



# Mosquito Bytes

Calgary Mosquito  
Aircraft Society

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## Wondering Who to Vote For?

When it comes to the mayor's position, the answer for me is easy: Nenshi.

This month marks the tenth anniversary of our campaign to prevent the sale of the Mosquito and the export of the Hurricane. For the first three years we did everything we could to sway city council and the mayor to support our efforts. We never heard a single word from then Mayor Bronconnier. He never took a position; never made any efforts to get informed or involved.

Two months after he was elected Mayor, Nenshi had his staff call me. We had not yet made an effort to involve the new mayor. He asked us to come in for a meeting. That happened on December 7, 2010. The very next day the committee of city council was to finally make a decision on the fate of the airplanes. Board member Barry Davidson joined me for the meeting at City Hall and we got grilled hard, first by a senior staffer then by the Mayor's Chief of Staff Chima Nkemdirim and then by the mayor himself. At the end of the meeting all that Mayor Nenshi said was 'Who is chairing the meeting tomorrow?' He got his answer and got up and left without saying another word.

The next day, after a three and a half hour dogfight against people supporting the sale, the committee of City Council voted unanimously to keep the airplanes and to partner with a not-for-profit to see to their restoration. And then they blew us away by volunteering to provide half the funding to restore both, to the tune of \$800,000. In three years of campaigning, we had never asked for a nickel.

The motion in committee was championed by Councillor Jim Stevenson, who is not running this term. Druh Farrell of Ward 7 said that the museum selling airplanes was like selling your house to buy furniture. The Saturday on which the Mosquito was delivered to the Bomber Command Museum in Nanton, Councillor Brian Pincott was standing in the parking lot to welcome her and to congratulate us. We have some cool people supporting our efforts. Its time to return the favour.

Prez.



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## DID SOMEONE SAY MOSQUITO PLANS?

If you get any social media news, you have likely heard about the incredible find of over 22,000 Mosquito plans in England a couple of months ago. Full story here: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/08/06/discovery-lost-ww2-mosquito-plans-will-allow-wooden-wonder-fly/>



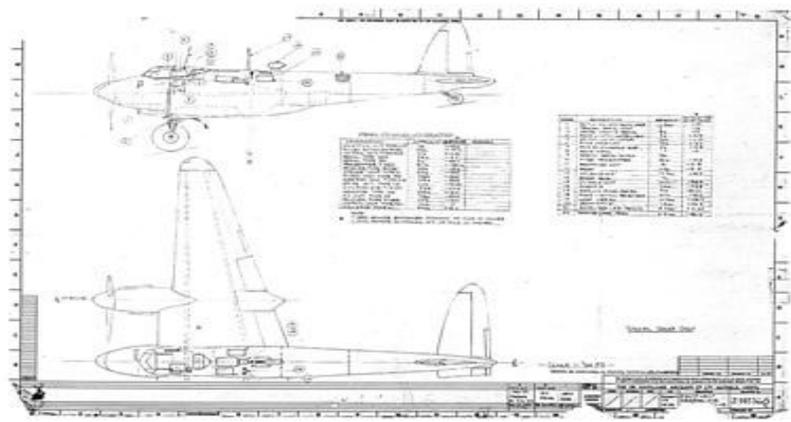
CMS tent, tables and display at the Wings Over Springbank Airshow, July 29 & 30. Big thanks to all of our volunteers!

This treasure trove was found by The Peoples Mosquito group, a not for profit dedicated to building a flying Mosquito for England. Their website here: <http://www.peoplesmosquito.org.uk/>



Author of the excellent 2012 book *MOSQUITO*, which features our beloved airplane, is Mark Nelson, up from Sydney, Australia for a visit in August.

Two weeks ago, their Chief Engineer, Ross Sharp, who is sorting and indexing the collection sent me a quick note to share some of his excitement at the find and to let us know that they had identified the drawings for converting the B.35 Mosquito into a PR.35 model, of which our bird was the



prototype for this conversion. A few days later, Ross took the time to scan the first of these drawings and send them to us. **We are the first organization to benefit from this amazing find.!**



Richard de Boer



## QUARTERLY REPORT

We are just finishing up another quarterly report for the City of Calgary and will have it posted on our website in the next two weeks. In it you will find all the latest news and progress reports on both the Mosquito and Hurricane. We will send you a link as soon as it is up.



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## CASINO SUCCESS

A big thanks to all who volunteered to at our casino last May. We are happy to report that your efforts resulted in a pay day of \$64,719.72. Pretty good returns for two days work. Big thanks to Board member Barry Davidson for taking the lead on this one (and for not getting tossed out of the casino...) The next one is scheduled for the first quarter of 2019.

## National Aviation Museum Conference Hosted by the Bomber Command Museum

Our hosts in Nanton have organized the latest conference for aviation museums across Canada. The umbrella group of aviation museums known as the Canadian Aviation Preservation Association holds an annual conference is hosted in Nanton for the first time ever. Dates are October 12 to 14 and all are welcomed to attend. Very cool discussions, visits tours and presentations. As members of the Mosquito Society you qualify for the member's rate of just \$155 which includes two dinners.

Conference details here: [http://www.bombercommandmuseum.ca/photos\\_temp/poster\\_2017october\\_capa.pdf](http://www.bombercommandmuseum.ca/photos_temp/poster_2017october_capa.pdf) or contact organizer Dave Birrell directly at [library@bombercommandmuseum.ca](mailto:library@bombercommandmuseum.ca)

Single day attendance is also available. Gotta hurry though.



Barry Davidson arranged for us to have a small display at the Foothill Flying Club breakfast fly-in in September so that we could spread the gospel of the Mosquito and Hurricane.



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**RETAIN, RESTORE  
HONOUR and EDUCATE**

We're on the web at  
[calgarymosquitosociety.com](http://calgarymosquitosociety.com)

## HAVE YOU HEARD THE HORNET BUZZ?

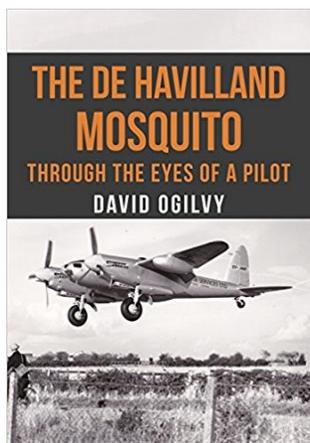
The world's largest surviving chunk of DH Hornet, or in this case Sea Hornet, was for many years stored on a farm north of Calgary. They are of interest to us as this was the world's only civilian registered Hornet, the largest surviving piece of one anywhere in the world and it was once operated by Spartan Air Services for aerial mapping work. Despite being the hottest piston powered fighter and one of the world's sexiest air-planes it was ill suited for the work. When it blew an engine in Terrace, BC it was abandoned. I took this photo of her mortal remains in 1990, essentially a center section, outer wing panels and nacelles.



It was just announced that New Zealand company Pioneer Aero is using the remains for restoration to flying condition. Story here: <http://www.warbirdsnews.com/aircraft-restoration/de-havilland-sea-hornet-airworthy-restoration-project.html>

## NEW BOOK

This one is of particular interest to us as it is authored by the man who flew our airplane, CF-HMS while it was in service with the Royal Air Force's 58 Squadron as a photo recon machine and later after it was bought by Spartan Air Service. Over the years David has authored many magazine articles about the Mosquito and has finally put his life's passion into one volume. He once confessed that our very airplane held a special place in his heart, so much so that he had a model of it on his desk for many years.



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