

WESTERN CANADA'S THRIVING AEROSPACE SECTOR



The abundance of natural resources that blanket Western Canada's vast landscape has always been crucial to the region's economic growth and prosperity. While these resources are a key economic driver, Western Canada has been turning to the sky and the stars to diversify its economic base. Today, technological innovation in the aerospace sector is quickly becoming a key component of the western economy.

Canada's global share of aerospace activity has tripled in the last 20 years, making Canada the world's fifth largest aerospace producer. And Western Canada has a lot to offer in this competitive market. The western Canadian aerospace industry is a competitive, vibrant and growing sector that supports the employment of about 27,000 people, generates over \$4.5 billion in annual revenues and contributes more than \$2.5 billion to Canada's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

To help strengthen Western Canada's aerospace industry, Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) works in partnership on projects that enhance aerospace innovation and training in Western Canada.

In addition, WD supports western Canadian aerospace firms through the Industrial and Regional Benefits (IRB) program. WD works with partners to deliver information sessions to help businesses across the West learn more about the IRB Policy and potential business opportunities. In June 2011, the region was well represented at the International Paris Air Show, one of the world's largest tradeshows for aerospace equipment and technology. At the Air Show, the Honourable Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, met with senior officials from several multinational aerospace and defence companies that have IRB obligations that could be fulfilled in Western Canada. She was also the keynote speaker for the Government of Canada at the F-35 Networking Session, an event which also provided western Canadian companies and organizations with the opportunity to meet with key decision makers on the F-35 program.



Top: Flight Lieutenant Paul Heasman, a Qualified Flight Instructor at Royal Air Force Valley, shows Minister Yelich the ins and outs of the BAE Hawk Trainer, similar to the one used at the NATO Flying Training in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Middle and bottom: Photo courtesy of the Department of National Defence.

WESTERN CANADA'S AEROSPACE ADVANTAGES

Western Canada is a cost-competitive and trade-friendly investment destination. It benefits from Canada's business, labour and benefits costs, which are the lowest among the G7 countries.

Canada's solid research and development infrastructure offers additional advantages with Canadian-based aerospace firms annually investing more than \$1 billion in research and development. Western Canada's success in aerospace is based on a wealth of competitive strengths. Additionally, western Canadian aerospace companies enjoy proven expertise and leadership in:

- Aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul;
- Composites innovation;
- Unmanned vehicle systems;
- Avionics;
- Satellite communications and remote sensing; and
- Training and simulation.

For more information on
WD, or IRBs, visit:
www.wd-deo.gc.ca

MANITOBA

Manitoba is home to the largest aerospace sector in Western Canada and is the third largest provider of aerospace goods and services in Canada. Four world-class firms anchor the sector: Aveos Fleet performance inc., Bristol Aerospace Limited, Boeing Canada and StandardAero. The province is also home to 23 established regional and national firms that specialize in tool and die making, precision sheet metal fabrication, plating and coating, and electronics.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

British Columbia's global customer base spans the commercial aviation, defense and security, and space market segments and has demonstrated capabilities in component manufacturing, assemblies, sub-assemblies, machined parts and systems. The province's network of high technology companies also provides a wealth of expertise in remote-sensing, satellite communications, complex robotics, 3-D simulation technology and advanced aerospace systems and sub-systems.

ALBERTA

At the core of Alberta's globally competitive aerospace sector are five key sub-sectors: robotics and unmanned vehicle systems; defense electronics; space sciences, geomatics, and navigation systems; maintenance, repair, and overhaul; and logistic support to the military.

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan's advantage is satellite-based communication system products and services for aerospace and defense industries in Canada and around the world. It is also home to numerous companies offering precision engineering and manufacturing solutions. In addition, Saskatchewan is home to the NATO Flying Training in Canada (NFTC) program.

*A stronger West.
A stronger Canada.*

