The modern aviation field has seen a lot of change since its beginning approximately 120 years ago. With a shift towards higher levels of automation, advanced aviation technologies such as remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) “drones” and urban air mobility have received a lot of recent interest. Public perception of these technologies has not been well understood as past surveys have been limited in scope. This talk will present the results of a national opinion survey designed to assess the level of support for RPAS, their applications, their users, and urban air mobility aircraft. Results are of interest to corporations, the government, and the public at large for creating an ecosystem for technological adoption. With the positive takeaways from the survey and the increasing level of interest, technological adoption may come sooner rather than later.

Bio: Dr. Nick Tepylo is Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Carleton University. He earned his PhD in 2021 from Carleton University and Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Toulouse (INSA-Toulouse) in France. Nick also holds a B.Eng. and M.A.Sc. from Carleton University and his research efforts are focused in the areas of design and societal integration of advanced aviation technologies, ice protection system development, coating design and evaluation, additive manufacturing technologies, and human factors engineering. Nick became interested in aviation at a young age which led him to obtain a pilot’s license and become an aviation instructor. He aspires to become a professor of aerospace engineering whose research will improve safety in the aviation industry. When Nick is not working, he likes to spend time outdoors enjoying running, cycling, and hiking.