

# **Winnipeg International Airport Terminal (1964)**

**Time-line, People, References and Media Articles - updated 21 July 2011**

## **Time-line**

1919 – British Canadian Aircraft Company established an airfield in St. Charles.

1928 – Stevenson Aerodrome, named in honour of World War I and Canadian bush pilot, Fred J. Stevenson, opened in St. James.

1929 – Winnipeg Flying Club received its charter and was issued a permanent airport licence.

1937 – Airport Commission formed comprising City of Winnipeg and R.M. of St. James.  
– Trans-Canada Airlines chose Winnipeg as its operating headquarters and training centre

1940 – Airport traffic control established and Winnipeg became a centre for training in the Prairies during World War II and the Korean war in the 1950's.

1947 – The Dept. of Transport continued to run the airport after the war because the Airport Commission refused to take it back, despite a 1940 agreement. A temporary licence was issued to the department.

1951 – Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences (Massey Report).

1952 – A modernized terminal with improved passenger facilities opened on original site.

1957 – Permanent airport licence issued to Dept. of Transport

1959 – Name changed to Winnipeg International Airport to meet International Civil Aviation requirements

1964 – 7 Jan. the new terminal was opened on the east side of the Winnipeg International Airport. Built at a cost of \$18 million, architects were Green Blankstein, Russell and Associates; Bernard Brown and David Thordarson principal design. It was influenced by the work of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (1886-1969). Furniture and art work were chosen to compliment the building.

– Transport Canada became owner and operator of the airport as 1940 agreement was cancelled.

1977 – Winnipeg Flying Club, the founder and manager of the Winnipeg Airport until 1940, moved all of its operations to St. Andrews

1984-89 – Substantial improvements were made to the airport at a cost of \$100 million including \$32 million for the airport terminal

1992 – Winnipeg Airports Authority formed to look at community ownership of the airport

1997 – 1 Jan., Winnipeg Airports Authority (WAA) assumed responsibility for the airport under the terms of the Transport Canada – WAA ground lease document

2002 – GBR condition report of the Winnipeg Air Terminal

2004 – WAA announced plans to proceed with a phased airport site redevelopment program including a new airport terminal building. Total cost of redevelopment \$350 million including \$200 million for terminal.

2005 – WAA issued request for expression of interest for re-development of the 1964 terminal building

2005 – Sod-turning for airport redevelopment programme, now estimated at \$560 million

2006 – Winnipeg International Airport re-named Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson International Airport

2007 – WAA announces start of construction of new terminal, airport redevelopment now estimated at \$585 million

- 17 Sept. Letter from Barry Roste, WAA, to Gary Lukie, Transport Canada, requesting TC consultation with Parks Canada prior to demolition of Air Terminal Building.

- 4 Oct., letter from Gary Lukie, Transport Canada, to Monique Belliveau, Federal Heritage Buildings Review Board, requesting a heritage assessment of the Winnipeg Air Terminal Building

2008 - 1 Jan., WAA raised Airport Improvement Fee to \$20.00 per person departing on a flight from Winnipeg airport (\$5 fee introduced in 1998, increased to \$10 later that year and to \$15 in 2003)

- 6 Aug., Federal Heritage Buildings Review Board received a communication from Treasury Board saying the Winnipeg Air Terminal Building was not subject to the heritage provisions under Treasury Board Policy on Management of Real Property.

## People

Winnipeg Airports Authority board members (see WAA annual financial reports for earlier members)

[http://www.waa.ca/media/news/read\\_article/602/waa-announces-new-chair-vice-chair-and-welcomes-new-board-members](http://www.waa.ca/media/news/read_article/602/waa-announces-new-chair-vice-chair-and-welcomes-new-board-members)

<http://www.waa.ca/waa>

Office of the Commissioner of Lobbying of Canada. Registry of Winnipeg Airports Authority (Barry Rempel contact person) active and inactive lobbyist registrations 2005 - present

