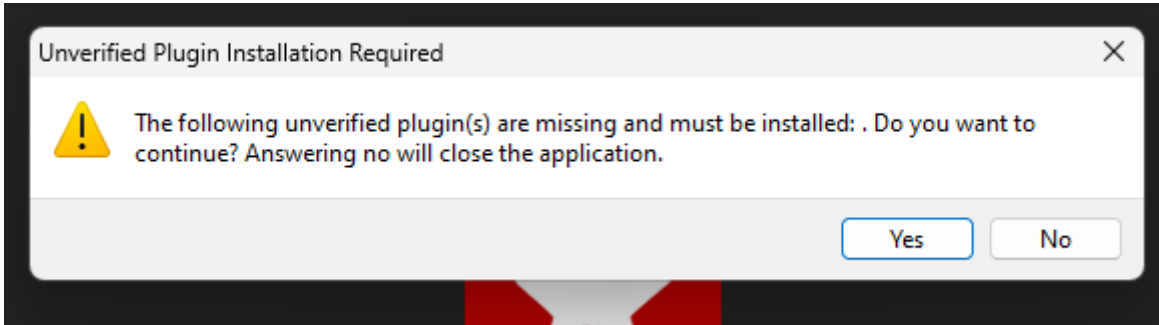


# Logging In

- [Unverified Plugins](#)
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- [Understanding the dashboard](#)
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# Unverified Plugins

When launching smartCARS 3, you may see a popup message asking you to confirm the installation or update of **Unverified Plugins**.



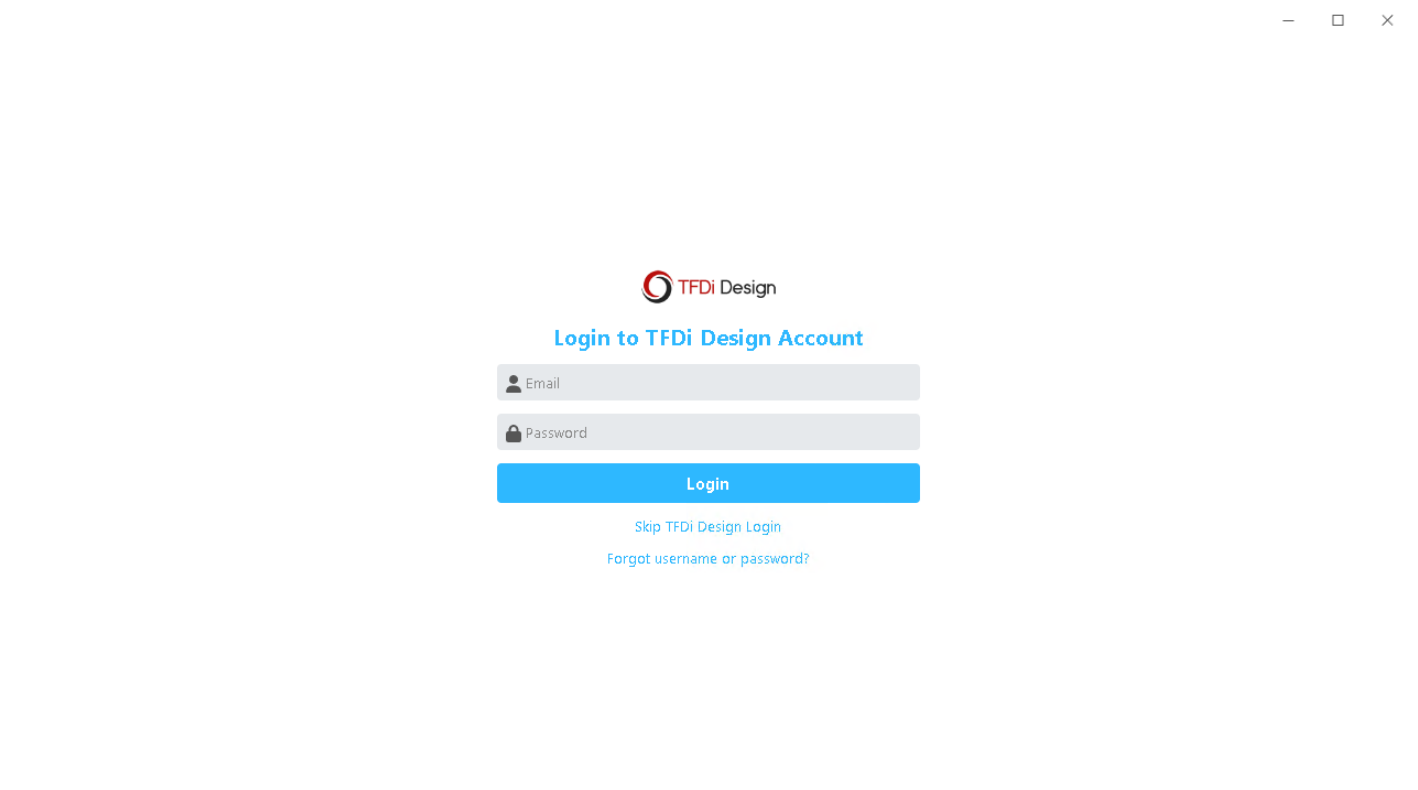
**This is expected and nothing to worry about! Simply click Yes to proceed.**

