

# Air Canada Marks its 85th Anniversary, Donates CF-TCC, Historic Aircraft From its Original Fleet to Winnipeg's Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada

- *The Lockheed L-10A Electra arrives to permanent home for the public to enjoy*

**Editor's Note:** A video celebrating CF-TCC's arrival at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada [can be found here](#).

MONTREAL, Sept. 7, 2022 /CNW Telbec/ - In celebration of its 85th anniversary, Air Canada today donated its historic aircraft, an original Lockheed L-10A Electra airplane to Winnipeg's Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada. The iconic aircraft, the first fleet type flown by the carrier, made its final journey as it taxied from the Air Canada hangar at Winnipeg International Airport to the Museum at a handover ceremony. The airplane will go on permanent public display as an iconic piece of aviation history.

The aircraft, with registration CF-TCC, was one of three purchased by Air Canada's forerunner, Trans-Canada Air Lines (TCA), in 1937. It was until recently one of only two Lockheed L10-A Electra aircraft still flying in the world.

Named after a bright star in the Pleiades star cluster, the 10A Electra was the pride of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. In the 1930s, this twin-engine, all-metal monoplane was the exciting new face of commercial aviation.



"There is no more fitting preservation and commemoration for one of our original aircraft than to have TCC be on permanent display in Winnipeg, which was one of TCA's original hubs when the airline began operations in 1937 thanks to its central location in our country. Air Canada has a long and rich history connecting Canadians from coast to coast which continues to this day, and it all started with the Lockheed L-10A 85 years ago. As we celebrate our 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we mark this milestone by ensuring that such an important part of Canadian aviation history will be available for Canadians and aviation enthusiasts to enjoy for many years to come," said Captain Murray Strom, Senior Vice President - Flight Operations at Air Canada.

"We're very pleased that CF-TCC has landed at the Royal Aviation Museum and is now part of our permanent collection. This aircraft has ties to Winnipeg dating back to 1937 and to our museum in particular," notes Museum President & CEO Terry Slobodian. "Our museum was previously located in the original TCA hangar here in Winnipeg. The Lockheed Electra is a perfect picture of the early days of commercial air travel in Canada. We are grateful to Air Canada for their longstanding support of our museum and for entrusting us with this spectacular piece of aviation history."

## The History of CF-TCC

CF-TCC was one of three L-10A aircraft purchased by Trans-Canada Air Lines. The L-10A aircraft type operated TCA's inaugural flight on September 1, 1937, a 50-minute trip from Vancouver to Seattle carrying mail and two passengers.

TCA had acquired the route plus two Lockheed L-10A aircraft from Canadian Airways. In that same month, TCA bought three additional Lockheed L-10A aircraft, brand new, from the Lockheed factory for \$73,000 each. These aircraft were dubbed the "Three Sisters" and carried the registrations CF-TCA, CF-TCB, and CF-TCC. The first aircraft, CF-TCA is now at the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa. CF-TCC last flew in 2018, and was one of two remaining Lockheed L-10A Electra aircraft still flying in the world.

After being operated by TCA from 1937 to 1939, CF-TCC was sold to the Department of Transport -Canada. During the next 40 years, the aircraft was sold several times to various private corporations and individuals.

In 1962, CF-TCC was leased by TCA and six of the original TCA pilots operated a commemorative flight across Canada on the occasion of TCA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In 1975, a retired Air Canada employee recognized the faded old registration marks on the aircraft while attending an air show in Texas. Air Canada kept track of the aircraft until 1983, at which point the airline purchased back the aircraft, restored it, and flew it during the Air Canada 50th Anniversary celebrations in 1986. At the end of the Fifty stop Canadian tour, CF-TCC was featured in the Air Canada pavilion during Expo 86 in Vancouver.

Since 1986, the aircraft has been maintained in flying condition. Volunteers and support from the broader aviation community, including from Air Canada Maintenance and Flight Operations, over the years have dedicated thousands of hours of personal time and other contributions into keeping CF-TCC flying for generations to enjoy. When not flying, the aircraft has been based in the Western Canada Aviation Museum in Winnipeg, Manitoba, or stored in Air Canada's Winnipeg hangar.

