



Wing Drift

March 2022

Message from the Chairman

THE 447 WING 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WEEKEND JUNE 1-4, 2022

Hello Wing Members,

The Wing has a new Lease on Life at 3210 Homestead Drive. The 447 Wing Board of Directors have agreed & signed the new 5-year lease with the new property owner. This lease agreement is valid through to December 31st, 2027.

Future Board of Directors Election:

As announced at the March 26th General Meeting, our last Wing elections took place in May 2019. Due to the pandemic during our election year 2021, the Board of Directors agreed to extend their tenure for an additional year. The Wing activity was minimal, we were not holding 'in-person' meetings and it was deemed unfair to impose an election on the membership.

As such, the Wing will be holding elections this year; for a new set of (up to) 12 Directors this May 2022. Nominations for the Directors will be received by our two immediate Past Presidents Jim Hooton (jameshooton11@gmail.com) & Bill Grahlman (wilmar.flora@cogeco.ca), up to and including 30 April 2022 (next Gen. Mtg.). Both Jim & Bill will create the Election Ballots, and then send blank ballots to all Wing members. Ballots will need to be returned with your votes, either via email or Canada Post prior to the May General Meeting. Results will be announced at that time. The new Board of Directors will be installed at the June General Meeting.

Upcoming Wing Fundraisers:

April 9th – An afternoon tribute to the music of Johnny Cash, performed by local artist Paul Anthony who lives in Mount Hope. This show will start at 2pm in the Wing Flag Room. Admission is \$20. Get your tickets soon before they're all gone.

April 15 – Annual Good Friday Fish & Chip Drive thru. Volunteers are encouraged to help prep, bag & deliver. Please call the Wing if you can offer some time from your day.

Now that we have weathered through the COVID storm, it is time to return to our ways of our past in this 'new normal'. The month of March saw the return of the Thursday Night OPEN MIC with the Country Ramblers. The Thursday night crowds are beginning to return and can only grow. April will see the return of the Tuesday Night activities starting with Naomi & Friends on April 5th, and the return of Karaoke on April 12th. The two groups will alternate on subsequent Tuesday nights. Two fun-filled nights looking for musical talents of all ages & experiences. The Friday night bands will return on selected Friday nights in April, May & June.

Stay healthy; Fly safe.

Respectfully Yours,

Michael Cuffe
Chairman, 447 Wing RCAFA

March 2022



CASH

World's Most Authentic Johnny Cash Tribute Show



Featuring
AWARD WINNING
TRIBUTE ARTIST
Paul Anthony

JOHNNY CASH AT FOLSOM PRISON

R E V I S I T E D

SATURDAY APRIL 9, 2022 AT 2:00 PM

**Save The
Wing
Fundraiser**

THE 447 WING

3210 Homestead Dr.
Mount Hope, Ontario
289-280-0157

TICKETS

Advance - \$20.00
At The Door - \$25.00

Grey Cup delivered by RCAF Griffon for an exciting arrival in Hamilton

Photos and report by Gord McNulty

Bayfront Park in Hamilton was the place to be as the RCAF flew in the Grey Cup for an official welcome that provided plenty of excitement for football fans and photographers in December.

A Bell CH-146 Griffon from 430 'Silver Falcon' Tactical Helicopter Squadron, based in Valcartier, Quebec, flew the iconic trophy and Canadian Football League Commissioner Randy Ambrosie to Hamilton as host city of the 108th Grey Cup Game.



Special arrival—The delivery of the Grey Cup by an RCAF helicopter created excitement at Bayfront Park

In a remarkable scene, the Griffon whipped up so much snow as it approached that for a few moments photographers couldn't see anything --- only hear the sound of the rotors. When the news media were cleared to pass the security line, all of the other shutterbugs and fans joined in to enjoy the special occasion.



Snowy Grey Cup arrival—An RCAF Griffon from 430 Helicopter Squadron whips up the snow at Bayfront Park

The Griffon was painted in an impressive colour scheme honoring the 50th anniversary (1971-2021) of the squadron's reactivation in 1971 as a French-speaking tactical helicopter unit, making the occasion all the more special. The squadron's gyrfalcon emblem proudly stood out on the side of the fuselage.



Touchdown—the 430 (Silver Falcon) Squadron Tactical Helicopter Squadron Griffon displayed special colours

A second Griffon, in standard finish, flew in as a backup.



430 Tactical Helicopter Squadron sent a backup CH-146 \griffon for the delivery of the Grey Cup at Bayfront Park

Official ceremonies opened with a land acknowledgment. Commissioner Ambrosie spoke enthusiastically about the championship game, as did Hamilton Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Hamilton Tiger-Cats “caretaker” Bob Young and Ticat alumnus Andy Fantuz. Everyone was thrilled to enjoy the ‘one of a kind’ event.

The helicopter crew posed for a few photos with the Grey Cup before lifting off.



Crew members of 430 Tactical Helicopter Squadron pose with the Grey Cup for photos after ceremonies at Bayfront Park

Kudos to 430 Squadron for mission accomplished!



