

# BIRD STRIKE CANADA

SPRING-SUMMER 2016,

ISSUE 4



*With the fires still blazing near Fort McMurray, climate change is more real than ever. An informative website from Alberta highlights the changes there between 1950 and 2010 with an increase of 6% more growing season days, 50% more days above 25°, 4% fewer frost days, 20% fewer days below 0° and 58% fewer days below -25° in Edmonton. Clearly Alberta has warmed and is warming.*

## 3<sup>RD</sup> BIRDSTRIKE CANADA WORKSHOP

BIRDSTRIKE CANADA 2016 BI-ANNUAL WORKSHOP

3-7 OCTOBER 2016

VARSCONA HOTEL, EDMONTON, ALBERTA



This is a workshop not to be missed. Not only are there going to be nine (maybe even 10) workshop sessions of practical, airport wildlife management and control topics, some with introductory talks by guest speakers, but two of the sessions will be training sessions on difficult and somewhat

technical issues of importance to managing and evaluating your wildlife program. The workshop has been expanded from 2 days to 4 days to accommodate the two training workshops and a full day of demonstrations, airport wildlife management tour of our host airport,

Edmonton International, and a bonus workshop on raptor management. We will have demonstrations by Geoff Marley on some of the new pyrotechnics he has been developing, wing preparation for identification purposes, insect sampling, hopefully a demo of the sonic net and much more. (cont. on p 2)

P1-2. Birdstrike Canada Workshop

P2. Member Services

P3. SWIFT & BSC-USA Meeting

P4. From the Bookshelf



There will also be demonstrations of various insect sampling methods and YEG will also be putting on a barbeque for us. Mike Smith, a master trapper and trap-builder from Utah will be on hand as well as some raptor trapping demonstrations by the YEG staff. It will be a fun and informative day indeed.

We will also have our annual BSAC meeting where you can find out what is planned for the upcoming year and get involved in those areas that interest you most. You are also welcome to observe the Steering Committee meeting on Monday, 3 October where the planning for the year occurs.

The workshop will be held at the Varscona Hotel in south Edmonton (M-W) and at YEG (Th-F). For more information and to register check our website:  
<http://www.canadianbirdstrike.ca/en/bird-strike-canada-workshop>

## BSAC Member Services

### Forum

The forum is an excellent way of communicating with the Bird Strike community in Canada. Let everyone know what you are doing, ask a question, post something you have seen on the web, or lurk in the background, but make use of this valuable resource if you want us to keep it around. Subscribe to the RSS feed (for each forum you are interested in following) to be notified of new posts. Everything takes time and effort to maintain so if members are no longer interested in the forum, we will end it and focus our efforts elsewhere.

I have recently added monthly CADORS records to the forum and the past newsletters are now stored there as well. It would be great to have airports write about what is happening in terms of issues with hazardous species, interesting events or strikes and so on. Make it your forum and speak out.

### Library

Recently several members have asked me about publications available on a certain topic. Did you know that much of the information you seek is already available to you through our e-library? Over 2000 publications related to wildlife strike prevention have all been brought together in one place for your use. These are almost entirely from my personal collection which has taken more than 25 years to gather together. The conversion to our new website has caused problems, but I am working my way through the collection to fix everything and make it available. This is reason enough to keep your membership up to date and get logged onto the BSAC website. And if you have a publication that is not in the library, send it to me and I will add it so that everyone has access to it. This library contains the knowledge of the field dating back to the 1960s – it is too valuable to ignore.

## The Bruce Mackinnon Memorial Award - Nominations

Every 2 years the BSAC awards the Bruce Mackinnon Memorial Award for significant contributions to aircraft-wildlife hazard mitigation and management in Canada. Last year the award went posthumously to Vic Solman, one of the pioneers in Canadian bird strike prevention. We will be accepting nominations for the award for the next year when voting will commence. If you know of a person who you believe deserves to be considered for the award, send their name and a short bio in for consideration. All nominations will be considered, and the Steering Committee will develop a short list to be put to the membership for a vote in 2017.

## Birdstrike Canada Steering Committee

Please feel free to raise issues you would like to see addressed to any member of the steering committee.

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## Birdstrike Canada at SWIFT

SWIFT is the premier airport operations conference in North America and takes place 19-22 September 2016 in Minneapolis-St Paul, MN. This year BSAC was asked to present on behalf of Canada on the topic "Airport Wildlife Management: Are we getting it right? What are we missing?" If you are at SWIFT make sure you attend on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1530.

