





A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

Bonjour! Welcome to Abbotsford International Airport in beautiful British Columbia for
The Sky's No Limit – Girls Fly Too! 2019.

My name is Julie Payette and I am the Governor General of Canada. But in a previous life, I was an astronaut. Astronauts know this very well: The sky is NOT the limit.

This year, it has been 50 years since two Apollo 11 astronauts – Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin – became the first people to walk upon the Moon. I was 5 years old at the time and I don't remember – my mom told me I was sleeping when the first moon landing took place! But later, I kept watching, and I became inspired. I remember wanting to be like the Apollo astronauts. I wanted to put on the space suit. To get into the rocket – to fly to the Moon. And more than anything else, I wanted to drive the Lunar Rover.

I didn't realize at the time that I had very little in common with those Apollo astronauts. They were guys. I'm a girl. They were American. I'm Canadian – and back then in the early '60s there was no such thing as a Canadian astronaut. They were military pilots and they had been everywhere – I had never been in an airplane. And they spoke a language – English – that I did not understand when I was a little girl because my mother tongue is French. But it didn't matter to me. I still wanted to be an astronaut. I put up posters all over my room. Did research. And told everyone.

Eventually, I realized that becoming an astronaut might not be possible, but I continued to go to school and then to university. I studied subjects like science, engineering, mathematics. Not only because they were FUN, but because it was the right background, just in case, if one day, there was even the slightest possibility I could become an astronaut. And it happened!

When the Canadian Astronaut Program put out an ad to recruit astronauts, I applied and I got in! And the rest is history – I have flown twice in space.

There are many things we cannot control in life, like where we are born, our skin colour, or the language we spoke at home – and we cannot predict the future, but there are things that we do control and choices we can make to influence our destiny.

So take advantage of this amazing opportunity to explore exciting careers in aviation, aerospace, marine and defence. Climb in the cockpits, get involved in the activities, and meet pilots, engineers, scientists and astronauts. (Do say hi to my friends Heide Stefanyshyn-Piper and Wendy Lawrence for me!)

Et croyez-moi : il n'y a pas de rêve trop grand. (There is no dream too big.) No matter your goal, you can achieve it. We live in the right country for that. Dare to dream!



SUMMARY

- 2 Thank You 2019 Partners & Friends
- 3 About The Event
- 4 Press
- 5 Participants
- 7 Opening Day
- 9 Highlights
- 25 Achieve Anything Foundation



THANK YOU 2019 PARTNERS & FRIENDS

PLATINUM PARTNER:

LOCKHEED MARTIN

GOLD PARTNERS:



SILVER PARTNERS:



BRONZE PARTNERS:



FRIENDS:

Thank You! A special thank you to the hundreds of dedicated volunteers essential to our success. We appreciate your support!

Friends & Community Contributions: A&D Music; Abbotsford Centre; Abbotsford District School Board; Abbotsford International Airshow Society; Brett Knelson; Canadian Council of Aviation & Aerospace; Canadian Linen; Capri Everitt; Carole Smith; Challenger Motor Freight; City of Abbotsford; City of New Westminster Pipe Band; Chilliwack Amateur Radio Club; Clayton Olivier; Corvus Aviation Services Inc.; David Sprague; dBi Technologies; First Class Waste Disposal; Flair Airlines; George Tecklenborg; Gidney Signs; Helijet International; J&R Hall Transport; Kenton Regehr; Murray Honda; Neil McLean; Poco Legion Pipe Band; Roy Hafeli; Royal Canadian Legion, Abbotsford; Standard Aero; Taylor Somers; Triple Eight Transport and others.





SUMMARY REPORT 2019

From shop floor to top floor... we're inspiring female future leaders!

ABOUT THE EVENT

The Sky's No Limit – Girls Fly Too! annual events are the cornerstone of a gender diversity outreach initiative founded by BC pilot, Kirsten Brazier in 2012. What began as a small Aviation event in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories has since evolved into the world's largest outreach event of its kind in Aviation, Aerospace, Marine and Defence. The event has been proudly hosted by the Abbotsford International Airport in British Columbia, Canada since 2015.

