



READ #1 DURHAM'S NEWSPAPER

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Thank You - Wayne Ellis - You Made It Possible

OSHAWA - The Canadian Owners and Pilots Association Flight 70 - Durham Region and the Air Cadet Flying program initiative are getting a special boost thanks to the efforts of Wayne Ellis, Treasurer of COPA FLIGHT 70.

According to Wayne in Durham region there are 4 Air Cadet Squadrons - Pickering, Whitby, Oshawa and Clarington. More than 730

cadets are participating in the weekly sessions that are offered by the leaders of these squadrons. Only a handful of cadets are given the opportunity to actually fly an airplane. COPA FLIGHT 70 wanted to provide each squadron with more opportunities for selected cadets to fly for 1 hour at no charge to the cadets. The cadets will be selected by the Captains and other

supervisors according to the following guidelines:
 -must be a minimum of 15 years old.
 -must not be currently enrolled in the power flight program.
 -must not be currently enrolled in the glider program.
 Wayne explains: at COPA FLIGHT 70, we are trying to provide an exciting opportunity to motivate these cadets to pursue a private pilot's license.

As a result of Wayne's efforts, 4 Squadrons have been awarded certificates of scholarship equal to five hours of cadet flight training. That is a total of 20 hours in total. These awards will surely make a huge difference in the lives of cadets across the region and possibly boost morale and interests in becoming a pilot. We spoke with Councillor Lisa Robinson, a former Air Cadets volunteer, who says she is extremely proud of COPA for stepping up to help cadets access more flying time and opportunities. Many businesses at the Oshawa Executive airport, as well as THE CANADIAN OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION - FLIGHT 70 have generously donated to this cause to make it a success.

These business include :
-AVIATION UNLIMITED, CORPORATE AIRCRAFT RESTORATION,
-COX AVIATION SUPPLIES,
-DURHAM FLIGHT CENTRE,

-LEGGAT AVIATION, -TOTAL AVIATION & AIRPORT SOLUTIONS plus -AL DELANEY, -COLLEEN SCHNEIDER and MANNY ROSARIO.

At the official launch to kick-start this initiative that took place at the Oshawa Executive Airport's 420 WING last Thursday, March 27, 2026.

Those in attendance witnessed the passion and dedication that Mr. Ellis has for the Cadets and their Squadrons. In attendance:

- Oshawa Air Cadets - **Capt. Heather DiLoreto.**
- Whitby Air cadets - **Capt. Ian Howie**
- Capt. Kieth Wainright**
- Pickering Air Cadets - **Cadet Officer Bill Hyrniw**
- Capt. Rob Evans.**
- Bowmanville Air Cadets - **Capt. Brendan Kelly**

The Central Newspaper and C.O.P.A. have joined forces in the quest to help CADETS. What better investment. Our future our children.

Starting next week. The Central will be hosting a special feature. All those participating will receive 3x5 size ad for \$400 for a month. Half of the proceeds will go directly to C.O.P.A.

These funds will be to expand the great momentum that Wayne Ellis has begun.

We want to be able to raise \$12,000. This will allow 40 more hours of training for CADETS. Please help if you can. The CADETS will appreciate it.



Wayne Ellis, Treasurer of COPA FLIGHT 70

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