Canada Air has developed several custom plugins, the **Flight Center** and the **Live Flights** plugin. Anytime there is an update to those, you may see this message.

Note, there is currently a bug with smartCARS 3 where you will receive this message on every launch. Simply click Yes.

# What is this TFDi Design Login about?

The very first screen that you see upon launching smartCARS 3 is a login screen for a TFDi Design account.



**This is entirely optional and not required for your Canada Air Virtual flights!**

Here are some potential benefits to creating a TFDi Design account:


- It's the only way to not be asked to log into a TFDi Design account on each launch of smartCARS 3
- Your flight will appear on the integrated map
- You then have the option to upgrade to a smartCARS 3 Pro account. More details at <https://tfdidesign.com/smartCARS3.php>

If you don't have a TFDi Design account, click **Skip TFDi Design Login**.



## Login to TFDi Design Account

 Email

 Password

Login

[Skip TFDi Design Login](#)

[Forgot username or password?](#)

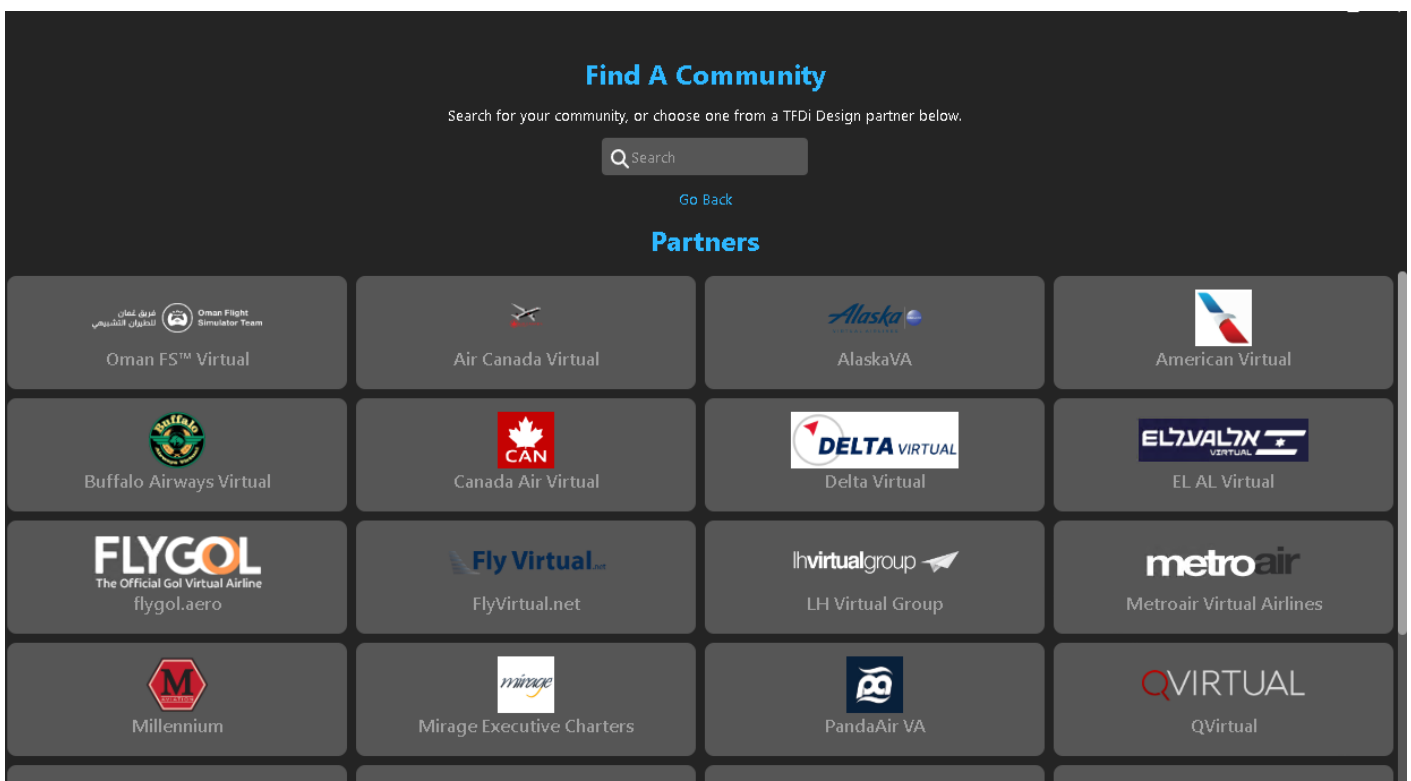


# Connecting to Canada Air Virtual

The first time you connect, you will be asked if you want to fly "On my Own" or "With a Community". Choose "With a (another) Community".



Simply click on the Canada Air Virtual logo in the list of airlines, or use the search box to search for "Canada Air" and select it.



You'll then be presented with the login screen.


Be careful not to accidentally select Air Canada Virtual!


# Logging into your account

Provide your credentials in the form of your email address or callsign (i.e. **CAN1001**) and password. This is the same password that you use to log in at <https://va.canadaairvirtual.ca>.



