

had established itself in such operations as forest protection and aerial photography. By 1929, the famed "bush pilots" had made possible the development of a rich mining industry throughout the Northland. Air services gradually became available in all parts of the country. By 1937, it was feasible to start a scheduled inter-city service, operating both day and night in all kinds of weather. So there came into existence Trans-Canada Airlines (TCA), Canada's first national carrier for passengers, mail and freight. The second national carrier, Canadian Pacific, was formed in 1944.

During the Second World War, Canada trained some 131,000 aviators under the British Commonwealth Air-Training Plan and established a transatlantic aircraft-ferry service. These enterprises resulted in the construction of many new airports and the establishment of a scheduled international service. By the end of the war, Canada was in fourth place in world aviation.

Canada is a charter member of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), both of which recognized the country's contribution to aviation by establishing their headquarters in Montreal.

Today, Canada has two major airlines — Air Canada (formerly TCA) and Canadian Pacific —, five regional airlines and hundreds of third-level carriers. There are more than 19,000 aircraft registered in Canada, 13,500 of which are privately-owned. These small aircraft are used for training, for business trips, on farms, in such industries as fishing, trapping, forestry, construction and utilities, and for recreation.

To service domestic aircraft, as well as planes belonging to foreign airlines, the federal Department of Transport (Transport Canada) operates some 250 airports and is responsible for air-traffic control, airport security, flight services, standards, licensing and inspection, telecommunications and electronics, and air-navigational services.

Controls and administration

Generally speaking, the Federal Government is responsible for the control of marine, air and rail transportation. This responsibility is specified in a number of acts. In certain cases, the provincial governments become involved in the administration of parts of the relevant legislation.