

# NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 11, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Wendy Howe, Executive Director  
Minot Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Phone: (701) 857-8206  
Email: [wendy@visitminot.org](mailto:wendy@visitminot.org)

---

## World-famous Canadian 'Snowbirds' to headline Independence Day 'Soaring Over the Souris' Air Show

July 4th air show will feature air demonstrations, World War II era planes and fireworks. Gate admission is free; proceeds from concessions to aid flood-impacted residents.

MINOT – The 'Snowbirds', the world-famous Royal Canadian Air Force Demonstration Squadron, will headline the 'Soaring Over The Souris' Air Show on Independence Day.

The Minot Convention and Visitors Bureau is thrilled to invite the community and region to this special event at Minot's International Airport. In addition to the Snowbirds, spectators will see demonstrations by the 'Texas Flying Legends' and local aviators Kent and Warren Pietsch. The Houston-based Texas Flying Legends fly and maintain one of the nation's best collections of vintage World War II era aircraft.

The Snowbirds, formally designated by the RCAF as 431 Air Demonstration Squadron, are based near Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. The legendary squadron is regarded as one of the world's elite air demonstration teams. The squadron performs throughout North America, including special performances over Ottawa during the annual Canada Day celebrations and state occasions such as the 2010 Royal Visit by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. The Snowbirds were part of the opening ceremonies of the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary.

According to Minot CVB executive director Wendy Howe, the origins for this special air show can be traced to a routine refueling stop by the Snowbirds last fall. "The Minot CVB took members of the Snowbirds out to lunch last fall. They wanted to see the flood damage firsthand so we gave them a tour. They were overwhelmed by what they saw and immediately said they wanted to do something for the community."

Howe says discussions then started on the possibility of an air show. "Canadians and Americans were impacted by the flood, so we thought having a performance by the Snowbirds would be a great way to bring us together," adds Howe. "The planets aligned perfectly for a Fourth of July air show and the generosity of the Snowbirds is emblematic of the many kindnesses of our Northern neighbors."

Admission to the show is free. All proceeds earned from concessions will go directly to the Minot Area Community Foundation. The money will be used to purchase lawn seed for flood-impacted residents as they redo their yards. Gates will open at 3:00 PM; performances will start at 6:30 PM. Traditional Independence Day fireworks will cap off the show at dusk.

Log onto <http://visitminot.org/airshow/> for more information or contact the Minot CVB at (701) 857-8206 or [info@visitminot.org](mailto:info@visitminot.org).

###