Beat: Travel

Atlantic Canada International Air Show 2021

Cancelled Due To COVID-19

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USPA NEWS - There is much disappointment and sadness within the air show community throughout Atlantic Canada after the 2021 Atlantic Canada International Air Show was cancelled today due to COVID-19 concerns and uncertainty of the Atlantic Bubble. This is the second year in a row that the air show had to be cancelled due to the global pandemic.

The following statement was posted on the Air Show Atlantic website and Facebook page.

"May 28, 2021 (Halifax, NS) - The Nova Scotia International Air Show Association (NSIASA) has cancelled its production of Air Show Atlantic for this year.

The Show was scheduled for August 28-29 in Debert, Nova Scotia. The team is heartbroken once again that we cannot create a safe, executable event within the time frame required.

There are elements that we must be certain of to go into production months in advance of the actual Show:

We lack the critical resources to secure the Aerobatic Safety Box. Specially trained teams with communications and security skills are not training this Summer.

We cannot be sure that we will be able to bring performers into the Atlantic Bubble. The Province cannot give us assurances of regulations, restrictions, or quarantine requirements to bring in our aerobatic flyers, our announcer or the Air Boss. To gain RCAF participation, the Show must be conducted by a certified air boss.

Finally, and most critically, we are not in a financial position to risk our resources on a show largely dependent on the gate revenues when it is also weather dependent

We want to be around to produce air shows for decades, not just this one. As a not-for-profit, we must err on the side of caution and live to fight another day.

It is especially tough to cancel on a day when the Provincial Government is launching its reopening plans as we emerge from the pandemic. Even with vaccines in arms and a sense of normal around the corner, we cannot make it work."

The summer of 2019 was the last season with air show activity in the region which saw the Snowbirds Over Debert in June, the Red Arrows in early August and the Blue Angels headlining at the Atlantic Canada International Air Show at 14 Wing CFB Greenwood on Labour Day weekend. With many thrilling air show performances etched in the memory of aviation enthusiasts throughout Atlantic Canada, it is the hope that all of Nova Scotians hard work and sacrifice in order to flaten the curve will put the region in a better place that will allow air show organizers to produce a show in 2022.

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