COPA Fly-in and AGM It's not too late to register!



Dawson Creek's ramp awaits your arrival

You can still register for the Canadian flying event of the year – COPA 2013 Fly-In and AGM at Dawson Creek, B.C., held from June 21-23.

If you haven't seen the Peace River country, this June gives you the opportunity to explore the scenery, activities and events of this northwestern area of Canada.

Consider a flight over Kinuseo Falls just inside the Rocky Mountains. Drive up to Tumbler Ridge, the beautiful little town created in the early 1980s to house workers in the coalmines, which thrives now as a tourist attraction because of its dinosaur museum and research centre as well as its spectacular scenery. Just north of Dawson Creek you will find the northwestern edge of the Canadian Prairies – prime farmland. Heading west takes you quickly into the foothills and before you loom the Rocky Mountains. As an added bonus – you can participate in a guided aviation tour up to Alaska. Check the COPA 2013 website at www.copa2013cydq.com/ for details.

If you are staying in Dawson Creek for a few days, you will want to explore downtown Dawson Creek. Get your picture taken at the Mile Zero signpost, which marks the beginning of the Alaska Highway. U. S. Army engineers wanted to ensure that Alaska could be protected from Japanese invasion and rapidly built the highway in 1942 during the Second World War. Find relics, displays and video clips of that epic road construction task - 1422 miles through muskeg, wilderness and mountains in less than nine months - at the local museum (in the old railroad station) and in the Chamber of Commerce building.

Enjoy murals of that historic period painted on some of the walls of buildings. Visit our unique art gallery, housed in a renovated grain elevator. Browse through some of the specialty stores which add charm to our city or relax in one of the several tea shoppes, which provide a variety of tasty treats.

Check out the Walter Wright Pioneer Village to step back in time to when early settlers opened up this area to agriculture. Many of these attractions may be included in our spouse tour on Saturday.

What about the convention itself? Friday afternoon, June 21, as planes start arriving, static displays on the field, the tradeshow and the beer gardens will open. In the evening, "Meet and Greet" festivities will commence where you can meet old and new friends.

On Saturday, June 22, two Seminars will take place in the morning and two in the afternoon. Topics and speakers are still to be finalized. The tradeshow will be open all day. Please stop by and check out the display booths of our sponsors and patrons and take advantage of some special deals they will be offering. The AGM will start at 11:30 a.m. followed by an extended Lunch/Presentations/Awards. In the evening there will be an on-field barbecue and live entertainment.

Plan to arrive early in case weather delays you and plan to stay late because you've come a long way and who knows when you can come back again.

Register online now and secure your accommodation at local hotels or come prepared to camp under your wings. Remember in June you can read your newspaper at midnight in the North Country thanks to our short nights.

Shoal Lake Flying Club/COPA Flight 162, Shoal Lake, MB is offering a 5% fuel discount to COPA members en route to or returning from the COPA Fly-in/AGM. They require payment by cheque or cash. ATMs are close by.

They will make sure crews get into town (1 mile away) for whatever they need – cash, restaurants or accommodation. They have both land and water facilities. For further info, check their website: http://www.slflyingclub.com.

Shades of Oshkosh! Any other Flights or Flying Clubs want to take up the challenge to offer fuel discounts to encourage COPA aviators to refuel at your airport?

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