

## **ATAC OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

(Formerly named ATAC Achievers Honour Roll)

ATAC has established a practice of recognizing the outstanding achievements in our industry.

### **The Innovation Award**

In keeping with this tradition, ATAC conducted from 2000 to 2003 a series of awards for Canadian flight schools, air taxi and charter operators, which celebrated innovative approaches in the Canadian aviation industry. The awards were selected by a panel of senior industry and government representatives. The Innovation Award recognized companies who demonstrated that they have incorporated best practices for increasing safety and increased product quality, by developing a practice, or strategy that is so innovative it will serve as an example for others to follow and learn from.

*This initiative was replaced with the ATAC Achievers Honour Roll in November 2004.*

### **ATAC Achievers Honour Roll**

In honour of ATAC Board members Al Kpty, Rick Wynott and John Scholefield, who have made many lasting and significant contributions to our industry, the ATAC Achievers Honour Roll was established as a permanent memorial to their achievements and to honour others who may meet their standard in the future.

*The ATAC Achievers Honour Roll was renamed the ATAC Outstanding Achievement Award in November 2014.*

**The ATAC Outstanding Achievement Award** will recognize those ATAC members who, through participation in ATAC and other activities, have demonstrated a very high level of service and performance of benefit to aviation in Canada.

### **Nominating Process**

Nominations to the ATAC Outstanding Achievement Award can be made by any ATAC member of any ATAC member individual, group or corporation who have contributed positively to aviation in Canada. This is not an annual recognition or event so as to be a very special honour when the ATAC Board decides someone, or something is worthy of this recognition.

Nominations to the ATAC Outstanding Achievement Award close on June 30. The Board of Directors will select the winner at its September meeting. The ATAC Outstanding Achievement Award Inductees are recognized at ATAC's Canadian Aviation Conference and Tradeshow.

A list of past recipients is listed below.

## **ATAC Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients**

**2024** – No nominations

**2023** – No nominations

### **2022 - Steve Linthwaite, Jazz Aviation**

Steve Linthwaite has worked to support a culture of awareness, mentorship, open communication, and inclusion in Canadian aviation. Through the evolution of the Jazz APP program Steve and his team have created multiple pathways for aspiring professional pilots through aviation education programs across Canada. Recognizing the need for strong leadership and professionalism in flight training, Steve and his team created the Instructor Pathways Program to support and encourage graduates of select Jazz APP schools to train and work as flight instructors prior to transitioning to first officer positions.

In addition to the leadership of the Jazz APP program Steve is active in the industry supporting diversity and inclusion through the Northern Lights Aero Foundation advisory committee and Jazz NLAIF Indigenous Awards. He was instrumental in raising industry funds across Canada to support the First Nations Technical Institute after the tragic fire that destroyed their fleet and hangar.

**2021** – No nominations

**2020** – No award nominations were solicited this year.

### **2019 – Pierre J. Jeanniot, Jinmag**

Pierre Jeanniot has had a most distinguished career in aviation. A very successful manager but also an innovator. Contributing to the development of the first comprehensive flight data recorder, later to be known as the Black Box, he also implemented the first playback device to read and analyze the output of the analog tape. As the first leader of the Computer "Systems and Communication" Division of Air Canada, Pierre directed the development and implementation of the first "real time computer reservation system".

Under his direction as Executive Vice President and Chief of the Airline, Air Canada introduced a new product called "Business Class", which was to become a major success and largely emulated by other airlines. Pierre introduced non-smoking flights at Air Canada. This proved to be a game-changer, and it rapidly gained government support in Canada.

As President and CEO of Air Canada, Pierre Jeanniot convinced the government that Air Canada should be privatized and allowed to have access to private equity. Pierre Jeanniot was the first and only Canadian to have been Director General and CEO of IATA.

**2018 – Doug Keller-Hobson, Hope Air**

Doug has a broad background involving more than 35 years in law, business and the not-for-profit sector. He has extensive experience in strategic business planning and implementation, line management and bottom-line accountability; all which have been acquired within large companies; entrepreneurial early-stage companies and in the not-for-profit sector.

Doug started his professional career as a corporate lawyer in private practice with a major law firm in Toronto, becoming International General Counsel for Royal Trust based in London, England and then a senior executive with Royal Bank of Canada responsible for its international private banking operations in the United Kingdom. Since 2006, Doug has been the Executive Director, and now Chief Executive Officer, of Hope Air; the only national charity that provides Canadians in financial need with free travel to medical care far from home. Hope Air has grown substantially in the first 10 years of Doug's tenure.

**2017 – Janet Keim, Saskatchewan Aviation Council**

A true leader in the aviation world of Saskatchewan, Janet Keim was a founding member and director of the Saskatchewan Aviation Council in 1989, and she has been its President since 2002. She purchased Mitchinson's Flight Centre in the Fall of 1979 and sold the company in the summer of 2013, 34 years later. In 2000, she helped establish the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Commercial Pilot Diploma Program and the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Program. She acquired a Class 1 instructor rating and pilot examiner authority. She has logged over 15,000 hours and has performed approximately 1500 pilot flight tests. In 2004, Janet was awarded the first Honorary Diploma from the Saskatchewan Polytechnic. For the period of 2005 to 2014, she was appointed aviation subject matter expert on the Saskatoon Airport Authority Board of Directors during a time of rapid airport growth.

