

The CC-115 (DHC-5)

Buffalo

Buffaloes do have wings in Canada.

The Canadian Forces *Buffalo* is able to fly in almost any weather, and is especially suited for flying in the Rockies and the West Coast Mountains.

A transport aircraft used primarily for search and rescue (SAR) operations, its short take-off and landing (STOL) capability is ideal for rough landing strips.

The six *Buffalo* in the Canadian fleet are used by 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron at Comox, B.C. The 442nd is responsible

for a SAR zone stretching from the B.C.-Washington border to the arctic, from the Rocky Mountains to 160 km out into the Pacific Ocean.

Although this is by no means the largest SAR area in Canada, it is one of the busiest. The mild west coast climate allows year-round opportunities for people to get lost or in trouble while hiking, mountain climbing, boating and flying.

Facts and figures:

Length:	24 m
Span:	29.25 m
Height:	8.53 m
Weight:	20,454 kg
Power:	Two 3,060 hp General Electric CT64-820-3 turbine engines
Cruising speed:	416 km/h
Range:	2,240 km
Equipment:	rear-loading door, adjustable ramp
Load:	2,727 kg - capable of carrying vehicles and machinery or 41 fully equipped soldiers
Crew:	4
Year(s) procured:	1967
Quantity in CF:	6
Location(s):	19 Wing Comox, B.C.



Interesting fact:

A male buffalo, of the animal variety, can weigh up to 1,130 kg. Together it would take about 18 of the hairy beasts to equal the weight of one of Canada's airborne Buffalo.

8 Wing

Trenton, Ont.

When RCAF Station Trenton opened in 1931, the entire Canadian air force comprised fewer than 1,000 men and women. Today, 8 Wing Trenton is home to 3,000 military and 450 civilian personnel.

The wing is involved with virtually every Canadian Forces operation, from delivering groceries and supplies to CF Station Alert, the northernmost permanent habitation in the world, to providing search and rescue (SAR) to a one-million-square-kilometer area in central Canada.

8 Wing's Lieutenant Colonel Karen McCrimmon took command of 429 Transport Squadron in 1998, becoming Canada's first female officer to command a front-line operations unit.

In the same year, the Disaster Assistance Response Team's (DART) maiden mission saw its warehouse emptied of water purification equipment and relief supplies for Honduran victims of Hurricane Mitch.

Retired CF pilots and WWII veterans are also restoring the world's one remaining Halifax bomber at Trenton's RCAF Memorial Museum.

Facts

*Units: 412, 429, 436 and 437
Transport Squadrons*

424 Transport and Rescue Squadron

426 Transport and Training Squadron

8 Air Communications and Control Squadron

2 Air Movements Squadron

8 Air Maintenance Squadron

8 Air Reserve Augmentation Flight

70 Communications Group Headquarters

*Aerospace and Telecommunications
Engineering Support Squadron*

Canadian Forces Aircrew Selection Centre

CF Postal Unit, Central Detachment

Canadian Parachute Centre

Skyhawks

Founded: 1931

Motto: *In omnia paratus*
Prepared for all things