

Manitoba's state-of-the-art aerospace, aviation, and defence sector is the largest in western Canada and is the third largest hub in Canada, producing and selling more than \$1.6 billion dollars of products and services annually. Aerospace is one of the province's premier industries and directly employs more than 4,000 highly skilled Manitobans.

About Manitoba Aerospace

Manitoba Aerospace is a not-for-profit sector association that works to connect the local aerospace industry to national and international markets and also aims to develop a world-class workforce to meet industry's needs through partnerships with Manitoba educational institutions and other key stakeholders. We support and promote the local aerospace and aviation sectors through human resource initiatives, business development, as well as innovation, research, and technology.

For more information on the Manitoba Aerospace All-Star Awards of Excellence and past recipients, visit www.mbaerospace.ca

Award of Excellence for Education

Randy Herrmann and Peter Jordan

ReNew World Ideas: Indigenous Ingenuity in the 21st Century

Randy Herrmann is the Director of the Engineering Access Program (ENGAP) at the University of Manitoba and has been pivotal in supporting Indigenous education. Peter Jordan is a renowned storyteller and founder of Birch Bark Canoe Productions. He has dedicated his career to highlighting innovation and cultural heritage within Canada. In partnership with Manitoba Aerospace, the "ReNew World Ideas: Indigenous Ingenuity in the 21st Century" initiative began in 2012. It has created documentaries and teacher's guides that highlight Indigenous contributions to not only engineering and science but also to the Canadian way of life. It has inspired Indigenous youth to pursue STEM careers, and integrated Indigenous STEM perspectives into the curriculum of classrooms in Manitoba and beyond. The exceptional dedication and collaborative efforts of both Randy and Peter on the project have significantly enriched our understanding and appreciation of Indigenous innovations. Their unwavering commitment to education and the promotion of Indigenous knowledge makes them truly deserving of this prestigious 2024 Award of Excellence.



Randy Herrmann



Peter Jordan

Helping students and industry take flight

"This evening celebrates our current recipients and supports the future of the Manitoba Aerospace Industry by raising funds for the Manitoba Aerospace Student Endowment Fund. Since its inception, the fund has raised over \$434,000 CDN and assisted more than 150 deserving students," commented Ostermann.

"Many of these students have graduated and become contributors to our aerospace industry, developing key specialized skills in aerospace or aviation through our provincial academic institutions. We are proud to bring the Aerospace community together to celebrate successes of our colleagues, while supporting the development of our future."

This year's student recipients from the Student Endowment fund are from Tec-Voc High School, Neeginan College of Applied Technology, Red River

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