



R-100 at Saint- Hubert,

It's the 90 anniversary

It was on August 1, 1930, that the British airship R-100 docked at Saint-Hubert airport after its epic 78 hour trans-Atlantic flight which covered 3,300 mi (5,300 km) at an average ground speed of 42 mph (68 km/h). The planning of the visit of the 720-foot-long (215-meter) airship had begun several years earlier.

The Canadian government funded the construction of the \$ 1 million mooring mast at the time. Its construction was completed in 1928, the facilities included a hydrogen production plant. The local and regional authorities had worked hard to make the visit a popular success. A train station had been specially fitted out on Guy Street in Montreal for this event. On Saturday, August 2 alone, nearly 150,000 people took the train to see the R-100.

The airship suffered damage during the Atlantic crossing so it remained in Saint-Hubert until August 8. When it returned to England, extensive damage was observed to the structure of the R-100. A sister airship, the R-101, crashed in France in October the same year. This led the British government to cancel its airship program and the R-100 was scrapped .

Nearly half a million people came to see the R-100 in the fields of Saint-Hubert. Considering the limited means of transport at the time, this is an exceptional public event and Canada's biggest aviation. More importantly, the arrival of the R-100 allowed the establishment of the Saint-Hubert airport, which was officially opened in 1929. Today, it ranks as the oldest airport in Canada in continuous service.

The Quebec Aerospace Museum

The Quebec Aerospace Museum is excited to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the arrival of the R-100 at St-Hubert. Founded in the summer of 2018, the MAQ continues to grow and is now a registered charity authorized to issue tax deductible donation receipts. You can donate or become a member of the Museum by visiting the following pages:

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