

2004 ACHIEVEMENTS

The 2004 International Air Rally was a great success: From the 26 planes registered, 24 arrived to the finals in Trois Rivières, Québec : More than 1600 NM across three provinces : New Brunswick, Québec and Ontario

Participants enjoyed the outstanding welcome receptions organised by airport authorities, Hosting cities, tourist and Economic development associations as well as private enterprises.

Our special thanks go to :

Fredericton, NB : David Hennes, Heather McClean, Dave Gamblin, Chris Farmer, Al Thurber thank you so much for providing all the facilities at the airport for the registrations and briefings as well as accommodating so well the participants from and to the airport at their convenience. Bravo!!! For such a great organisation and reception.

Dieppe, NB: Mr. Yvon Lapierre, Mayor of Dieppe and of course Mr. Léger. What a great discovery we made ! We discovered a very quaint fishing village, peaceful and so relaxing ! Mr. Lapierre spoiled us with all you can eat lobsters and we would like to comeback for the leftovers !!!!

Bonaventure, PQ : Gilles Brideau of CIME Aventure, who alone undertook the responsibility to receive the Air Rally and provide the accommodations for 63 people !!! He received help from Julie Ruest, Tourism Gaspésie and Tourisme Baie des Chaleurs Thank you Suzanne, for accomodating every one with such a good attitude. Gilles Brideau permitted our participants and especially our International Journalists to discover the beautiful Gaspesie region. Tourisme Gaspesie and most particularly Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Tourisme, and deputy of Bonaventure, should be very grateful for his initiative !

Unamen Shipu, PQ : Who would have expected the weather to be so bad that even Bombardier's DASH8 could not take us to La Romaine!! We all were very disappointed to fell the visit to our Innu friends of Unamen Shipu. Special thanks to Mr. Mesténapéo, chief of the Community of Unamen Shipu, Mr. Malleck, V-chief, Mr. Richard Mollen airport Manager, Mr. Hermel Begin who worked so hard in preparing our visit. Mr. Begin told us with great sadness, we will see you next year !

Bad weather made us discover **Rivière du Loup, PQ** where we stayed overnight in the beautiful hotel Lévesque. Mr. Levesque's great sense of hospitality soothed everyone's mood and we appreciated the great food and lodging as well as the beautiful surroundings. Thank you Mr. Hugo Lévesque !

Sherbrooke, PQ organising committee lead by Mr. Deschâtelet, Director of Tourism was incredible.... Every detail was taken care of from our arrival at the airport to the departure the next morning. The activities, the banquet, the airport organisation etc. all was perfect. Thank you Mr. Deschâtelet, Pierre Boisvert, Anne-Marie Breault, Mélissa Bergeron (Aeropro) Mrs. Belliveau, Tourism Eastern Townships. Mr. Jean Charest, Quebec prime Minister can be proud of his beautiful city and the people who take so much interest in making it a place to remember.

Amos, PQ was again a wonderful experience for our participants and journalists. Mr. Cherubin, thank you for going out of your way in organizing such a beautiful reception. Our thanks go also to Mr. François Dessureault airport manager for his great collaboration and special thanks to Marcel Labonté an air rally adept since 2003 whose intervention was very much appreciated by Mr. Cherubin, and Mr. André Dulac for his help and great organisation and of course Mr. Jean-Pierre Frigon "Hotel Amosphere" who accommodated us so well when half of the group got stranded the following night. Special Thanks to Mr. Pageau who engraved in the memories of our journalists an experience they will never forget : Mr. Pageau communicated with the wolves in their presence, during the night !!!!

North Bay, ONT. !! Thank you so much Mr. Victor Fidelli, Mayor of North Bay, Mrs. Susan Church and Uyen Nguyen “Wyn” from the Blue Sky economic development and of course Marc Charron who proposed the Air Rally to his beautiful City. What a wonderful experience we had, from the visit to the museum, NORAD installations, the carroussel and the boat ride.... !!

