



**An allocution by the
Chairman of the Board
of the
Ottawa Macdonald-Cartier
International Airport Authority**

**Une allocution du
Président du conseil de
l'Administration de
l'aéroport international Macdonald-
Cartier d'Ottawa**

Peter Vice

**At the Authority's
10th Anniversary Event**

**À l'occasion du
10^e anniversaire de l'Administration**

**Held on June 1st, 2007
At the
Ottawa International Airport**

**Tenue le 1^e juin 2007
à
l'Aéroport international d'Ottawa**

**PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
VEUILLEZ VOUS REPORTER À L'ALLOCATION**

Good morning et bienvenue.

It's a pleasure to be here in my first official role as the Chairman of the Ottawa Macdonald-Cartier International Airport Authority.

The Ottawa International Airport has a rich history that dates back to the 1920s.

One of the first memorable occasions was a visit by Charles Lindbergh and his "Spirit of St. Louis" Ryan N-X-211, which arrived to an audience of 60,000.

Following years saw the creation of Trans-Canada Airlines, the Ottawa Flying Club, and Laurentian Air Services – all names that are familiar to historians and aviation buffs alike.

With the outbreak of World War II, the airport became a training facility for the Royal Canadian Air Force, and home to many hangars and a military camp.

At the end of the war, the airport focused its energies on civilian travel, and the construction of a terminal that was officially opened by Prime Minister John Diefenbaker on June 31, 1960.

From the beginning, the airport has had a variety of different names; it was originally called the Hunt Club Field, then the Uplands Aerodrome, the Uplands Airport, and on August 24th, 1964 it became the Ottawa International Airport.

In 1992, rumours of a new name were aplenty as plans to celebrate Canada's 125th birthday were developed.

The headline in the Ottawa Citizen on July 31st of that year was "Flight or fancy?; airport to be renamed" . On August 1st, the headline "Government denies plan to rename airport" denied the rumour.

Ultimately, almost a year later, on June 23rd, 1993, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney confirmed the rumours when his government approved renaming the facility the Ottawa Macdonald-Cartier

International Airport after the two Fathers of Confederation.

The airport had a new name, one which lives on to this day and pays tribute to the first Prime Minister of Canada, Sir John A. Macdonald, and to George-Étienne Cartier who was a dominant figure in the federal politics, first representing Montreal and later Manitoba.

With that brief historical overview, I turn the microphone to Jim

Durrell.

Merci.