



58 years after the Canadian Government scrapped the Avro Arrow Project, Clarington Museums celebrates the achievements of the Arrow and revisits the controversy surrounding the decision for Canada to exit the aerospace industry.

# The Avro Arrow takes flight at Clarington Museums

**Heather Ridge** (Curator)  
**Dennis Jeffery**  
 (Education Coordinator)

## CLARINGTON MUSEUM

On March 25, 1958, the infamous Canadian-made supersonic interceptor named the Avro Arrow took its first flight, right here in Ontario, a short drive from Clarington. Many local Clarington residents made the drive, every day, to work on this ground breaking project. Clarington Museums will be celebrating its newest exhibition, "Avro Arrow: A Dream Denied" March 24th 2016, at 6pm with the Exhibit Launch Party, NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM. We recre-

ate the 1958 Launch Party of the Avro Arrow! Beginning with cocktails and continuing with a Gourmet Dinner, Interactive Play and Evening Celebrations, this is a unique experience to enjoy and remember. Tickets \$45, contact 905-623-2734 or on-line at [www.ClaringtonMuseums.com](http://www.ClaringtonMuseums.com).

Clarington Museums will tell the story of the Avro Arrow from its conception to its sudden and mysterious cancellation; celebrating and commemorating the achievements of those men and women who made the Arrow dream a reality.

There are many significant dates in The Arrow's controversial history. March 25,

1958 is one of the most important dates in Canadian aerospace innovation. This day would see the First Flight of the Avro Arrow. Soaring through the skies over Malton, Ontario (now the Toronto Pearson International Airport), history was recorded by the Malton control tower: "with terrific acceleration, the Arrow was quickly airborne, less than half way along the runway. The Avro 201 off at 9:51 a.m. and cleared to company tower." 1

Pre-dating the epic first flight was another major milestone in the Arrow's development. On October 4, 1957, the Avro Company would reveal to the country the feat of engineering they

had been secretly creating. On this day in Malton, Ontario, Avro "rolled out" the Arrow in a spectacular unveiling to crowds of work-



Source: Aerospace Heritage Foundation of Canada

ers, dignitaries, members of the press and politicians. Witnesses reported that "the huge north and south parking lots were full. The enormous crowd of spectators,

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estimated at over 15,000, spilled from the parking lot and congregated at Hangar 1. This was an occasion that none of the employees from Avro Aircraft and Avro Orenda Engine divisions at Malton Ontario, wanted to miss. Sitting by itself in Hangar Bay 1 was the sole

completed Avro Arrow<sup>2</sup>. The Arrow's roll-out on October 4, 1957 would change the landscape of Canadian aviation for years to come, but sadly, would be overshadowed in international news by the launch of the Russian "Sputnik", the earth's first artificial satellite.

The roll-out would become one of Avro's proudest moments as not only did they unveil the Arrow itself, but they unveiled Canada as an aviation leader. This message was conveyed to the crowd in a speech given by Fred T. Smye, the President

1 Avro Aircraft by Arrow heads 51  
2 The Avro Arrow Story Bill Zuk 13

and General Manager Avro Aircraft Limited, "We feel that this aeroplane represents a substantial technical achievement, that demonstrates the capability of Canadian technology, and represents a substantial Canadian contribution to the western world."<sup>3</sup> Clarington Museums will also be celebrating the roll out anniversary in October with a special event commemorating innovation within our community.