**2015 – 2016 – No nominations****2014 – William S. James, Marsh Canada**

Bill James has been a key figure in aviation insurance since 1970 representing the interests of all aviation stakeholders in Canada. With particular recognition of his involvement in the development of the Canadian Government's Third-Party War Risk Liability Indemnity, Bill's efforts have resulted in significant financial benefits of more than \$100 million in savings for the entire industry since 2001.

**2010 – 2013 – No Nominations****2009 - Paul Mulrooney, Air Georgian**

In 2009, Paul Mulrooney was inducted posthumously to the Honour Roll. Paul will be best remembered as the man who fostered countless aviation careers for young pilots across Canada, who were given their first aviation job flying with Air Georgian.

### **2008 - Mike Doiron, Moncton Flight College**

In 2008, Mike Doiron was inducted to the Honour Roll. His leadership role in the establishment of Safety Management Systems for the flight training sector and willingness to share his expertise and insights with the entire aviation community is second to none. This willingness to do so demonstrates his commitment to making the industry better and is a testament to his selflessness.

**2006 - 2007** - No Nominations

### **2005 - Ted Brown, Seneca College**

Ted Brown was the Chair of Seneca College's Aviation Program at the time of his death on November 18, 2004. In this role, Ted was influential in convincing all the aviation colleges that were members of the loosely formed "Canadian Aviation Colleges Association" into ATAC and then working within the ATAC Committee structure to establish a standard approach to rationalizing all the colleges and universities offering aviation training or partnered with aviation training providers.

Ted was politically very effective, not only moving ATAC forward but also revamping the Seneca College program to meet the needs of the airline community by upgrading the simulation training capability at Seneca College as well as managing the replacement purchase of the aircraft fleet at Seneca College.

### **2004 - Al Kapy, Trans North Helicopters**

### **2004 - John Scholefield, Laurentide Aviation**

### **2004 - Rick Wynott, Brampton Flying Club**

#### **ATAC Innovation Award Recipients**

Recognized companies who demonstrated that they have incorporated best practices for increasing safety and increased product quality, by developing a practice, or strategy that is so innovative it will serve as an example for others to follow and learn from. It was replaced by the Outstanding Achievement Award

**2003** - No Nominations

### **2002 – Empire Aviation and Sky Wings Aviation Academy Empire Aviation**

Tom Lawson, President, deserves special mention for his efforts to promote higher quality programs with the development of the University of Western Ontario Aviation Degree Program and ISO 9001 Certification. Tom's cooperative approach has led to a better relationship with the Ontario Government's Department of Education Student Assistance Branch for aviation trainer providers. Tom also provided fellow ATAC members with copies of

Empire Aviation's Integrated Training Program, of which Empire Aviation was the first in Canada to achieve this recognition.

### **Sky Wings Aviation**

Dennis Cooper, President, established a program that has introduced Grade 6 students to aviation. This program had three elements: airport orientation visits, the "flights for "A"s", program which recognized scholastic achievement by providing familiarization flights to over 300 school children and the high school credits programs for aviation studies. This program is continuing to expand and is now being developed in other provincial education systems.

### **2001 – CQFA, Harv's Air and SIAST**

#### **Centre québécois de formation aéronautique - CEGEP de Chicoutimi**

CQFA has provided quality integrated training to selected students for 30 years. The CQFA is a leader in the development of screening tools and streamed training programs. The CQFA has developed a full range of aviation training products through partnerships with the aviation industry including crew resource management and the approved check pilot course.

### **Harv's Air Service**

Harv's Air is a leader in the use of online technology for advertising, networking and education. Using the Aviation Canada Discussion forum, internet traffic is drawn to the school website and the online ground school. Students from around the world are now travelling to Steinbach, Manitoba for aviation training.

**Saskatchewan Aviation Council / Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology Commercial Pilot Diploma** A unique partnership between the aviation industry and the Provincial College network allows flight training students to participate in a diploma level college program in their local area.

### **2000 - Coastal Pacific Aviation/University College of the Fraser Valley Moncton Flight College Toronto Airways Ltd./Flying Colors Pilot Training**

#### **Coastal Pacific Aviation/University College of the Fraser Valley**

Coastal Pacific Aviation is recognized in developing a practice which increases product quality in the aviation industry. Coastal Pacific Aviation teamed up with University College of the Fraser Valley to develop the first university degree level training program to include pilot training and aviation management. The university credit program demonstrates that Canadian aviation is constantly changing and improving. Coastal Pacific invested in flight simulators to become one of the leaders in the field in Canada.

### **Moncton Flight College**

Moncton Flight College is recognized for its achievement in the development of an instructor training program which makes a significant contribution to the advancement of aviation safety. The Advanced Instructor Training Program developed by Moncton Flight College is an outstanding example of the creativity

and commitment to safety improvement which characterizes Canadian aviation. By building a comprehensive program which incorporates not just flying, but also business aspects such as client service, marketing and financial management, Moncton has raised the bar on instructor training.

**Toronto Airways Ltd./Flying Colors Pilot Training**

Toronto Airways Ltd. and Flying Colors Pilot Training are recognized for their creative sharing of information in the use of Visual Flight Rules simulation. These firms deserve recognition for their creativity and for their unusual effort to reach out and learn from each other. Sharing intellectual property is certainly not something we see all the time and, in this case, it had made a sum greater than the two parts. It demonstrates the spirit of innovation and the commitment to excellence which is so much a characteristic of Canada's general aviation community.