



City of Delta
COUNCIL REPORT
Regular Meeting

To: **Council**

From: **Corporate Services Department**

Date: **July 9, 2025**

2025 Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

▪ **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. THAT Alpha Aviation Inc. be permitted to host the 2025 Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade at Boundary Bay Airport on September 28, 2025.
- B. THAT a letter be sent to the Royal Canadian Air Force approving the request to conduct a fly-by as low as 500 feet during the 2025 Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade.
- C. THAT the authority to approve future requests to host the Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade be delegated to the City Manager.

▪ **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to recommend Council allow Alpha Aviation Inc. (Alpha Aviation) to host the 2025 Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade (Parade) at the Boundary Bay Airport and to send a letter to the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) authorizing a fly-by during the event. Due to the routine approval of this request over the past twenty years, for increased administrative efficiency staff also recommend that the authority to approve future Parade requests be delegated to the City Manager.

▪ **BACKGROUND:**

On June 23, 2025 Alpha Aviation submitted a request to host the 2025 Parade at Boundary Bay Airport on Sunday, September 28, 2025 (Attachment A). The RCAF has also submitted a request to conduct a fly-by to commemorate the Battle of Britain (Attachment B).

The Parade is an annual RCAF event that commemorates the day the Royal Air Force Fighter Command held a decisive victory over the German Luftwaffe – this was a turning point during WWII. More than 400 Canadian aircrew and ground crew, including 100 pilots fought alongside their allies to defend England and prevent a Nazi invasion.

Under Delta's Head Lease with Alpha Aviation, City approval is required for airshows and special aviation events to be held at the Boundary Bay Airport.

▪ **DISCUSSION:**

Except for a few years during the pandemic, the Parade has been held each September since 2005. The format for this year's event will be similar to previous years and will include a parade of Air Cadets with a military band, and a ceremony.

Like in years past, the RCAF Vancouver Squadron has requested a military fly-by during the parade. As shown in Attachment B, the status of the fly-by for this year's parade is uncertain and will not be known until roughly one week prior to the date of the Parade. Before the RCAF will approve the request, they require a letter from Delta allowing aircrafts to fly as low as 500 feet.

Implications:

Financial Implications – there are no financial implications.

▪ **CONCLUSION:**

Alpha Aviation is proposing to host the 2025 Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade at the Boundary Bay Airport on Sunday, September 28, 2025. The Parade may also include a Royal Canadian Air Force fly-by. Given the storied history and success of this event in years past, staff recommend Council approve the Parade for 2025. Given the routine nature of these approvals over the past twenty years, staff also recommend delegating approval authority for future parades to the City Manager.



Mike Brotherston,
Director, Corporate Services

Department submission prepared by: Graeme Bant, Senior Policy Analyst

▪ **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Request Letter from Alpha Aviation, June 23, 2025
- B. Request from Royal Canadian Air Force Association, June 23, 2025