

PEARSON FIELD



- ◆ **ONE OF THE OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING AIRFIELDS IN THE UNITED STATES**
- ◆ **PEARSON FIELD WAS NAMED IN 1925 AFTER LT. ALEXANDER PEARSON, "ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN AND FINEST PILOTS IN THE AIR SERVICE."**
- ◆ **THE U.S. ARMY CAME TO VANCOUVER IN THE MID-1800s, AND USED THE FIELD FOR AMMUNITION STORAGE, A BLACKSMITH SHOP AND GARDEN**
- ◆ **IN 1911, THE FIELD'S FIRST AIRPLANE LANDED THERE.**
- ◆ **DURING WORLD WAR I, A SPRUCE MILL WAS ESTABLISHED FOR MASS PRODUCTION OF WOOD COMPONENTS FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT...THE MILL PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE MODERNIZATION OF AMERICA'S EARLY AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY.**
- ◆ **FROM 1923 TO 1941, PEARSON WAS HOME TO THE U.S. ARMY AIR SERVICE AND MANY KEY EVENTS DURING THE "GOLDEN AGE OF FLIGHT."**
- ◆ **ONE OF ITS FIRST COMMANDERS, LT. OAKLEY KELLY, MADE THE FIRST NON STOP TRANSCONTINENTAL FLIGHT IN 1923.**
- ◆ **IN 1924, PEARSON FIELD WAS A STOPOVER ON THE ARMY'S FIRST ROUND-THE WORLD-FLIGHT.**
- ◆ **IN 1937, SOVIET AVIATOR VALERI CHKALOV AND CREW LANDED THERE AT THE END OF HISTORY'S FIRST NON- STOP, TRANS-POLAR FLIGHT.**
- ◆ **THE FIELD WAS VISITED BY SUCH NOTABLES AS CHARLES LINDBERGH, JIMMY DOOLITTLE, EDDIE RICKENBACKER AND SQUADRONS OF BARNSTORMERS**
- ◆ **AFTER WORLD WAR II, THE AIRFIELD WAS DECLARED SURPLUS BY THE U.S. ARMY AND SOLD TO THE CITY OF VANCOUVER.**