February 20th, 1959, a date thereafter known as 'Black Friday', would see the official end of all work on the Arrow projects, as Prime Minister Diefenbaker cancelled the creation of the Arrow and all associated projects. These projects would include the Iroquois engines, designed and manufactured by the Orenda Company, that were installed on the sixth version of the Arrow, called '206' in early February 1959. The Iroquois engines themselves are another example of how technologically advanced the Arrow was for its time. The Iroquois engines would have allowed the 206 to fly at optimal speed at 50,000 feet which would have allowed the aircraft to reach Mach 2, a speed not previously reached by any other aircraft. The cancellation order from Diefenbaker also included an order to have all the designs, and existing aircraft destroyed and scrapped. Not only did the cancellation of these projects set back the Canadian aerospace industry but it

also had a great affect on the workers of Avro and Orenda. Some of the workers were reluctant to leave their work behind to be trashed and so they "stuffed blueprints into their lunch boxes and walked out of the factory, right under the noses of the security staff."<sup>4</sup>

Even though Clarington is approximately 100kms east of Malton, there were Clarington residents that commuted along the old Highway 2, to work at Avro. The exhibit at Clarington Museums will feature the personal stories of local community members who worked on the Avro Arrow before its cancellation. Many of the workers at Avro would find jobs elsewhere in the aviation community. Some would move south to work with NASA on its space program while others would stay closer to home. Alan Cornish was born in Orono, Ontario and worked for Avro as the Chief Engineer of hydraulics. After the cancellation of the Arrow project, Alan moved his family down to Ohio to continue his career. Bill Carver from Newcastle is a past Avro employee who stayed in Ontario. Bill's career with Avro would begin after he finished with the Navy in 1958. Bill was involved with the Arrow's final assembly and test flight division while he worked for Avro from August of 1958 to February 20, 1959, Black Friday. Bill has relayed to us that he really enjoyed his time working for Avro and especially remembers the long commute along Highway 2 making stops to pick

up co-workers on the way to Malton. The hour and a half drive would allow the workers to build relationships that would last longer than the Arrow itself. These community stories are what bring the story of the Avro Arrow to life in Clarington.

3 Arrow Rollout pg 71

4 the Avro Arrow Story pg 107



Source: Canada Aviation Museum of Ottawa

The Avro Arrow itself represents many things to many people. For Clarington Museums it means a chance to celebrate all aspects of the story from innovation to mystery and everything in between. Don't miss the significant dates of our Exhibit and Dinner Event: exhibit opening March 23, 2016, and Our Launch Party event, March 24, 2016. Clarington Museums strives to illuminate the stories of Clarington community members and their involvement with the captivating story of Canada's innovative aircraft, the Avro Arrow.

## AVRO ARROW: Night At The Museum



*First Flight: The Launch Party*  
**March 24, 2016 6pm**  
 Sarah Jane Williams Heritage Centre, 62 Temperance St., Bowmanville, ON

**Gourmet Dinner**  
**Interactive Play**  
**Celebrations**  
**Cash Bar**

\$ 45

**TICKETS: 905-623-2734**

[www.ClaringtonMuseums.com](http://www.ClaringtonMuseums.com)

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# Charles Taws moves to the Peace River Country

by Myno Van Dyke

NEWCASTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Charles Taws was born in Montreal and his keen interest in history started at an early age. His grandmother had a very unique old "Revolutionary" house in the United States and she gave him a large old key from one of the doors. He was so proud of it that he took it to "Show & Tell" in kindergarten. In 1972, young Charles along with his twin brother and parents moved to Lakehurst, Ontario. On the way there, they stopped for the night at the Flying Dutchman Motor Inn at Liberty Street and the 401. Charles said he

remembers that his parents were told that no dogs were allowed in the room, but they ended up sneaking their dog in and found this quite exciting. At Lakehurst, his family operated a General Store selling groceries, hardware and gasoline. Charles advised that it was here that he developed a keen interest in history.

"All of the old-timers would come into the store and tell great stories. Soon I was collecting photographs and articles and filled up several scrap books full of information. I became the President of the local Historical Society at a very young age."

After High School, Charles attended Trent University and graduated in 1986 with

an Honors BA in History and Archaeology. He started his career at Hutchison House Museum in Peterborough, then Perth Museum in Oshawa and moved onto the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes. After that he came to Bowmanville and was Curator, first for Bowmanville Museum and then later called Clarington Museums and Archives. For a few years, Clarington Museums loaned Charles to our Newcastle Village & District Historical Society as a part-time Curator. He did a wonderful job of reorganizing all of our cabinets and creating a number of "themes" for our collection.

