Beat: News

Air Show Atlantic 2025

Message From Executive Director

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, 10.12.2024, 01:25 Time

USPA NEWS - Since the early 1980's there have been 39 air shows held at various locations around the region.
Here are some responses from Executive Director of Air Show Atlantic, Colin Stephenson in reference to questions surrounding the selection of venue for each years production of Air Show Atlantic

"Why isn't the show in the same location every year?

After leaving Halifax Stanfield Airport in 2008 we also left the only market big enough to sustain an annual Show. Halifax is big enough but does not have an airport that can host us. Our goal for the model has been to find and maintain relationships with several communities in The Maritimes. As we rotate around the three Provinces, we expose the brand and experience to more people. We attract new fans, volunteers and sponsors. To produce the Show anywhere we have to be invited by the host Community and airport. We can't and don't just choose where will go next."

"The 2024 air show at 14 Wing Greenwood was great, why not go back there again or make it your permanent home?

14 Wing Greenwood was a great site. And an important year for the RCAF. Even with one runway closed we produced and awesome Show. It takes a lot of Wing resources to host us and it a lot to ask of a group that's already very busy. As construction and regeneration continues at the Wing, we hope to be invited back but we were not for 2025."

"3 Why does the air show not bring the Blue Angels/Red Arrows/Thunderbirds/F-35/F-22?

The US jet Teams and solo jet Demos are very popular and we do pursue them. The Teams are on a 2 year planning cycle and we rarely know where we will be that far in advance. They need security, maintenance and airfield standards that not all of our locations can provide. 2 or 3 of the US Demos come to Canada each year and we are one of 6 to 9 Canadian Shows they are choosing from. A big factor in their decisions is the number of fans they will fly in front of. We don't have population or attendance numbers to attract them every year. However, we have been very successful over time to attract those special performers considering our market size."

" Why isn't the show at Shearwater?

Our traditional home at 12 Wing Shearwater (1981-2003) is a proud part of our history. The transition from a fixed wing to rotary wing only to support the CH148 Cyclone meant the closing of the 9000' runway that occurred in the year 2000. We produced 4 shows there since then. Most often staging fast jets out of Halifax Stanfield. And using the 3500' FATO which is not set up for planes, just helicopters. With the developments at Shearwater over the past 2 decades we do not expect to be producing the Air Show there."

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