

## **D.C. (DENNIS) GOLL**

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Dennis Charles Goll was born in Flin Flon, Man. At an early age he began to work in the oil fields to earn money to pursue a flying career and, in 1972, graduated with honours from the first flight-training program at Mount Royal College in Calgary. Following graduation he worked as a pilot with a regional airline in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Goll's aviation career of over 35 years has included all facets of the industry, from work as a pilot through to management and ownership of a diverse aviation organization. With over 14,000 flying hours he has flown throughout Canada, the U.S.A., and Mexico. One of his most personally satisfying accomplishments has been flying into almost all of the remote communities in the Northwest Territories

In 1983, with Mr. Goll as the driving force and visionary, West Wind Aviation was established as a two person, one aircraft operation, with the primary focus on service and quality. Despite the arrival of airline deregulation, a struggling Saskatchewan economy, and a general mood of pessimism that prevailed in the early 1980s, he recognized the need for a first class charter and executive air service. Through Mr. Goll's leadership, and his strong philosophy of providing the highest level of safety and service to customers, West Wind evolved into a dynamic, growing organization.

Originally established to provide corporate air charter service, West Wind's strong commitment to the resource sector of northern Saskatchewan has been a major contributing factor to its growth. Over time the demands and challenges of the industry presented numerous opportunities resulting in new ventures, each contributing to diversification of the organization. In 1993 Mr. Goll was instrumental in bringing a world-class level of service to Saskatchewan with the construction of a corporate executive aviation facility—the Saskatoon Aerocentre. The Regina Aerocentre followed in 1994. In 2004 West Wind launched Express Air, offering quick business class service between Saskatoon and Regina. Shortly after, Pronto Airways, a regional commuter airline made its debut. Today West Wind is recognized as western Canada's largest full support aviation operation.

With his constant pursuit of excellence, a positive attitude, and the ability to recognize opportunity, Mr. Dennis Goll, President and CEO, has led West Wind Aviation through the challenges of a highly competitive industry. His absolute, no compromise attitude towards safety and dedication to customer service has established a higher standard for aviation in the industry and resulted in his company being well recognized by customers, peers and regulatory agencies.

Mr. Goll is a community minded individual and his leadership and organizational skills have been utilized on various committees in the communities where he has lived; he has served as advisor and consultant on numerous aviation projects and is a past Director for the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce and Ambassador to the City of Saskatoon with SREDA.

Inducted into The  
Saskatchewan Transportation Hall of Fame  
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