Markham, ONT always so classy !!!!! Thank you very much Mr. Stephen Chait and Darren Ciastko for having us again this year and special thanks go to the Buttonville flying Club who, with the collaboration of André Turgeon, an air Rally adept since 2002, organised the ground competitions.

Trois Rivières , PQ hosted the Air Rally finals. Thank you Mr. Richard Légaré, Aeropro, Marylène Sauvé SDE, Marilie Laferté, tourism office for organising our stop in Trois Rivières and allowing our participants and journalists to discover such a beautiful town, its active night life and all the people in the street made us realize that not only Montreal and Quebec can offer this European touch...

The Air Rally enjoys the support and the help of many, from pilots to major aeronautical industries, all understand the importance of this unique Canadian aviation event and contribute to its success. Partners such as :

Bombardier who provides with Mr. Beaudoin's blessing transportation to remote destinations.

Joslyn Hi Voltage, a division of Danaher Inc. USA, serves the electrical Utility Industry since 1919 and is, since 2001, a dedicated partner of the International Air Rally. The Air Rally offers the opportunity to the participants from Canada, USA, Europe and Asia to visit the Hydro-electric installations thanks to the collaboration of Hydro Québec division of “La Grande Rivière”, James Bay, Québec.

Pratt & Whitney who provided us with a team of two engineers, Benoit Bourque and Réal Gagné who assisted David Bonnallie our Flight Master.

Rolls Royce who provided help in the transportation of journalists thanks to Christian Michaud, an air rally adept since 2003, Christian has been a great help to the Air Rally. With the help of his father, Jean Guy Michaud. They both worked all year round to obtain the support of the **City of Longueuil and the Airport of St-Hubert DASHL** . Christian who has also obtained the support of the **Aeronautical college of St-Hubert** has with great pride represented those three major partners. Thank you so much Christian and Jean Guy, aviation pros lead by the same passion. Your support to our organisation is greatly appreciated!

Two major airlines took part in the organisation: **Québecair Express** , a major sponsor of the International Air Rally, has again this year lent us its wings for a visit to our Innu friends in the Northern Coast of Quebec in La Romaine. To find out more about Québecair Express :

www.quebecair.com

Corsair, a major French airline, provided, during peak season, 4 roundtrip business class tickets to our European journalists. Without you Corsair, our partners could not have benefited from such a large group of International Media. Thank you so much !!! Find out more about Corsair :

www.corsair.fr

DMC Transat/Kilomètre Voyage , was again this year a major sponsor as well as our reservation agent. Thank you very much Mr. Vacher for your great support and collaboration.

Nutech, of Montreal, provided help during shootings in flight. This company has just undertaken a distributorship for the revolutionary diesel engine installed on a Cessna 182Q SMA 305. Jean Charles Rey was in command of the plane and managed again this year to be one of the IFR trophy winners. Jean Charles's team shared the VFR trophy in 2003 with Pierre Gariépy the Propane Express team.

TRAK Maps, of St-Donat Québec supplied the Air Rally maps,

The Aircraft Collection of Val-Morin Québec supplied the IFR trophies (wooden carved Bombardier DASH 8)

Aeropro provided us with a special discount on the transportation of our journalists (Piper Navajo)

Nav Canada who again this year provided great service to our Canadian and foreign pilots. Thank you Mr. Nicholas Jean.

We would like to give special thanks to Mr. Etienne Cormier and Victor St-Onge for their collaboration in using the government of Quebec Airport Facilities : **Bonaventure and La Romaine**.

Thank you Ulrich Jank from Germany and the family Leroux-Dennebouey : Martin, Monique and Christian, France, for coming such a long way to share this beautiful experience with us.

The Air Rally was again a great success thanks to you all !! and thanks to our organizing committee :

Camil Dumont, David Bonnallie, Gilles Cuerrier, Réal Gagné, Benoit Bourque and Robert Dewar.