On September 21, 2007, it recreated TCA's first flight from Vancouver to Seattle, marking Air Canada's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In 2012, as part of Air Canada's 75th Anniversary Celebrations, CF-TCC made several air show and public appearances, showcasing Air Canada's heritage and the history of commercial aviation in Canada.

In 2017 to mark the carrier's 80th anniversary, Air Canada's Lockheed 10A took to the skies for a cross country tour, beginning with a public appearance at the Royal Aviation Museum in Winnipeg. Along the way, the aircraft made stops in Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax, Quebec City.

In 2022, on occasion of Air Canada's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the airline's Lockheed 10A made its final journey to the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada in Winnipeg. CF-TCC was taxied to the Museum from Air Canada's Hangar by the aircraft's long-time advocates and volunteers, Retired Captain Robert Giguere, Retired Captain Gerry Norberg, Retired Aircraft Maintenance Engineer George Huntington, and Air Canada Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Mike Clarkson.

**By the Numbers:**

<p><b>1937 Lockheed L-10A</b></p> <p><i>Crew: 2 Pilots, 1 Flight Attendant (known as a Stewardess in 1937.)</i></p> <p><i>Capacity: 10 passengers</i></p> <p><i>Length: 38 ft 7 in</i></p> <p><i>Wingspan: 55 ft 0 in</i></p> <p><i>Height: 10 ft 1 in</i></p> <p><i>Empty weight: 6,454 lbs</i></p> <p><i>Max Weight: 10,500 lbs</i></p> <p><b>Powerplant:</b> <i>2 x Pratt &amp; Whitney R-985 Wasp Junior SB, 450 HP ea.</i></p> <p><i>Cruise speed: 140 knots, 190 mph</i></p> <p><i>Range: 713 miles / 1,147 kilometres</i></p> <p><b>Normal Cruising Altitude:</b> <i>6,000 - 10,000 ft</i></p>	<p><b>Boeing 777-300ER</b> <i>(Air Canada's largest aircraft)</i></p> <p><i>Crew: 2 or 4 Pilots, up to 12 flight attendants</i></p> <p><i>Capacity: Up to 450 passengers</i></p> <p><i>Length: 242 ft, 9 in</i></p> <p><i>Wingspan: 213 ft, 3 in</i></p> <p><i>Height: 62 ft, 4 in</i></p> <p><i>Empty weight: 353,600 lbs</i></p> <p><i>Max Weight: 775,000 lbs</i></p> <p><b>Powerplant:</b> <i>2 GE90-115B engines</i></p> <p><i>Cruise speed: 484 knots, 557 mph</i></p> <p><i>Range: 9,068 miles / 14,594 kilometres</i></p> <p><b>Normal Cruising Altitude:</b> <i>35,000 ft</i></p>
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**About Air Canada**

Air Canada is Canada's largest airline, the country's flag carrier and a founding member of Star Alliance, the world's most comprehensive air transportation network celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022. Air Canada provides scheduled passenger service directly to 51 airports in Canada, 51 in the United States and 86 internationally. It is the only international network carrier in North America to receive a Four-Star ranking from Skytrax, which in 2021 gave Air Canada awards for the Best Airline Staff in North America, Best Airline Staff in Canada, Best Business Class Lounge in North America, and an excellence award for

managing COVID-19. Through its leading travel loyalty Aeroplan program, Air Canada offers the ability to earn or redeem points on the world's largest airline partner network of 45 airlines, plus through an extensive range of merchandise, hotel and car rental rewards. Its freight division, Air Canada Cargo, provides air freight lift and connectivity to hundreds of destinations across six continents using Air Canada's passenger flights and cargo-only flights with its fleet of Boeing 767-300 freighters. Air Canada has committed to a net zero emissions goal from all global operations by 2050.

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