



Abbotsford Police Department

2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, BC V2T 3P5 Phone (604)859-5225 Fax (604)859-2527

Chief Constable Mike Serr

“Strength in Community”

NEWS RELEASE

August 9, 2019

AbbyPD and Airshow organizers ask public to “Please leave your drones at home”

The Abbotsford Police are reminding those watching the Abbotsford International Airshow to keep their drones away from the airport this weekend. This year, the Abbotsford Airshow will be using drone detection equipment, and on-site Abbotsford Police members will be notified if a drone is detected. Police will take immediate steps to locate the operator of the equipment.

Over the past year, drones have been spotted at several airshows across Canada, causing a significant safety risk to attendees, pilots and aircraft. An in-flight collision between a drone and another aircraft can have catastrophic results. Authorization to operate a drone in controlled airspace is rarely granted – the operator must have a Transport Canada Pilot Certificate – Advanced Operations, and a written RPAS Flight Authorization from NAV CANADA.



“We want everyone at the Abbotsford International Airshow to enjoy their experience without having to worry about the consequences of a drone-related accident,” said Airshow

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To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.*

Spokesperson, Jadene Mah. “Please, leave the flying and photography to the professionals and come see the air show in person.”

Abbotsford Police Department’s Cst. Hryhorczuk, a drone pilot, notes “Transport Canada classifies drones as aircraft, and the person operating the drone, a remote pilot. We expect everyone who operates a drone to consider the safety of others and act responsibly. Flying a drone in close proximity to an airport and other aircraft is extremely dangerous, and illegal”.

While drones may provide an excellent bird’s-eye view, they have no place at an airport where the safety and security of pilots and the public may be compromised. Please enjoy the Abbotsford International Airshow safely and leave the flying to authorized pilots!

For more information on flying your drone safely and legally in Canada, please visit <https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/drone-safety/flying-drone-safely-legally.html>

Jadene Mah | Media Coordinator
Abbotsford International Airshow | o: 604.852.8511 m: 780.722.2363
Enjoy the show - August 9-11, 2019 @abbyairshow #thunderinthevalley

Sgt Judy Bird	Phone (604) 864-4899
Abbotsford Police Media Relations Officer	askmedia@abbypd.ca
2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, BC V2T 3P5	Fax: (604) 859-2527

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