Previously held annually during the week of International Women's Day, it became necessary to postpone the 2019 event until October, after the B.C. Wildfire season. This was so that some of the essential resources we depend on to run a completely free event of this magnitude would again be available, enabling us to provide the kind of incredible event that we have become known for. Based on the overwhelming positive feedback, we have decided to keep the event in October, in honour of the week of International Day of the Girl, a Canadian-driven UN observance.

Our unique, hands-on outreach events have directly touched the lives of over 89,300 participants; 10,668 girls and women of all ages have experienced the magic of first flight in a small aircraft. Our events, including the introductory flights, are always free to ensure there are no barriers to participation. This is thanks to the generous support of agency, industry, education and community partners working together to improve gender and cultural diversity in high tech fields.

Why is this event important? Out of 25,482 professional pilots in Canada, only 6% of them are women. Over the past few years the number of Canadian women licensed as aircraft engineers declined from 2.7% to 2.3%. Women account for only 4% of the technical trades and less than 3% of the top command positions in the Canadian Forces.

It would be tempting to conclude that women are either uninterested or unwelcome in these fields. Instead, studies have shown that a common perception persists that Aviation, Aerospace, Marine and Defence are industries reserved for men. From an early age, males and females alike are affected by this perception message, which is continually reinforced by observation (lack of change), media, social media and advertising. The low numbers also mean that most women have no direct family or peer connection to our target industries. Therefore, it is unreasonable to expect gender and cultural diversity to resolve naturally in these fields.

The Sky's No Limit – Girls Fly Too! free outreach events and other initiatives aim to change this perception and awaken new interests by providing girls and women of all ages with fun, interactive, and hands-on introductions into STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) based fields.

Our events are about education and inclusion as much as they are about inspiring our missing demographic. We encourage families and friends to join us and support the daughters of the community and our future leaders. All participants are invited to meet civilian and non-civilian VIPs, explore an impressive variety of aircraft, equipment and tactile displays; and engage in the many hands-on learning activities in Aviation, Aerospace, Marine and Defence.

We welcome all ages at our annual events. In many cultures elders are the leaders within the community. Therefore we encourage elders to be a part of the discovery experience so they will share this incredible exposure with others in their community. We encourage the guardians and other individuals from the girls' support network to take part in the discovery experience as they are an integral part in encouraging the inspired girls and women as they progress in their chosen fields. Lastly, but no less important: it is never too late to be inspired and embrace new challenges.

Whether you are a participant, financial partner or community volunteer, we thank you for your support!

