

Received DC Office May 4, 2020

From: Prime Minister/Premier Ministre <PM@pm.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Suzanne Garrett <Suzanne.Garrett@prrd.bc.ca>
Cc: Mélanie Joly <ED.minister-ministre.DE@canada.ca>; Marc Garneau <mintc@tc.gc.ca>
Subject: Office of the Prime Minister / Cabinet du Premier ministre

Dear Ms. Henderson:

On behalf of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of April 30, 2020, requesting support for Canada's airports during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you for taking the time to write. You may be assured that your comments, offered on behalf of the Peace River Regional District Board, have been carefully reviewed.

As you may know, the matter you raise falls more directly within the portfolios of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, and the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development, to whom I note you have sent copies of your correspondence. While the Prime Minister appreciates being made aware of your comments, he will leave the concerns you raise to be considered by the Ministers.

Once again, thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

C. Chaar
Executive Correspondence Officer
Agent de correspondance
de la haute direction



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

April 30, 2020

The Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
pm@pm.gc.ca

April 20, 2020

RE: Support for Canada's airports facing severe impacts of COVID-19

Dear Prime Minister:

I am writing in strong support of the airport industry's request for immediate federal government assistance to survive the COVID-19 crisis.

As you know, Canada's airports continue to work with public health officials to facilitate the safe return of our citizens while also maintaining the flow of essential cargo supplies in a time of tremendous need. In Fort St. John, all stakeholders have continued to provide these essential services with ever diminishing financial and human resources.

However, as you also know, the pandemic has put an unprecedented strain on airport facilities and operating budgets. The North Peace Regional Airport, which last year experienced record passenger growth, has now seen dramatic cancellations of flights and decreasing passenger numbers. Revenue losses were immediate and continue to escalate at an unprecedented rate.

These sudden and unprecedented losses are compounded by the fixed regulatory and operational costs related to safety, security, emergency response, airfield maintenance and passenger services. In addition, greatly enhanced health protocols aimed at controlling the spread of COVID-19 are putting an even greater strain on cash flows. The reality is that many parts of the aviation sector could shut down without swift government action and relief to ensure a safe and secure operating environment.

For these reasons, I urge your government to support Canada's airports through short-term financial relief and longer-term stimulus package as part of the overall economic recovery. The Canadian airport industry alone is forecasting losses of at least \$2.2 billion and the North Peace Regional Airport is included in that statistic.

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PLEASE REPLY TO:

☒ Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca

Across the sector, our airports are taking extreme measures to reduce operating costs as much as possible in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The North Peace Regional Airport is no exception and has reduced spending to critical operating costs and staffing levels, but as we are all aware, this is an unsustainable and unprecedented challenge that cannot be weathered without your government's help.

I am reassured to see your government move quickly to introduce economic measures to help stabilize the economy and acknowledge the need to address the long-term viability and resiliency of Canada's aviation sector. I very much hope my constituents can count on Ottawa to swiftly follow through on this promise.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tyra Henderson

Tyra Henderson
Corporate Officer
on behalf of the PRRD Board

cc. The Hon. Marc Garneau
Minister of Transport
mintc@tc.gc.ca

The Hon. Bill Morneau
Minister of Finance
Bill.Morneau@canada.ca

The Hon. Melanie Joly
Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages
ED.minister-ministre.DE@canada.ca