[https://ocl-cal.gc.ca/app/secure/orl/lrrs/do/\\_ls70\\_ls75\\_ls62\\_ls6c\\_ls69\\_ls63\\_ls42\\_ls61\\_ls73\\_ls69\\_ls63\\_ls53\\_ls65\\_ls61\\_ls72\\_ls63\\_ls68?\\_ls72\\_ls65\\_ls74\\_ls75\\_ls72\\_ls6e=true&\\_ls56\\_ls5f\\_ls54\\_ls4f\\_ls4b\\_ls45\\_ls4e=1309718380760&\\_STRTG3=tr](https://ocl-cal.gc.ca/app/secure/orl/lrrs/do/_ls70_ls75_ls62_ls6c_ls69_ls63_ls42_ls61_ls73_ls69_ls63_ls53_ls65_ls61_ls72_ls63_ls68?_ls72_ls65_ls74_ls75_ls72_ls6e=true&_ls56_ls5f_ls54_ls4f_ls4b_ls45_ls4e=1309718380760&_STRTG3=tr)

Western Canada Aviation Museum board members 2010-11

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/business/manitoba-movers-97288339.html>

Shirley Render, Executive Director WCAM, Government of Canada appointee to the Winnipeg Airports Authority board January 2007 to present (average compensation over four years \$18,000 per year), Conservative Member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba (1990-99)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley\\_Render](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Render)

Bernard Peter Brown, architect with Green Blankstein Russell, interviewed by Murray Peterson for Winnipeg Architecture Foundation, Inc. 2005

George Elliott obituary by Kevin Rollason, "Love of aviation led to illustrious career", Winnipeg Free Press, 30 May 2011

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/love-of-aviation-led-to-illustrious-career-122816104.html>

Transport Canada news release re change of name to Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson International Airport, 10 Dec. 2006

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/mediaroom/releases-pnr-2006-06-pn007e-2732.htm>

Arni C. Thorsteinson, President, Shelter Canadian Properties Limited

<http://www.scpl.com/management.asp>

Serena Keshavjee, University of Winnipeg art history professor and author

<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/art-history-keshavjee>

Hon. Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety, formerly President of Treasury Board (2007-2010) and Progressive Conservative Member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba (1995-99)

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/bio.asp?id=75>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vic\\_Toews](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vic_Toews)

## References

Silicz, Michael, "Heart of the Continent? The CentrePort Canada Act and the Future of Manitoba" *Manitoba Law Journal*, Vol 34, No. 3. pp 107-134. 2010

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<http://www.heritagecanada.org/eng/featured/current.html>

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McGrath, T.M.. "History of Canadian Airports" 1992

Transport Canada. "Winnipeg International Airport 1928-1978: A half century of aviation history" 1978

Transport Canada – airports web-site <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/programs/airports-index.htm>

Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (Parks Canada) web-site

[http://www.pc.gc.ca/progs/beefp-fhbro/index\\_e.asp](http://www.pc.gc.ca/progs/beefp-fhbro/index_e.asp)

Treasury Board Secretariat's 2006 new Policy on Management of Real Property

[www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pubs\\_pol/dcgpubs/aas-gasa/pmrp-pgbi/pmrp-pgbi\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pubs_pol/dcgpubs/aas-gasa/pmrp-pgbi/pmrp-pgbi_e.asp)

Treasury Board Secretariat's *Managers Handbook: Management of Real Property*

[www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rpm-gbi/gmrp-ggbi/gmrp-ggbi\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rpm-gbi/gmrp-ggbi/gmrp-ggbi_e.asp) .

University of Manitoba. Winnipeg Building Index.

<http://wbi.lib.umanitoba.ca/WinnipegBuildings/showBuilding.jsp?id=1291>

Winnipeg Airports Authority web-site <http://www.waa.ca/>

(WAA's Christine Alongi will allow the Transport Canada - WAA ground lease document to be viewed upon request.)

Western Canada Aviation Museum web-site <http://www.wcam.mb.ca/>

Save Winnipeg Airport Terminal - facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Save-the-Winnipeg-Airport-Terminal/200206053354078?sk=wall>

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<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/no-extra-cost-for-terminal-delays-109151399.html>

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## **Terminal plans flying**

New home for aviation museum part of Shelter's renovation scheme

Winnipeg Free Press

Tue Nov 7 2006

By Kevin Rollason

Shelter Canadian Properties Ltd. has won a competition to overhaul the terminal building at Winnipeg International Airport, saving the structure from the wrecker's ball.