PRESS

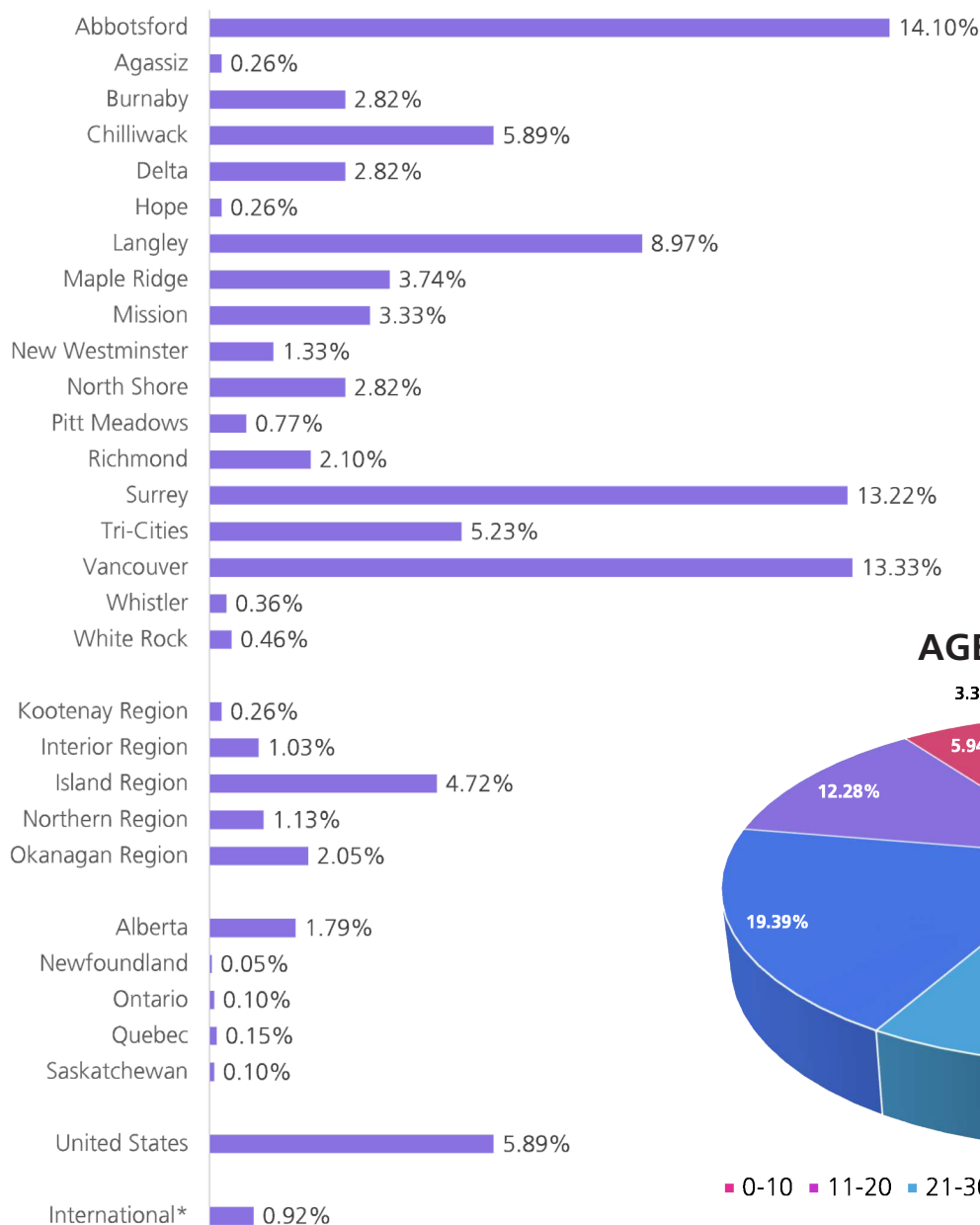
Our events are well covered by local, national and international print, radio and TV media (pre, during and post events). Regular press releases are published with event and participant highlights and copied to all media agencies.



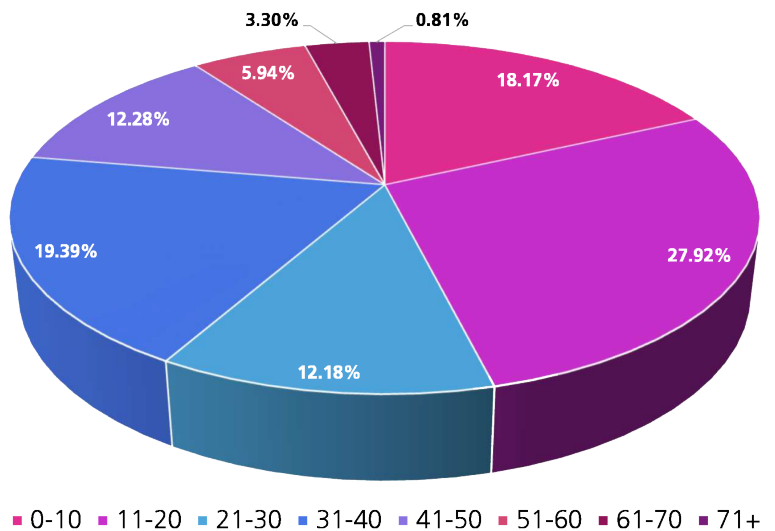
PARTICIPANTS

Despite some initial cloud and light drizzle on Saturday, sunny skies prevailed for most of the weekend and over 20,000 participants from around BC, Alberta, Washington and beyond enjoyed an incredible event. We're pleased to announce that 1,496 girls and women of all ages were thrilled by their first flight experience.

