

Flying Fire Trucks

– A Pictorial History of Aerial Fire-Fighting in Canada

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Update #2

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We're happy to announce our working title for this project - Flying Fire Trucks. This is only a temporary title, and we welcome any feedback or suggestions you might have.

Contact was made with Mr. Chuck Ellsworth of Nanimo, BC via the Internet. Mr. Ellsworth was the former Chief Pilot of both The Flying Firemen, and Avalon Aviation and he's still flying PBYs today.

Numerous packages were mailed out to companies and individuals. Included with these packages was a copy of Update #1.

A massive download from the Internet provided us with a large collection of information on the Ontario Provincial Air Service's history. With WestJet flying into Sault-Ste Marie in February, we'll definitely be visiting the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Museum.

Stephen has taken a new job in Regina, SK. While this spreads our team apart, because of email, the telephone and the airlines, we don't think it will hamper progress on the project.

In response to our information packages, sent earlier in the month we received several emails from across the country. Dave Davies, General Manager of Forest Protection Limited of New Brunswick. FPL is willing to help us, and we'll be trying to travel to New Brunswick this season. Don Hamilton of Airspray '67 Ltd has also agreed to help.

February

Since Stephen's now in Regina, contact was made with the local chapter of the CAHS (Canadian Aviation Historical Society). Apparently many of their members are interested in helping.

An attempt to track down Mr. Dan McIvor of Richmond BC proved quite successful. A telephone interview of one hour yielded some great material. A face-to-face interview in Vancouver was arranged for later in the month.

Mr. Jack Minor of the Canadian Bushplane Museum has offered us his assistance in researching the museum's archives. Since this museum has a thorough history of the Ontario Provincial Air Service this will prove to be no small task.

Stephen has been in contact with a publisher. Talks were good, but we're continuing discussions with others at the moment.

A package from Mr. Minor arrived at the end of the month, with several valuable items regarding Ontario Provincial Air Service's history.