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Air North's classic Douglas DC-3 makes first flight after restoration

eroflap | 26 July 2022



Photo: AirNorth



After ten years, a classic Douglas DC-3 it underwent a large and extensive maintenance to give it flight conditions, and with that it managed to make its first flight.

Nicknamed the 'Yukon Sourdough', the Douglas DC-3 was damaged during a major storm. The classic plane belonged to Canada's airline, Air North, which also operated aircraft such as the ATR 42 and the Boeing 737.



Photo: AirNorth

The Douglas DC-3 was built in 1942 and soon received the registration CF-OVW, the aircraft flew for over 40 years for Air North including the company's heyday in the 80s.



The classic plane was found in an advertisement for sale, where Malcolm Van Kirk was trying to sell the aircraft that was seen by pilot Ken Casady.

Ken soon became aware of the situation as he saw that Kirk and his brother would not want to sell the aircraft despite the difficulties of restoration. The result of this conversation was that the pilot embraced the cause and helped with the 'Yukon Sourdough' restoration project.



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Ten years after making its last flight, the Douglas DC-3 has been completely restored and prepared to ren years arter making its last night, the bodglas bu-s has been completely resource and pre-take to the skiles of Ganada again. The aircraft will be displayed at the Oshkosh Air Show. The objective of the partners in the project is one, "run this plane."

Ken Casady is looking for partners to help fund the operations and preservation of the Douglas DC-3, such as maintenance, flight preparation and hangar storage in addition to fuel. According to the pilot, the classic plane would cost around US\$ 1,500 for each hour flown.

"We want it to be active control equipment... not hanging from the ceiling somewhere in a museum,"

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One of the members of the restoration team of the classic plane, the pilot said that he hopes for help from people, just as it happens to maintain the Museum of the American Air Force, which has classic aircraft.

Throughout the process of restoring the Air North plane, several challenges were imposed on the team. In addition to time and money, the volunteers felt the loss of one of the founding members Captain Stephen K. Van Kirk.



The captain was passionate about airplanes and the Douglas DC-3, he owned several aviation-oriented ventures, including the Wings for Val Foundation, which offered scholarships to women who dreamed of pursuing a career in aviation.

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