He stayed with Clarington Museums for 26 years be-

fore leaving in December for a new position in Grand Prairie Alberta. "It was time for a change" he said.

When asked what he feels was his greatest accomplishment at Bowmanville, he said; "number one was raising the profile of local history through newsletters and newspaper articles, especially in the Clarington Promoter. There were always so many positive comments and people continually coming into the Museum to ask for information about the stories or providing new ones. Number two was finding the Bowman painting, that I had been searching for since 1990. "It was because of the article in the Clarington Promoter, someone saw

it on the internet and knew where the painting was in Montreal", he said.

He is excited about his new job in Grand Prairie. He indicated they even have a number of antique cars and trucks in their collection there. He has already found an interesting connection from a Newcastle native, Dr. Annie Higbee who came to Grand Prairie in 1912.

Annie, whose maiden name was Carveth, travelled by ox cart to a spot near the Smoky River, with her husband Professor Charles Higbee, their 13 year old son Jack and her brother Arthur Carveth with his wife and children to settle in that area. She was the first woman doctor in the Peace River area. The



Higbees returned to Newcastle in 1928, purchasing the historic "Boate" house at 261 Mill St. South. Charles intends to write a story about her further cementing the relationship between Clarington and Grand Prairie.

Charles advised he is having no problem adjusting to the climate there. He said, "so far we are having an El Nino winter- instead of minus 40 its minus 20".

# For Your Family's Sake - Don't Ignore Auto Insurance Changes



by Ron Strike  
**WillDavidson LLP**  
 38 KING STREET  
 WEST, BOWMANVILLE  
 RSTRIKE@WILLDAVIDSON.CA

Everyone knows someone who has been seriously injured in a car accident and had difficulties with the car insurance system. Pay close attention as the complicated Ontario car insurance sys-

tem is about to change again to your family's detriment. You will have received or will soon receive a letter from your car insurer or insurance broker advising that effective June 1, 2016 there are significant changes to your car insurance. The letter also tells you that they will be in touch with you about these changes. These changes and many others have drastically changed car insurance over the past 20 years, making it more import than ever that you take the time to understand and respond to these changes. It is quite common for us to ignore our car insurance and only obtain the cheapest benefits. However, you may not be acting in the best in-

terests of your family to do so. The pending and past changes have drastically reduced the benefits available to anyone injured in a car accident allowing the Ontario government to meet its goal of keeping car insurance premiums as low as possible. Ontario has a hybrid type of car insurance in that there are fault and no fault components. In the fault part, that being the claim against the driver that caused the accident, there are two very significant challenges to an injured person. The first is the deductible of over \$36,000. This means that if your claim for pain and suffering is valued at \$50,000

you only get \$14,000. The second is a threshold whereby you do not get any money for your pain and suffering unless you can establish by medical evidence that you have sustained a serious and permanent injury. In the no fault part you are allowed to claim against your own car insurer for rehabilitation benefits and some income loss. This is the most important part of the pending insurance changes as at a cost you can choose optional benefits to lessen the impact. For example, recent changes to the no-fault insurance have reduced the amount of money available for rehabilitation benefits from \$100,000 to as little as \$3500. A relatively

inexpensive option can be purchased to significantly increase the amount of rehabilitation money available. There are many other changes that have reduced the available benefits and there are options available to counter those reductions. You should now contact your car insurance representative and do two things:

1. Obtain information from them and discuss with them the changes to car insurance so you can make an informed decision on buying the options.
2. Direct them to increase your third party liability insurance limit to at least \$2 million.

You will be surprised at how little step 2 costs and this

\$2 million is the amount that is potentially available for you or any dependent family member hurt by an underinsured at fault driver anywhere in Canada or the United States. There are many vehicles being driven with little or no insurance and you owe it to yourself and your family to have this protection in place. Ron Strike is a litigation lawyer with more than 32 years of experience, who recently merged his practice with the legal firm Will Davidson LLP. They provide litigation services from offices in Toronto, Oakville, Collingwood, Owen Sound, Orillia, Huntsville, Midland, Barrie, Lindsay, Whitby and now Clarington.

