



Kids Fest 2020 *A Great Success!*

Kids Fest 2020 was held on Sunday, February 16. We had more visitors than we have ever seen before, so clearly the word is out about this annual event. We received lots of positive feedback regarding the affordability for families and also the fact things were so well run. The kids enjoyed the wide variety of activities we had on offer, and did a great job of icing and eating around twenty dozen cookies, and earning more than two hundred candy prizes at the paper plane runway. With so many people at the Museum in a four-hour period, parking was the usual challenge, but people were creative and nobody complained. The event raised significant revenue for the Museum, and more importantly increased our profile in the community. Furthermore, and as a result of a positive article in the Times Colonist, we received even more visitors with revenue by donation on Family Day Monday, February 17.

Museum Displays Improved

There have been several upgrades and improvements throughout the museum recently, especially in the 'Touch & Learn' centre for younger visitors. The Scorpion helicopter is an added feature to the centre and has been very popular. Old, unserviceable radios, throttle quadrants, instruments and other paraphernalia have been set up around the centre for children to explore.

Other changes include an upgrade to the Link Trainer display complete with furniture and mannequins in period correct uniforms; and an updated and improved RCMP Air Division display complete with photos, red surge uniform and some model aircraft.

The front lobby has been reconfigured to allow more space for books and merchandise displays. The cashier's station has also been enlarged to make a better work space.

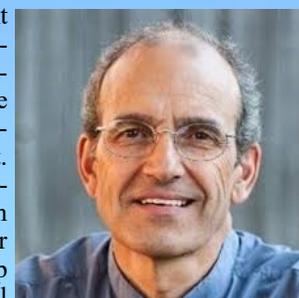
Volunteers Needed

If you are a **member** of the BC Aviation Museum and looking for ways to help out, please contact the museum at 250-655-3300 and leave a message for Janet Lewis, our Volunteer Coordinator. There are many areas around our facility that are in need of attention. For further information on becoming a volunteer, please visit our website at www.bcam.net and click on *Memberships/Volunteer*.

Speaker Night *Wednesday, March 25, 2020*

Ted Barris *Rush To Danger*

As one of Canada's preeminent historians, Ted Barris will examine more than 150 years of medicine in the military – from the American Civil War to the current conflicts in the Middle East. He will provide revealing insights into the reasons that men and women knowingly put their lives at risk in war zones to help others. Along the way he will also disclose fascinating information about some life experiences of his father, Alex Barris, who served as a medic in World War II.



Ted Barris has worked as a broadcaster, journalist and author since the late 1960s. As a Canadian Military Historian, Ted has authored 18 non-fiction books including *The Dam-busters*, *Victory at Vimy*, *The Great Escape* and *Deadlock In Korea*. For his valuable work he has received many awards, including the Minister of Veteran's Affairs Commendation and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Lieutenant Robert Hampton-Gray Memorial

There is a project underway to install a memorial to Lt. Robert Hampton-Gray, a Royal Canadian Navy pilot from British Columbia, who was killed while attacking a Japanese destroyer on August 9, 1945. Lieut. Hampton-Gray was one of the last Canadians to die in action during World War 2. The memorial will be dedicated on August 9 2020 at the BC Aviation Museum.

The project team is accepting tax deductible donations. Cheques with the memo: 'Lieut. Gray Fund' may be sent to the Naval Association of Canada Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 42025 Oak Bay, Victoria, B.C. V8R 6T4, or donate on line at canadahelps.org (search Naval Association and include the same note as for a cheque).