## Canada Air Virtual (Alpha)

 PILOT ID OR EMAIL

 PASSWORD

☒ Create Desktop Shortcut

Login

[Go Back](#)

[Visit Community Website](#)

We suggest you leave the "Create Desktop Shortcut" checkbox checked. This will create a nice looking shortcut for "Canada Air Virtual" on your desktop.



# Understanding the dashboard

Once logged in, this is what your dashboard in smartCARS 3 looks like.

The screenshot displays the smartCARS 3 dashboard. On the left is a vertical sidebar with icons for home, chat, flight, navigation, documents, book, people, puzzle, and settings. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Community Welcome Message:** A box with the text "Welcome to Canada Air Virtual's ACARS system!".
- Pilot Survey:** A section featuring an image of a hand pointing at a survey on a laptop screen. Below the image, it says: "The team at Canada Air Virtual is looking for ways to improve your experience and we're looking for your feedback. We've created a short survey that shouldn't take more than 5 minutes to fill out. We're hoping to find out more about how you like to fly, what kinds of tours you're..."
- User Profile:** Located in the top right, it shows a profile for "Jan P" (CAN3023), an ATP Senior Captain. It includes statistics: Hours (1791), Flights (667), and Landing Rate (-240 fpm). There are links for "Switch Community" and "Log Out".
- Notifications:** A section with a "Clear All" button and the text "No notifications".
- Footer:** At the bottom, there is a "Sky Blue Radio" player showing "Suzie Mac - Brothers Johnson - Stomp" and a "Mobile app now available!" banner with "Download" and "?" buttons.

