

December 2012 Issue 1

# CATCA



# NEWS



## 50th Anniversary of CATCA

On December 18th, CATCA will be celebrating its 50th year as an incorporated organization. The roots of the association sprouted in 1959 when a group of controllers assembled in Winnipeg to form an association to promote the welfare of controllers and our ATC profession. However, it wasn't until 1962 that Letters Patent incorporating CATCA were approved and CATCA was officially integrated as a non-profit organization.

Our association filled a void that existed in the public service where no rights to collectively bargain terms and conditions existed. It was instrumental in the passage of the Public Service Staff Relations Act of 1967, which gave us the rights we needed to succeed. Until that day, rights were granted, not bargained. CATCA's growth and expansion as a union and professional association continued to progress both nationally and internationally through the next three decades as the aviation industry continued to expand and develop. Our Association developed our international reputation with our worldwide colleagues in IFATCA, while at home our growth within the public service was evidenced by the quality of CATCA's work in the fields of labour relations as well as our emerging expertise in the vast array of technological developments that burst on the scene with the advent of computerization in the 70's and 80's.

The field of air traffic control has transformed throughout the years. In 1921, Croydon Airport, London, UK was the first airport in the world to introduce air traffic control. Canada saw its first tower in St Hubert, Quebec, in 1939. In the following years, towers sprang up across the country to support the burgeoning air transport industry. We've come a long way since the days of light guns, radios, flare guns and plotting charts. Our workplaces

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## CATCA Convention

**Check  
CATCA.CA  
for updates!**



# 50 ANS YEARS

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The Voice of Canada's Air Traffic Controllers



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## 50th Anniversary of CATCA

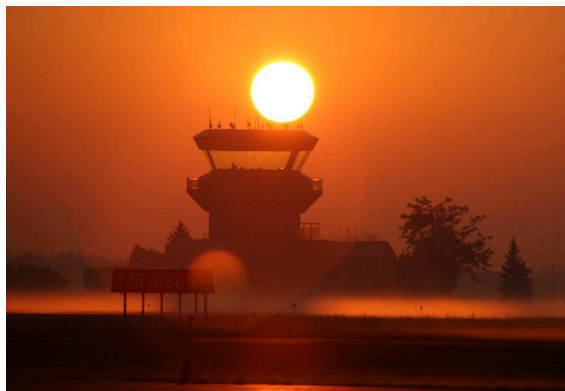
of today would look like a glimpse into science fiction if compared to the early days of our association.

The first radar systems were installed across the country in 1959. Prior to this, there were no visual aids to allow controllers to track aircraft once they left the vicinity of the airport. The advent of J.E.T.S digital radar displays, complete with data tags introduced in the 80's followed by the Radar Modernization Project (RAMP), assisted controllers by introducing more computerization and integration of flight data, inter sector handoffs, and automated flight data processing. We also witnessed multiple changes to virtually every other tool, system and work practice at a pace that is quite spectacular in an industry that is the ultimate in safety sensitivity.

At the heart of all these changes were always CATCA members-either designing new systems and procedures or teaching them to their colleagues. The technological changes seem to never end nor does the interest of our members in bringing new and better systems online.

CATCA continues to expand and flourish as an organization. In 2001, CATCA received its charter from the CAW and added Local 5454 to our name. This was an important moment in CATCA's history. In joining with the CAW – the largest trade union in Canada - we secured the necessary expertise in labour matters to succeed in the new world of privatization into which we had emerged in 1996 when we left the Federal civil service for NAV CANADA. The CAW has been unwavering in its support for CATCA and together we have made improvements in most aspects of controllers' lives.

With over 2000 active members, our association is stronger and more united than ever. Canada continues to enjoy one of the safest air traffic control systems in the world. This is a direct result of the work of our members. We remain faithful to our objectives - to promote the status, working conditions, compensation and security of the membership and to promote aviation safety. Congratulations to all of CATCA's members – past, present, and future - on the achievements in aviation safety and the advancement of our profession. We look forward to another 50 years of solidarity!



**St-Hubert Tower.**

Location of Canada's first Air Traffic Control Tower

### Evolution of the CATCA Logo:



2000



1983



1964



1964



1963



## Convention Update

Convention planning continues here in Saskatoon. We are hoping to highlight our city and put on a fine convention for everyone.

Online registrations for delegates and observers will be available shortly. Our plan is to have a paperless convention. A laptop would be an asset for delegates to bring along. Memory sticks with all pertinent documents will be provided at convention.

Any candidates for election to the executive, who would like an ad placed in the convention brochure, will need to have the ad sent to the Convention Committee no later than March 15.

Our companion program is intended to allow those coming to have ample opportunity to relax and enjoy our city's river valley either by bicycle or by foot, or to indulge in any number of nearby spas or cafes. The host hotel is in downtown Saskatoon, close to wonderful shopping and dining districts. We have a tour of one of Canada's foremost scientific facilities, The Canadian Light Source, and one of Canada's most scenic university campus's for the companions to enjoy. Please consider coming along.

