

ATTACHMENT #2

William G. Kontess
President, Alaska Air Show Association
8842 Kak Island Street
Eagle River, AK 99577-8553

Dear Mr. Kontess:

This letter expresses dismay on behalf of the Juneau aviation community, and allied entities, over Juneau's exclusion from the ongoing celebration of the Centennial of Aviation in Alaska.

Coupled with this is our concern over an apparent lack of coordination during the celebration's planning phase.

Your President's Letter of January 2, 2013, announced the "... planning (of) a multi-week, state-wide barnstorming event to bring the rich heritage of aviation in our State to all Alaskans." The event would involve "... sending five historic aircraft on five different routes to the paved airfields in Alaska, beginning with participation in the Valdez Fly-In during May, 2013 and culminating with a Fairbanks event on the 4th of July. Routes will cover south central locations, communities in the southeast, two routes in western Alaska, and possibly a northern route to Barrow and back." A map on the event web page still shows five routes, one of which (Route 2) depicts barnstorming visits to Skagway, Yakutat, and Juneau.

We would have been delighted for Juneau to have been one of the stops and would have gladly worked with your organization to facilitate this. Insofar as I can determine, no one on the Airport Board or within airport management had any knowledge of the celebration. It was only recently that we became aware of it, when one of our staff members did some research after having seen a press account.

Of course, it is possible that you did reach out to someone in Juneau months ago to explore conducting Route 2. If you did, we would like to know who you contacted, and when.

While the web site's references to Shell Simmons, Alaska Coastal Airlines, and Ellis Airlines are appreciated, they do little to mitigate the omission of Southeast Alaska venues from the prestigious barnstorming tour. At the very least, the web site should have been updated when plans changed.

It is clear from postings on your Facebook page that the celebration has been a success and well-received by host communities. It is truly unfortunate that Skagway, Yakutat, and the state capitol of Juneau were not given the same opportunity.

Sincerely,

Jerry M. Godkin
Chairman, Board of Directors
Juneau International Airport Board