



CANADIAN AERONAUTICS AND SPACE INSTITUTE
Toronto Branch

March 2016 Guest Lecture

Alan White

(Dash 7 Project Engineer, 1980-1986)

The DHC DASH 7: Bringing STOL Service from the Backwoods to Downtown



Date: Thursday, March 24, 2016

Time: 7:30 p.m. Refreshments & Networking
8:00 p.m. Presentation

Place: University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies (UTIAS)
4925 Dufferin Street

For more information, please contact:

Chris Hayball (416) 375-3715

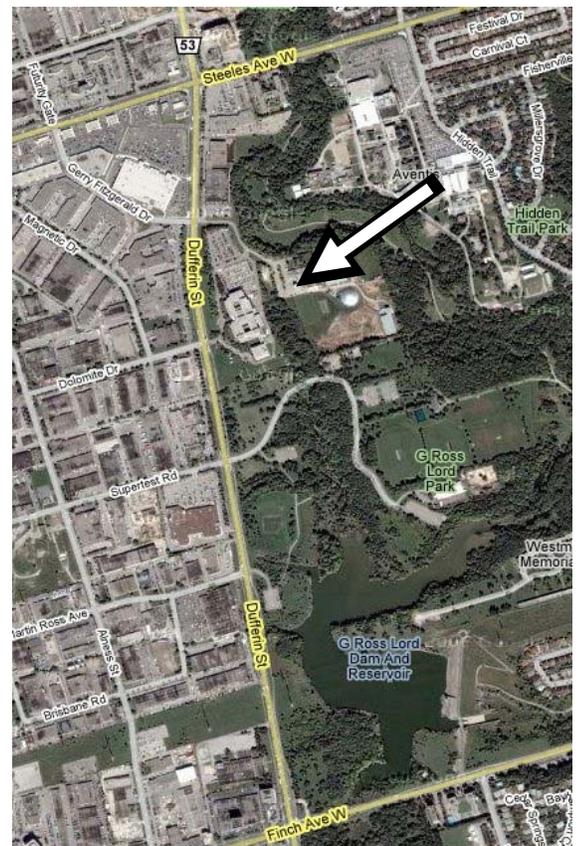
email casitorontobranch@gmail.com

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In the 1970's de Havilland Canada, with the backing of the Canadian Government, made an ambitious attempt to introduce a whole new mode of air transportation. Downtown to downtown services would use short takeoff and landing (STOL) aircraft into very short airstrips, possibly built over freeways. Steep approaches, low noise and automated 3D routings and ATC procedures were all part of the concept. The DHC Dash 7 was the aircraft, taking the DHC STOL experience into a sophisticated market with a comfortable, pressurized cabin and modern airline economics and maintenance.

The presentation describes the evolution of the program objectives and the innovative aspects of the airframe and the operations. The service history illustrates the remarkable capabilities in some brutal environments and in sophisticated roles such as the Separate Access Landing System (SALS) operations. Factors leading up to the demise of the program are discussed, including a brief look at the unsuccessful attempt to launch a re-engined Series 200.

Our guest speaker is Alan White, who was a flight test engineer during the Dash 7 certification and would later become the Project Engineer after the aircraft entered service. He was also Manager of Technical Support for DHC with responsibilities for all DHC aircraft up to the DASH 8-300. He is now partially retired but continues to work as a contractor for DND on airworthiness of the fly-by-wire CH 148 Cyclone program. He feels that the Dash 7 program has been largely eclipsed by the success of the Dash 8 and hopes to re-establish some of the credit owed to the program by its successor.



Next Meeting – Annual Dinner Meeting
April 23, 2016 (Speaker: Dr. David Zingg)