



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Prairie Aviation Training Centre Becomes Mission Aviation Fellowship's Pilot Training Partner, Offering Accelerated Pathway to Mission Field

THREE HILLS, AB – October 27, 2025– The Prairie Aviation Training Centre (PATC), a division of Prairie College, has solidified its long-standing relationship with Mission Aviation Fellowship of Canada (MAF Canada), officially becoming MAF's dedicated Preferred Training Partner. This formal arrangement provides PATC graduates with a direct and accelerated route to serve by significantly reducing the total flight hours needed to qualify as an MAF pilot.

While PATC and MAF Canada have partnered for decades, with a high percentage of MAF's Canadian pilots having trained at the Three Hills facility, the formalization of this partnership began in 2018 when MAF assumed the complete management and operation of the flight school.

"This enhanced partnership is transformative for our students," said Dallas Derksen, Director of Prairie Aviation Training Centre. "Because MAF has confidence in the unique, mission-specific training provided here, our graduates receive a major advantage. PATC graduates are eligible to qualify for direct entry into MAF International immediately upon graduation, which greatly reduces the number of flight hours required for pilots compared to pilots who have received training elsewhere."

The MAF designation recognizes the rigorous and specialized nature of PATC's curriculum, which is specifically tailored for the remote, challenging environments where MAF and other humanitarian organizations operate globally.

"This milestone represents years of prayer, preparation, and partnership coming together and we're thrilled to see this day arrive. The Preferred Training Partner designation affirms what we've long known—that Prairie Aviation Training Centre is providing world-class, mission-ready training. Being recognized as one of only three MAF training centres worldwide, and the largest of them all, is a tremendous honour. It means pilots here in Canada now have a direct, accelerated pathway to serve—requiring just 250 to 300 hours of flight time instead of the traditional 1,000. That's two to three years sooner that these men and women can bring help, hope, and healing to the people and places who need it most." Brad Bell, President and CEO of MAF Canada