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March 30, 2020

RE: Support for the North Peace Regional Airport through the COVID-19 Crisis

Firstly, I hope that this letter finds you and your families healthy and safe during this unprecedented period.

The Canadian Airports Council (CAC), of which North Peace Airport Services is a member, is in direct discussions with several federal departments to ensure that the severe impacts of COVID-19 on Canadian airports are clearly understood and that financial relief is expedited.

As this crisis has had a significant impact on North Peace Regional Airport through reductions in both scheduled and charter flights, and to augment the efforts of the CAC, I ask on behalf of North Peace Airport Services, the airport and all of our stakeholders that you review and endorse the attached letter and kindly forward to the Prime Minister with a copy to the named Ministers.

As detailed in the body of the letter, many of our stakeholders including airlines, commercial concessions, security, and other partners have had to significantly cut operating costs and reduce staffing levels wherever safely possible. Most of these costs are fixed however, and with the loss of aeronautical and non-aeronautical revenue streams, assistance is crucial.

Please feel free to edit as you see fit to further enhance the impacts on the community and constituents and if I can provide any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

M. Shea De La Mare
Managing Director
North Peace Regional Airport

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

March 30, 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 Ft. 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 a 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.

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 can't 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,

[NAME]

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

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