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## The International Centre Welcomes Home the Avro Arrow

Mississauga, ON – Wednesday, September 18, 2013 – Fifty five years after its first flight, a replica of the Avro Arrow is coming home. The world's only full-size model, the Avro Arrow and memorabilia will be unveiled at the official kick-off to Doors Open Mississauga, held at The International Centre on September 28, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mayor Hazel McCallion will commence the festivities at 9:00 a.m. with an opening ceremony at The International Centre. After Doors Open Mississauga, the Avro Arrow will continue its time at The International Centre, taking stage at the Canadian Manufacturing Technology Show (CMTS) from September 30 to October 3, 2013.

The International Centre is grateful to the board, staff and volunteers at the Canadian Air and Space Museum (CASM) and their partners who generously provided their time and expertise in moving the Avro Arrow home to Mississauga. The Avro Arrow replica was built by CASM volunteers and is one of many important pieces in the CASM collection.

The original Avro CF-105 Arrow was designed and built in 1953 and was considered to be the most advanced Canadian technical and aerodynamic achievement at the time. During the 1950s, The International Centre site was used in the development of the Avro Arrow, making it the perfect location to introduce the Arrow replica as part of Doors Open Mississauga. The Orenda Research & Development Laboratory, a part of the Avro Canada group, operated out of what is now known as Hall 1, building and testing engines for the Avro Arrow.

"The International Centre is very pleased to be part of Doors Open Mississauga to showcase our venue's historical footprint," said Michael Prescott, Chief Executive Officer, The International Centre. "As the leading trade and consumer show venue for over 40 years, we're excited to share our connection to our country's proud aviation history. Thanks to the efforts of our client, SME, and the CMTS show, the public can take a step back in time and experience the famed Avro right here on our site."

CMTS, organized by SME Canada, is Canada's largest manufacturing event, featuring more than 600 suppliers and the most up-to-date industry solutions. "The Avro Arrow is enshrined in Canadian aviation history, and showcasing remarkable Canadian manufacturing and technological innovations such as this is what the show is all about," said Nick Samain, Group Manager of SME Canada. "We are extremely proud to be able to bring the Arrow back home after over five decades."

Designed and built as a supersonic, delta-winged all weather interceptor aircraft, the Avro Arrow held the promise of Mach 2 speeds at altitudes exceeding 50,000 feet. Its wing span measured 50 feet, tail fin height 25 feet, and its length was 82 feet. On February 20, 1959, the Arrow was cancelled by the Conservative Diefenbaker government, halting a momentous time in Canadian aerospace history.

## **About The International Centre**

The International Centre boasts over 40 years of success as the leading trade and consumer show venue in North America, and one of Canada's largest privately owned multi-purpose conference facilities. Located at 6900 Airport Road, offering complimentary parking for over 5,000 vehicles and surrounded by more than 10,000 hotel rooms, The International Centre is easily accessible from any point in the Greater Toronto Area.

For more information visit <u>www.internationalcentre.com</u>. Follow The International Centre on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>

## **About SME (SME.org)**

SME connects all those who are passionate about making things that improve our world. As a non-profit organization, SME has served practitioners, companies, educators, government and communities across the manufacturing spectrum for more than 80 years. Through its strategic areas of events, media, membership, training and development, and the SME Education Foundation, SME shares knowledge to advance manufacturing. At SME, we are making the future. Together. For more information visit <a href="https://www.sme.org">www.sme.org</a>



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