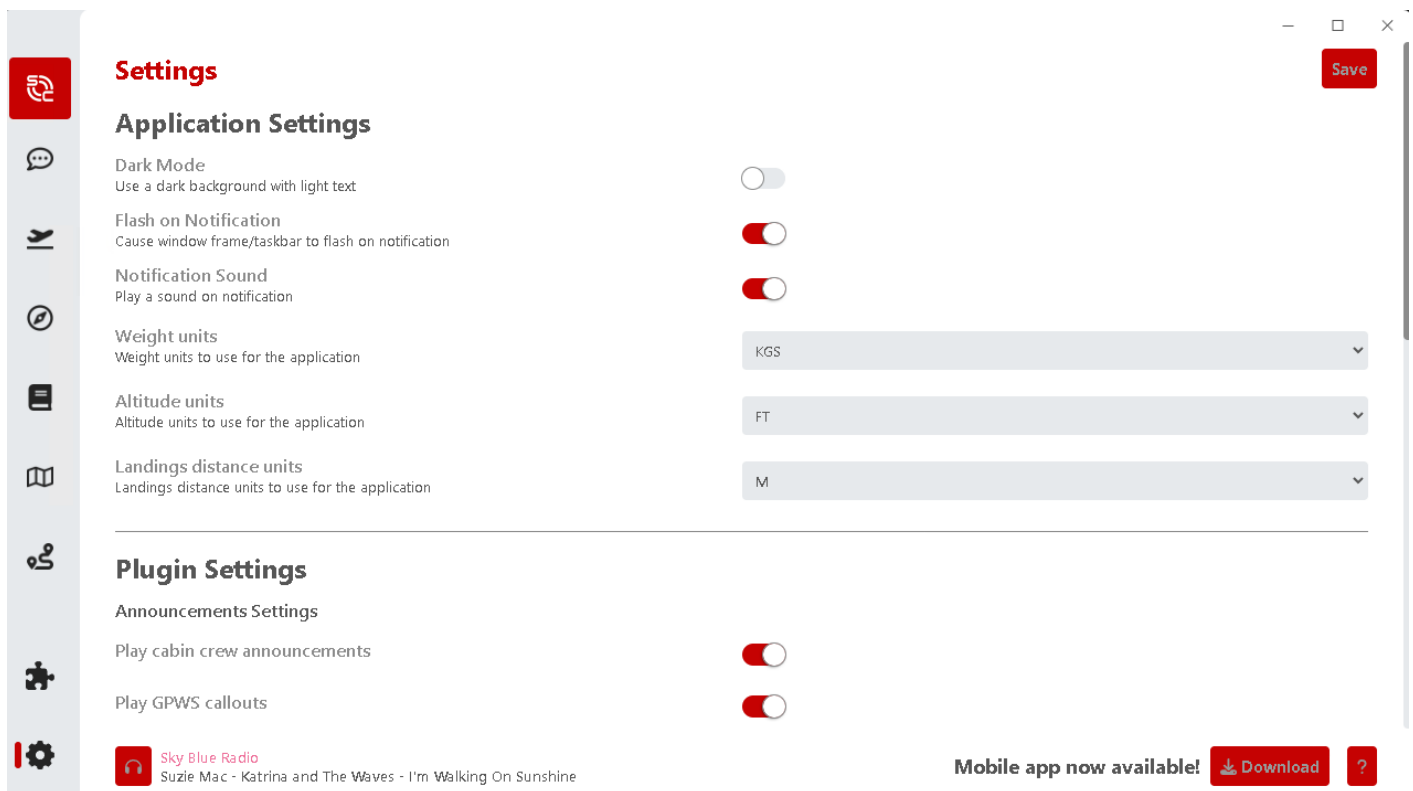
Note: you may not have one of the icons on the right side until you install the [Simbrief](#) plugin, should you so desire.

# Configuring settings & plugins

The icon in the bottom left of the sidebar is the Settings icon:



This is where you can configure various functions of smartCARS 3 to your liking.



**Settings**

**Application Settings**

- Dark Mode  
Use a dark background with light text ☐
- Flash on Notification  
Cause window frame/taskbar to flash on notification ☒
- Notification Sound  
Play a sound on notification ☒
- Weight units  
Weight units to use for the application KGS
- Altitude units  
Altitude units to use for the application FT
- Landings distance units  
Landings distance units to use for the application M

**Plugin Settings**

- Announcements Settings
  - Play cabin crew announcements ☒
  - Play GPWS callouts ☒

**Mobile app now available!** [Download](#) [?](#)

Some settings worth noting are:

- **Dark Mode**
- **Flight Tracking Settings**
  - Automatic PIREP submission (recommended ON)
- **SimBrief Settings** (if plugin enabled)



Be sure to click the **Save** button in the top right to save your settings!