## WILL DAVIDSON LLP

### HISTORIC LAW FIRMS CONNECT IN CLARINGTON

There are not many businesses that can trace their historical roots back 90 years.

One of the oldest law firms in the Region of Durham can be found right here in Clarington.

Since 1926, three Generations of the Strike family have provided our community with a variety of legal services, including: real estate, personal injury, corporate law, wills & estate planning and family law.

The Strike family of lawyers have offered those services from their location at 38 King Street West, Bowmanville for 90 years - a rare accomplishment indeed. (see photo insert - The Jury's Jubilee Building).

#### Law is a tradition in the Strike family

This tradition began in 1926 when W. Ross Strike started his law practice in Clarington. Ross was born in 1895 and as a young man was a Medic on the French battlefields of WWI.

a Durham School Board Trustee, one of the founders of Durham College and major fundraiser for the building of UOIT. He was actively involved in fundraising for Garnet Rickard Arena and Splash Pool Complex (now named Alan Strike Aquatic & Squash Centre), was a founding member of the Valleys 2000 Board of Directors and a distinguished member of the Rotary Club of Bowmanville. Alan retired from his practice in 2000 after he and his two sons, Ron and Dan, built on the foundation established by W. Ross Strike. Sadly, Alan passed away in 2013. Ron specializes in Personal Injury Law/Litigation while Dan focusses on Real Estate, Wills and Estates and Corporate Law matters.

#### Ron Strike and Will Davidson LLP

Ron has recently merged his personal injury practice with another law firm with deep historical roots in Ontario, Will Davidson LLP. Ron and all his staff will continue their excellent personal injury business under the Will Davidson name and work alongside Strike Furlong Ford in their existing office at 38 King Street West in downtown Bowmanville.

"By joining Will Davidson we have taken our strong personal injury team to the elite level as they have many great resources including top ranked lawyers and an excellent support staff. They also allow us to offer litigation expertise in many other areas including insurance, commercial and estate disputes" explained Ron Strike.

#### Strike Business as Usual

"The Strike family law firm will continue to operate as usual" said Dan Strike and will continue to provide the same high level of legal services in Real Estate Real Estate, Wills and Estates (Planning and Administration) and Corporate Law together with partner, Bradley Phillips who joined the firm in 2012.

He continued by saying "The legal industry is changing. Business models are changing. We are diversifying to meet the needs of our clients. Our goal is to provide the best legal services available to our clients and working closely with a litigation firm of Will Davidson LLP's pedigree achieves that goal."

#### Will Davidson LLP

Will Davidson LLP also has a strong history, tracing their legal experiences and successes back more than 90 years. During that time they have built a proud history of acting as counsel to other lawyers throughout Canada. They have had nine of their lawyers become judges. The lawyers at Will Davidson LLP have been recognized repeatedly for inclusion in the Best Lawyers in Canada, accredited by Lexpert and have received notable decisions on cases which have impacted the lives of many in Ontario.