Arni Thorsteinson, president of Shelter, said Monday his plans for the 400,000-square-foot building include new office and perhaps retail space as well as a new home for the Western Canada Aviation Museum.

Winnipeg Airports Authority will vacate the terminal once its new, \$350 million building opens in 2009. The new terminal will be 50 per cent larger than the old one, and together will comprise one million square feet of space at the airport.

Thorsteinson said his Huntington REIT (real estate investment trust) was the successful bidder on last year's proposal call by the WAA for development proposals for the current terminal. The WAA's other option was to tear it down.

Thorsteinson said his successful bid is good news for the Western Canada Aviation Museum, the country's second largest. The museum is housed at the edge of the airport in the original passenger terminal of Trans Canada Airlines, now Air Canada, but the site is in need of renovation.

"A major part of the proposal is relocating the museum into our new development," Thorsteinson said.

"It would use 150,000 square feet, so it would be the lead participant."

Thorsteinson said the museum would be a perfect fit for the terminal, even though it would require an addition to the building to allow for the movement in and out of the museum's collection of aircraft.

"It's a large step for them (the WCAM) to take and requires considerable financial support from the private sector and the government," he said.

But Thorsteinson said if the WCAM isn't able to come up with a feasible business plan, "we have alternative plans" for the site, which he wouldn't divulge.

Thorsteinson wouldn't divulge financial figures for the terminal overhaul.

The airport is spending \$572 million on the new terminal, a parkade, roadways, and other civil site works and infrastructure. The project is being funded through the Airport Improvement Fee.

Last year, Huntington REIT purchased the 18-storey NewPortCenter, at 330 Portage Ave., for

\$13 million and the multi-tenant office/industrial property at 80-88 Fennell St., for \$1.2 million.

Barry Rempel, the WAA's president and CEO, said he's pleased with the way things are going. "Arni has been the most aggressive and he is working with the museum," Rempel said.

"We've been working with him in developing the whole campus. We'll end up with a lot more things for people to do."

Rempel said even under the current plan parts of the terminal will still need to be demolished.

"He'll (Thorsteinson) develop it using as much as he can."

Shirley Render, the WCAM's executive director, said Monday an announcement on the museum's move is premature because they are still working on a business plan.

But Render said the museum's board of directors are confident they can do it.

"We expect we can show this is going to be a go situation," she said.

"We're following a flight plan... we want to do this right. We are looking to the corporate community and to the public community."

Render said more room would allow the museum to rotate the aircraft it has on exhibit and to have enough space to develop story boards detailing information about each aircraft. "We want to be telling stories to put the human face behind our machinery," she said.

Sandy Shindleman, president of Shindico Realty, said he would expect that the companies which would take office space inside the terminal would be those that are linked with aviation, as well as those which "host travellers to meetings and conference oriented users.

"With relatively low capital costs, rents could be attractive," he said.

But Shindleman said getting retail tenants would be "a challenge unless it is a destination retailer with anchor drawing power."

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### **Facts on Winnipeg International Airport**

400,000 sq. ft. -- Size of current terminal building

600,000 sq. ft. -- Size of new building, scheduled to open in 2009 1964 -- Existing terminal opened

\$350 million -- Cost of new terminal building. Terminal construction will begin in January with the 1,599 stall parkade to be completed this month.

\$572 million -- Total airport redevelopment cost, including parking, terminal plus roadways, civil site works and infrastructure.

**Facts on the Western Canada Aviation Museum:**

90,000 sq. ft. -- Size of the existing museum at airport

150,000 sq. ft. -- Museum's proposed size in revamped terminal

1974 -- Year of incorporation. It is one of only six museums in the province to be designated as a theme museum. The numerous aircraft on display include the country's first helicopter, the most complete Vickers Viscount in the world, a replica of an Avrocar flying saucer, and the only Super Fokker Universal remaining in the world.