Mission Accomplished—CH-146 Griffon 146430 lifts off from Bayfront Park on 7 Dec.2021 after delivering the Grey Cup to Hamilton

3210 Homestead Drive, Mount Hope, ON L0R 1W0

Telephone: 289.280.0157 Email: 447winghamilton@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/The-447-Wing-140212226825200/>

779 Black Knight Air Cadet Squadron

Our 779 'Black Knight' Squadron would like your assistance with their annual fundraising lottery. Tickets for the 2022 Air Cadet Lottery are now available online.

As many of us have bought tickets in past years, if you would like to support them this year, lottery information & link is provided below:

The direct link to purchase tickets <https://aircadetlotto.5050central.com/?olc=779>

The ticket price is \$10

Over \$100,000 in cash prizes, including an early bird prize.

Early Bird draw date: April 1st

Prize: \$4,500

Grand prize draw date: April 29th

1st Grand Prize: \$58,000

2nd Grand Prize: \$28,000

3rd Grand Prize: \$8,000

Three Consolation Prizes \$800

Current Status of the 779 'Black Knight' Squadron:

On March 8th, 2022, the Squadron was back in person training at their headquarters in Mount Hope with 87 cadets on the roster. There were limited in-person activities the previous 2 years, but the staff and senior cadets did an excellent job providing virtual training and activities to keep most cadets engaged. The cadets that stuck it out are very excited to be back at in-person training, participating in the regular training nights as well as Effective Speaking, Drill, Band and Marksmanship. Not quite normal yet with masking and social distancing still in place but a step in the right direction.

Thank you for your support of 779 Black Knight Squadron Air Cadets. A portion of each ticket sale directly supports 779 and a portion supports Air Cadets across Ontario with activities such as effective speaking and glider FAM flights.

Membership Renewals

Be advised that 447 Wing Memberships expire June 30, 2022. Renewal notices will be Emailed or Canada Post mailed on May 01, 2022.

If you have changed your Email address or your Home address since last renewal, PLEASE advise the Wing in order that records can be updated. We do not want to miss anyone at renewal time.

Again this year, we will be having a draw on June 01, 2022 for a free membership. So, renew before the end of May to have your name entered in the draw.

Any questions on Membership renewals should be directed to me at hchodder@gmail.com or by phone at 905-679-5300.

Thank You and looking forward to doing your Membership renewal.

Harry Hodder, Membership Director 447 Wing

The 447 Wing is OPEN

Sunday & Monday

CLOSED

Tuesday to Saturday

11:30am to 10:00pm (Kitchen closes at 8:00pm)

The Wing Drift is published quarterly. If you have any articles, suggestions, etc for future editions, they can be sent to the 447 Wing email address (447winghamilton@gmail.com).

447(City of Hamilton) Board of Directors 2019-2021

Chairperson	Michael Cuffe	(905) 574-4163
1 st Vice Chairperson	Rick Hyslop	(905) 921-3352
Secretary		
Treasurer	Bev Cuffe	(905) 517-6146
Directors	Mike Curley	(905) 635-0905
	Harry Hodder	(905) 679-5300
	Kevin Rupert	(905) 961-7866
	Joseph Sullivan	(905) 973-3898
	David Upsdell	(905) 389-9083
	Robert Wilson	(905) 745-2097

779 Air Cadet Sponsoring Committee

Chairman:	Fred Hopkinson	(905) 719-4615
Vice Chairman:	Peter Armstrong	(647) 273-6635
Treasurer:	John Mayhew	(905) 388-4055
Secretary:	(Position Vacant)	
Coordinator Screening & Registration:	Brenda Wilson	(905) 692-5803
Member:	Cheryl Jackson-Checkley	
Black Knight Squadron HQ:		(905) 679-6485
Commanding Officer:	Major Piotr Skrzypczak	(905) 220-4588



447 (City of Hamilton) Wing***Past Presidents***

Aiden Finn CD	(1983)
Gord Rowland	(1995—1998)
Judy Brown	(2000, 2008)
6 Presidents served during	(2003 & 2005)
Bill Grahlman CD	(2008-2017)
Jim Hooton CD	(2017-2019)



Bill Whiteside	(1962)
Russ Newton	(1963,81,91)
Jim Robbins CD	(1964-65)
Carl Whaley CMCD	(1966)
Sterling McAllister CD	(1967)
Doug Thornewell	(1968)
Ken Lenz	(1969, 1975)
Bill Carey	(1970)
Innes Anderson	(1971)
Sid George	(1972)
Ken Read	(1973)
Bob Hayes	(1974)
Bill Thompson	(1976)
Rob Gillies	(1977)
Nels Smith CD	(1978, 1984)
Jack Lightfoot	(1979)
Scott Lumsden	(1980)
Syd Buckles	(1982)
Alex Barrett DFC	(1985)
Clare Hansen	(1986, 1994)
Harry Rasmussen	(1988-89)
Bob Hide	(1990)
Bill Ryckman	(1992-93)
Arthur Young	(2004,2006)
Harry VanZeben	(1997-99,2001-02)
Frank A. Begley	(2007)



MISSION STATEMENT

The Royal Canadian Air Force Association of Canada is a national aerospace and community service organization to: commemorate the noble achievements of the men and women who have served as members of Canada's air forces since its inception; advocate for a proficient and well equipped air force; and support the Royal Canadian Air Cadet programme.