

CSPA GRC 2025 AGM Update.

Jake Mason GRC chair

The Main focus of the CRG this year has been Airspace. Through the late summer and fall The GRC has been very active with Nav Canada in working with them on the development of a national template for the agreement between Parachute operators and ATS units. Previously these agreements were done at the local levels and showed a major inconsistency across the country. A small team of us met with the nav Canada on at least 4 separate occasions including 2 in person. This shows a major shift in reception and the outreach CSPA is having and being more openly sought after to be a voice at the table and allowing us to effect real change at a regulatory level. This new Template should be available to operators prior to the start of the 2025 season and is in its final review at nav Canada.

Our main effort in the template went into ensuring that operators were not being handcuffed into operation limitations and having the ability to negotiate with the Ats units for what makes the most sense in their operational area. It also gives the ATS units the ability to easily reference other agreements across the country and to hopefully developed some communications between the regions for best practices.

This all came to a very rewarding finish when we were invited to speak and present at the national Nav Canada standards conference this past January. With over 100 senior nav Canada managers and controllers present we answered lots of questions and were able to give great insight into parachute operations and the challenges we face as pilots and operators. There is a lot of stigma around parachuting and I believe through this project we were able to dispel concerns and change the way parachute operations are viewed as well as make valuable connections within the Air traffic system in Canada.