GARY WILL



DAVID MORIN

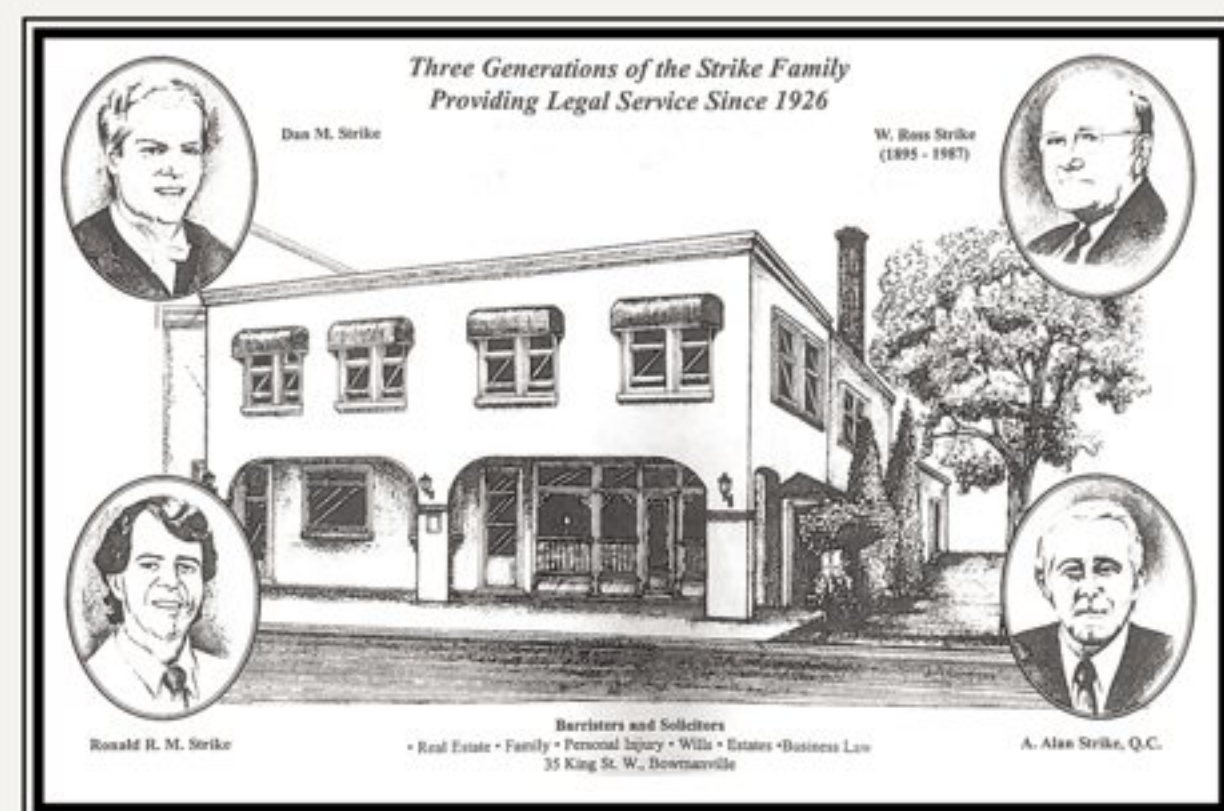
The approach to every case is unique, as the legal team of Will Davidson LLP have experience of both sides of the law. The legal professionals consists of both personal injury and insurance defence lawyers. This allows Will Davidson LLP to cover every angle of a case giving a unique perspective that other law firms can't.

Gary Will is the managing partner and leads the personal injury group. He is well known for a ground breaking Supreme Court of Canada decision regarding punitive damages. Jim Davidson leads the insurance defence group. David Morin will be active in the Bowmanville office. All three individuals are certified specialists in Civil Litigation and are highly respected amongst the legal and insurance industry.

Gary Will recently commented, "We are very excited about coming to Clarington as it is one of the most vibrant communities in Ontario and Ron & his firm have a great reputation. We plan to follow the Strike tradition and play an active role in this community."

Now, with Ron Strike joining with Will Davidson LLP there are 21 lawyers providing a wealth of litigation knowledge from their offices in Toronto, Oakville, Burlington, Orillia, Huntsville, Midland, Lindsay, Markham, Whitby and now Clarington.

To learn more about Will Davidson LLP visit [willdavidson.ca](http://willdavidson.ca).



He served as Director of the Bowmanville Public Utilities Commission for 27 years, was Mayor of Bowmanville (twice), Chairman of Ontario Hydro, and a distinguished Member of the Rotary Club of Bowmanville.

There is an old saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree". This holds true for his son Alan who gained the reputation of being a great community builder. In addition to running the family law firm, Alan found time to be