PARTICIPANT GEOGRAPHIC AREA



AGE DEMOGRAPHIC



*Afghanistan, Brazil, China, Cuba, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, South Africa, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey, Romania, and the UK.

SUMMARY REPORT 2019

From shop floor to top floor... we're inspiring female future leaders!



OPENING DAY

Highlights at this year's opening ceremony included a joint performance from the City of New Westminster Pipe Band and Poco Legion Pipe Band, and national anthems sung by Capri Everitt, Guinness World Record holder for the most national anthems sung in their host countries in one year. Capri sang the national anthem in its own language (a total of 41 languages) in 80 countries between 2015 and 2016. We were pleased to welcome back Colorado-based U.S. Air Force Wings of Blue parachute demonstration team, who performed for us last year for their first time ever in Canada.

Distinguished guest speakers included the U.S. Embassy's Chargé d'Affaires Richard Mills on his first official visit to B.C.; Mayor Henry Braun, City of Abbotsford; NASA Astronaut (Retired) Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger; Captain Kirsten Brazier, President of the Achieve Anything Foundation and Founder **The Sky's No Limit – Girls Fly Too!**. Roy Hafeli joined us as Master of Ceremonies.





HIGHLIGHTS

Free Introductory Flights for Girls & Women of All Ages

Our signature annual event held during the week of International Day of the Girl aims to inspire female future leaders in Aviation, Aerospace, Marine & Defence. Despite the incredible opportunities available in these high technology fields, the female demographic remains conspicuously absent. Our events employ a unique, hands-on approach to pique the interest of our target audience and create a network of experience and awareness of new possibilities.

To help draw more girls and women to the airport and get them excited to explore all the amazing hands-on activities, every year we offer free introductory flights for hundreds of girls and women. There is no minimum or maximum age limit, and we encourage female friends and/or family to enjoy the experience together.

For most, the first flight experience is incredible beyond words and when the fliers land they are stoked to learn more!





Space, The Ultimate Frontier

NASA Astronaut (Ret.) Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger joined us for the first time this year! Dottie is passionate about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and loves inspiring girls and women by sharing her path to space. Dottie tirelessly answered countless questions from curious participants, signed autographs and posed for pictures with many admirers. Those memories will last a lifetime!

From the classroom to the stars...

A daughter of two teachers, Dottie studied geology in college and went on to become a high school earth science and astronomy teacher. Inspired by a week at Space Camp, a gift from her parents, young Dottie vowed to someday find her way into the space program.

That opportunity came years later when one of her students asked "How do astronauts go to the bathroom in space?". A Google search led Dottie to the NASA website where she discovered an application to apply to be an educator astronaut. A year later she was ecstatic to be selected.

Dottie spent two years immersed in intensive training which included scientific and technical briefings, intensive instruction in shuttle and International Space Station systems, physiological training, T-38 flight training and water and wilderness survival training. In 2010, she was a mission specialist on the crew of STS-131 and logged more than 362 hours in space. Later she commanded NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations (NEEMO) 16.

In this underwater habitat, the international crew of four aquanauts and two habitat technicians carried out simulated spacewalks to test the techniques and tools that may be used at a Near Earth Asteroid (NEA).





Fun, Interactive Activities, Displays, Aircraft & Tactical Equipment to Explore

While many participants are initially drawn to our events by the exciting prospect of their first flight experience, the real mission of exploration and discovery begins with the interactive activities, displays, aircraft and tactical equipment. Participants were able to climb through the various aircraft on static display and meet with the crews who operate them.

Aviation, Aerospace, Marine & Defence activities were incredible this year! Event exhibitors were encouraged to be creative and employ hands-on learning activities to inspire and educate participants. A treasure map with a grand prize draw provided additional incentive for participants to visit and explore all the displays.



