

**From:** Bird Strike Association of Canada info@canadianbirdstrike.ca  
**Subject:** The 2018 Birdstrike Canada Workshop and other news! →  
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**BIRD STRIKE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA**  
**ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE SUR LE PÉRIL AVIAIRE**



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## Fall 2018, Issue 8

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[Rediscovering Excellence](#)

The 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Bird Strike Association of Canada Conference just finished in Vaudreuil, Quebec – Wow, what an affair. With a record attendance of 50 fully engaged professionals from across Canada representing 17 airports, as well as airlines, suppliers, our regulator, animal rights groups and consultants, we have certainly rekindled the passion and professionalism that has been our history. Never since the last Bird Strike Committee Canada meeting in 1998 has such a large and engaged group of Canadian airport professionals gathered to advance the field of airport wildlife management as we had in Vaudreuil. Yes, the hotel was very nice and the food was great, but the information presented and the ensuing discussion was incomparable. My thanks to all who attended, and if you did not attend, mark the week of August 12<sup>th</sup> 2019 on your calendar and plan to attend the North American Bird Strike Conference in Halifax. I guarantee it will be a valuable experience for us all. And it would be great to have a large Canadian contingent to the conference we are hosting. Being in Halifax is not too hard to take either.

As Canadians, we too often undersell our expertise and capabilities. It was clear at the conference that we have exceptional capabilities in this country. From the Centre for DNA Barcoding at the University of Guelph who taught the folks at the Smithsonian Institute how to identify bird remains using DNA, bird radar technology that is second to none in the world, leading edge airport wildlife programs from advanced risk assessment strategies, performance assessment using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), specialized species management for raptors, geese and other species, to world class airport wildlife management software developers and equipment providers. We have lots to be proud of as well as lots yet to be done.

We have decided to make this the first of quarterly newsletters to better connect with you, our membership. Also, this is the first newsletter that is being sent out to a larger set of “subscribers”. I hope the content provided in these newsletters will be of interest to airport wildlife management professionals and will help you stay connected with developments and standards for the challenging role you play in the industry.

Gary E. Searing

Gary P. Searing

Executive Director

Bird Strike Association of Canada



### [Putting It All Together!](#)

This year's [2018 Birdstrike Canada Conference/Training Workshop](#) was a huge success! Thank you to all who attended and participated in rich discussions over the two days of the conference.

The workshop kicked-off with attending airports discussing their latest hazards and initiatives, giving context to the unique and shared wildlife issues faced by both civil and military airports from coast to coast to coast. The theme of the conference was “Putting it all together” so the workshop topics followed the process of airport wildlife management from risk assessment, developing a wildlife plan, active and passive wildlife management, strike reporting, monitoring and assessing success through KPIs. Thank you to all our presenters and moderators and everyone who participated throughout the conference.

For the first time, the conference was followed by an optional training day. Instructed by Steering Committee members Gary Searing and Pierre Molina, an intimate group of 10 participated in the session of advanced airport wildlife

management held at Montreal Trudeau Airport.



*Pictured: The fine dining offered at the workshop venue, Chateau Vaudreuil; David Bradbeer, Vancouver Airport Authority, talking about Wildlife Plans; Participants listen to Stacey Lee from Victoria International Airport discussing habitat management; Group picture of conference attendees.*

More pictures are posted on our [Facebook](#) page.



## Stay Up-to-date!

For news about upcoming aviation events, follow our [Events page](#).

Curious about what our members are up to? Check out [Members in the News](#)



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## [SWIFT 2018 Conference & Trade Show](#)

BSAC had our booth at [SWIFT](#) in Niagara Falls in September. Two of our members presented and a third moderated a session. Our booth was located right across from the registration table so we had great exposure and quite a bit of interest considering that many of the folks attending were mostly interested in concrete and snowploughs!

Arnie Jassmann moderated the session on "Habitat Management for Wildlife Hazard Reduction" in which David Bradbeer gave an excellent talk on the program being done to identify and manage the foods of hazardous species at Vancouver International Airport.

Gary Searing also presented the results of an ongoing raptor management program describing the successful reduction in strikes with Red-tailed Hawks through a capture, tagging, and translocation program and by managing resident birds on the airfield.

BSAC looks forward to attending SWIFT again in 2019.

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## **SAVE THE DATE !**

The joint [North American Bird Strike Conference](#) organized by BSAC and [Birdstrike Committee USA](#), with help from the AAEE, will be held from August 13 to 15, 2019, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Conference and lodging at the [Westin Nova Scotian Hotel](#).

**Details to come in early 2019!**



## [Are You Throwing Data Away?](#)

When a strike occurs at your airport you collect the information to fill out the Transport Canada bird strike form, but what do you do with the dead animal? Yup, we all throw it away. But, that is the most important part of the data! So we are urging everyone to TAKE A PHOTO (or two, or three). Transport Canada does not have the ability to store photos in their database, but we do.

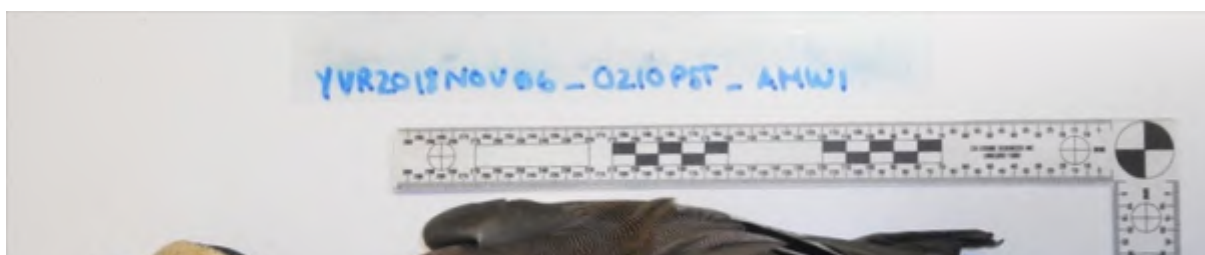
BSAC is requesting all airports to send in your strike photos. We will link to the strike information in Transport Canada's strike database and archive the photos. The benefit to you is that you no longer have to keep track of all those photos in various folders, we will do that for you. Also, our panel of experts will validate the species struck (as best possible provided you have a suitable photo). Hence you get better data for your risk assessments and plans!

Send your pictures to [photo@canadianbirdstrike.ca](mailto:photo@canadianbirdstrike.ca)

Please label your photo with your airport code, the date and time and the species as reported to Transport Canada according to the following format:

YVR2014MAY15\_0900PST\_MALL

For more details on how to take a good strike picture and file naming: [Click here!](#)





## [Nominations Are Open](#)

Every two years it is our pleasure to honour **Bruce Mackinnon** by giving someone who has made a significant contribution to airport wildlife management in Canada an award in Bruce's name. The award is presented at the North American Bird Strike Conference to be held in Halifax from 13-15 August 2019.

We are now accepting nominations for the award and any current member of BSAC is eligible to nominate someone who they think worthy. Simply send your nomination with a brief bio to [info@canadianbirdstrike.ca](mailto:info@canadianbirdstrike.ca).

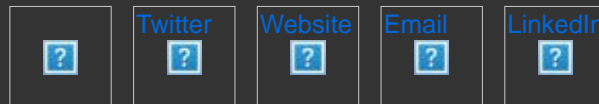
You can view past winners of the award and past nominees of the award at <http://canadianbirdstrike.ca/the-award/>.





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 to all of our members. Knowledge of effective strategies, policy and technologies assist wildlife managers achieve the best results possible at their airports.



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