With this convention being so close to Collective Bargaining, spirits may be quite high among the delegates and observers. We are hoping to provide an excellent setting and atmosphere for all who attend.

See you soon in Saskatoon!

Rick Marsh, Convention Director

**There are a few convention souvenirs available for purchase online at:**

**<http://imaginethatmedia.ca/pdf/CATCO-CLOTHING-PROGRAM.pdf>**

**These items will be available for pick-up at convention registration.**

## CATCA, CAW Local 5454 Memorial Scholarship Award Program

CATCA is delighted to announce that this year there are three winners of our scholarships. The Selection Committee had the difficult task of choosing between several wonderful applicants to grant their awards to. The Board of Directors was asked if it would consider presenting three candidates with scholarships and the answer was a unanimous and resounding "yes!"

These three outstanding individuals each demonstrate the dedication, leadership and generosity of spirit envisaged in a W. Christopher Lilwall & Eric Paraskevopolous Memorial scholarship recipient.

In addition to achieving exceptional grades, **Andrew Johnston** was President of Student Government, Football Captain and volunteer coach, and volunteered as a YMCA Tutor and at the Mobil1 Soup Kitchen. As well, he was the New Brunswick and P.E.I Regional Improv Games Champion for both 2011 and 2012. Andrew is pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce degree at Mount Allison University.

**Amy Davis** was recipient of the 2012 Academic Award of Excellence from Bear Creek Secondary School as well as the 2012 Community Service Award. She volunteered as a Sunday School Teacher and helped prepare meals for the "Out of the Cold" meal program for the homeless. Amy is attending McMaster University, where she is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

**Harris McSheffery** graduated in the top 5% of his class. He excels at playing the piano and regularly performed at the local senior home where he sparked an interest in music therapy. Harris displayed tremendous courage and openness by making a very personal presentation to his class about his journey with Autism. Harris is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree from Mount Allison University, with which he plans to further his knowledge of arranging and conducting music.

Congratulations and good luck to Andrew, Amy and Harris in their future endeavours!



## Update from the YCC



## The NAV CANADA Joint Council (NCJC)

The NAV CANADA Joint Council (NCJC) is a committee that was formed to promote the efficiency of NAV CANADA and the well-being of those employed by the corporation. The NCJC provides regular consultation between the company and bargaining units on behalf of represented employees.

What does this mean for CATCA members? Many of CATCA's health benefits and insurance plans are not negotiated at collective bargaining with the rest of our contract. The benefits that are handled by the NCJC are reviewed on a cyclical basis and include:

- Health Care Plan
- Dental Plan
- Disability Insurance
- Travel Program
- Relocation Program
- Isolated Post Program
- Commuting Assistance Program

To get more information regarding the NCJC, visit the website [NCJC.ca](http://NCJC.ca). Here, you can find all of the information regarding the above benefits including a PDF benefits guide, lists of the programs covered, information about the NCJC benefit review process and timelines, grievance procedures and minutes of the NCJC meetings. And because [NCJC.ca](http://NCJC.ca) is hosted outside of NAV CANADA's intranet, you can access the website from ANYWHERE! Check it out.

If you have questions about NCJC covered benefits go to [NCJC.ca](http://NCJC.ca) or talk to your local CATCA representative. As well, if you have any ideas or suggestions regarding amendments or improvements to any NCJC benefit plan, forward them to your local branch or RVP and he/she will submit them to the appropriate member of the NCJC when the appropriate cyclical review comes up.

### Young Controllers Council Update!

Leading up to convention 2013 in Saskatoon, there will be some exciting changes to the Young Controllers Council. The council is currently working to develop a more visible brand within the union and members can expect to see posters, videos, and swag rolled out over the next few months. Our mandate, to represent the interests of young controllers through CATCA, has not changed but our approach to it has. Stay TUNED!







# CATCA **NEWS**



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## Collective Bargaining

In October, elections were held to select contract committee members for collective bargaining. Congratulations to Mark Bernard, James Russell, Dave Doerksen, David Hartwick, Gordon Howe, Genevieve St-Pierre, Sophie Noel, Paul Turner and Sylvain Laforest. The committee met for the first time in November to review proposals. They will be meeting in Vancouver in early December with NAV Canada to commence negotiations. Negotiations will continue throughout January in Ottawa. Regular bulletins will be made available to the membership.

## Special General Meeting

Nominated members from each branch gathered in Toronto on October 16th for a Special General Meeting to consider a very important change to our traditional collective bargaining methodology. The resolution empowering the Board of Directors to determine on an as required basis the most appropriate Dispute Resolution Process for future rounds of Collective Bargaining was overwhelmingly supported by the leaders of our union. The balance of the time was used to hear from invited guests and as well as a well received training exercise put on for us by Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services.

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**Safe**  
**Landing**  
critical illness  
insurance

**CATCA**  
**Plan+**  
group life  
insurance



**Financial  
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when you  
need it *most*  
[www.coughlin.ca/catca-accta](http://www.coughlin.ca/catca-accta)