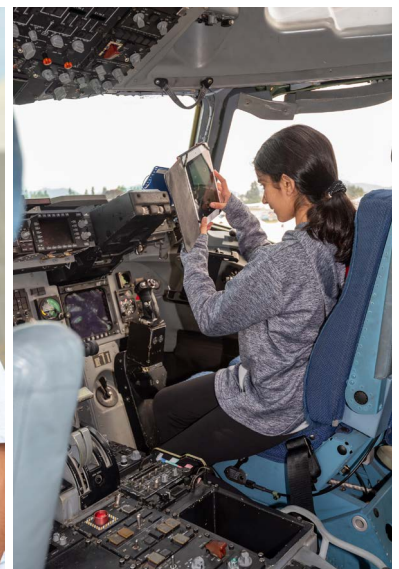






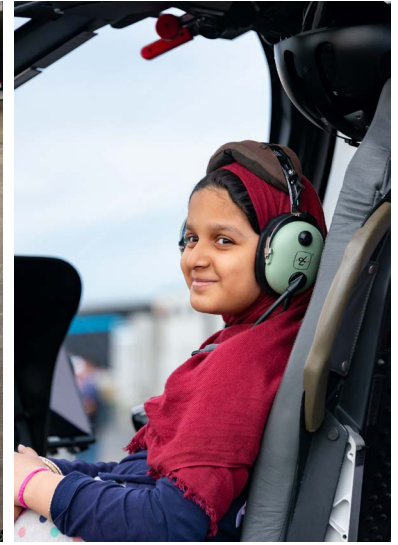
















INSPIRED!

Thousands of girls & women - all ages...

Thank You for your support!

We look forward to seeing you again in 2020!

ACHIEVE ANYTHING FOUNDATION

Given the exponential growth of our annual events, and the widespread gender diversity problem that persists in high tech fields, it became clear we needed to expand our hands-on approach to include year round operations. A federally incorporated not-for-profit, the Achieve Anything Foundation was founded in 2016 to develop and implement events, projects and programs of lasting value towards inspiring female future leaders in STEM and STEM-based fields such as Aviation, Aerospace, Marine and Defence.

In addition to our annual *The Sky's No Limit – Girls Fly Too!* events, the Foundation spearheads *Operation This IS You!*, a series of hands-on experience events held in the native environments of our agency and industry partners. We're also working on *Project STEM Girl*, an out of this world project that will revolutionize the way industry recruits girls and women into STEM.

Beyond what we are today and projects we are developing for tomorrow, we're also working towards the future:

- **ESTABLISH BASELINE / MEASURE PROGRESS:** As we grow, we're working on ways to better track the benchmark statistics of women in our STEM-based, target industries; particularly those in technical and leadership positions. Then, over the long-term, our goal is to correlate the effect of our initiatives on improving these numbers.
- **MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS:** Aside from inspiring new possibilities, we recognize the need to work with agency and industry partners to develop networks of suitable mentors. By providing access to this mentoring connection, those participants inspired by new possibilities will have the best chance for success.
- **INTEGRATION:** Beyond simply recruiting new candidates, we have identified that to improve the retention of women in STEM, a team-based approach towards integrating the incoming population is needed. Including the existing population in this approach is critical to success. We're working on ways to address this with our agency and industry partners.

Websites: www.achieveanything.ca // www.girlsfly2.ca

Facebook: [@AchieveAnythingFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/AchieveAnythingFoundation) // [@SkysNoLimitGirlsFlyToo](https://www.facebook.com/SkysNoLimitGirlsFlyToo)

Twitter: [@AchieveGirl](https://twitter.com/AchieveGirl) // [@Red_GF2](https://twitter.com/Red_GF2)

Instagram: [@Achieve.Girl](https://www.instagram.com/Achieve.Girl) // [@Red.GF2](https://www.instagram.com/Red.GF2)

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/AchieveAnythingFoundation



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the SKY'S NO LIMIT
Girls fly too