

CANADAIR NORTH STAR C-54GM

Manufacturer's Serial # 122
RCAF Registration 17515
Museum Catalogue# 1967.0645

AIRCRAFT ARTEFACT CURRENTLY IN STORAGE HANGAR CANADA AVIATION AND SPACE MUSEUM, 2018-12-07

- Last remaining (complete) example of type in existence
- Taken on strength 8.3.48, 426 Sqdn.
- Participated in North Star standing down ceremony in Trenton 8.12.65

This artefact was acquired by the National Aviation Museum in 1966. It spent 39 years on static display, outdoors, on Rockcliffe airport grounds. During this time, the artefact suffered the effects of the climate and wildlife. It was moved near the current Museum in 1988, then indoors to the new storage hangar in 2005. Restoration started in 2003. The project was managed by Mike Irvin until 2017, when Réjean Demers took over as Project Manager.

Work is carried out by museum volunteers, members of Project North Star Association of Canada. There are approx. 20 volunteers who work on the project throughout the week. These volunteers are split into crews: restoration shop, engine and accessory shop and airframe. They have contributed tens of thousands of hours towards the restoration of the aircraft.

All work is carried out to meet museum artefact conservation policies, using manufacturer's instructions and methods developed by the aviation and museum industries. All work is done under the direct supervision of the Project Manager, who is a licenced Aircraft Maintenance Engineer.

The goal is to return the aircraft to "as delivered flying condition". The aircraft will not be maintained to current standards of airworthiness, i.e: The engines have not been restored to permit operation, yet they've been completely disassembled, inspected and rebuilt. Operating the systems of this aircraft could jeopardise artefact integrity and public safety. This rare artefact of significance must not be put at risk.

The current timeline is based on a short term, five year plan, within a 10 year estimated completion calendar. Current estimates suggest completion near 2028 - 2030 for all major work.

To date, restoration has been completed on the following major assemblies:

- #1 through 4 engines and propellers (#4 engine & prop not installed)
- Forward cabin (cockpit & crew compartment)
- Galley, crew lounge, lavatory, radio racks and electrical bus
- Lower baggage hold
- Main cabin walls, floors and head liners (not installed)

Work is on-going to accomplish the following within the next 5 years

- #4, #1 engine nacelles and aircraft system components located within
- Remove outboard wing sections and landing gear while restoring #2 and 3 engine nacelles.

Réjean Demers, AME / TEA

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