## Bird Strike Committee – USA Meeting

During even-numbered years BSAC and BSC-USA hold separate meetings in order for us to have our Canadian workshop. The BSC-USA meetings are large affairs similar to the NA Bird Strike Conferences. This year their conference will be held from 9-11 August 2016 at the Holiday Inn, in downtown Chicago, IL. Early bird registration ends on 24 June. More info is at: [http://www.aaae.org/AAAE/AAAEMemberResponsive/Events/2016/08/160807%20Bird%20Strike%20Committee%20USA%20Meeting/CCO\\_Master.aspx](http://www.aaae.org/AAAE/AAAEMemberResponsive/Events/2016/08/160807%20Bird%20Strike%20Committee%20USA%20Meeting/CCO_Master.aspx)

The **Bird Strike Association of Canada** (BSAC aka Bird Strike Canada) is a leader in airport wildlife strike prevention. By fostering dialogue within the industry, the BSAC seeks and advances innovative ideas in aviation safety. Our mandate includes setting standards, addressing industry issues by formulating effective strategies and implementing change through regulatory means.

Bird Strike Canada is a strong advocate for what concerns members from every sector of Canadian aviation. Validating research and the implementation of industry developments that support methods of mitigating bird strike risk are keynotes of the association. An important directive of Bird Strike Canada is developing best practices as well as the standardization of airport wildlife strike prevention data and training. Bird Strike Canada has collected literature on bird strike research from around the world and makes this available on-line to all of our members. Knowledge of effective strategies, policy and technologies assist wildlife managers achieve the best results possible at their airports.

### Credits:

This newsletter is published by the Birdstrike Association of Canada

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We encourage you to submit articles or ideas for articles to make this newsletter a reflection of our bird strike community in Canada.



## From the Bookshelf

**SONIC NET:** The latest entry into the BSAC electronic library is Swaddle, J. P., Moseley, D. L., Hinders, M. K. and P. Smith, E. (2016), A sonic net excludes birds from an airfield: implications for reducing bird strike and crop losses. *Ecol Appl*, 26: 339–345. I only have the abstract so if anyone has the full paper, please send it along for inclusion in the library. The sonic net is perhaps the most promising use of directional sound technology (e.g., LRAD or Hyperspike) I am aware of. The idea is that sounds broadcast along the runway at the frequencies birds use to communicate will discourage birds from being present in those areas. In tests in Virginia, bird numbers were reduced by 82% in treated areas. The sonic net is very different from artificial noise makers like the Phoenix Wailer that has been shown repeatedly to be ineffective. We hope to have a demonstration of the sonic net at our workshop in Edmonton.

**FROM THE ARCHIVES:** I recently re-read Hesse, G., R.V. Rea and A.L. Booth. 2010. Wildlife management practices at western Canadian airports. *Journal of Air Transport Management* 16:185-190. This paper is timely (if nearly decade-old data can be considered timely) in that many of the issues raised will be raised again at the workshop in October. For example, some airports that likely should have had a WMP did not, some airports had no record-keeping of strikes, animal control activity or monitoring. Some of the airports that did collect data, did not analyze the data to examine trends in those data. It was clear from the information provided that we do not have a clear method of evaluating the relative success of individual control methods other than subjective opinion. Effective methods that require more operator skill and knowledge are often listed as the least successful methods, most likely because they are implemented incorrectly or inappropriately. I thought the quote made by an anonymous survey participant was bang on the money: “Wildlife control is an ongoing problem and conditions have to be continually monitored and your program has to be changed to adapt to these changes. There is not a single answer to wildlife control. Each site is different and each individual site changes from year to year”.

Don't forget to send your bird strike photos to us. Not only will we check your identification to verify the species struck, we will maintain a photo library of strikes for future reference. See the website for further information and instructions.

<http://www.canadianbirdstrike.ca/en/bird-id>

## Become a Member of Birdstrike Canada

Name/Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Membership only – add associate members below

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form and a cheque for \$175 (corporate) or \$25 (individual) to Bird Strike Association of Canada or pay online at

[:http://www.canadianbirdstrike.ca/en/become-member-or-renew-membership](http://www.canadianbirdstrike.ca/en/become-member-or-renew-membership).

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