

For Immediate Release

Atlantic Canada's Airports welcome increase in air service

Deer Lake, (June 17th, 2015) – CEO's of Atlantic Canada's airports meet in Gros Morne today to discuss issues of importance to the region's airports and air service development opportunities. Atlantic Canada's airports have experienced steady growth over the last five years and that growth is not expected to slow anytime soon as Atlantic Canada's three major air carriers have increased capacity in the region by 7% this summer.

"This is a very exciting year for our region," noted Monette Pasher, Executive Director of Atlantic Canada Airports Association. "This summer Air Canada added additional service on 2 routes in the region with their new leisure carrier Rouge, Porter Airlines increased service on 1 route and WestJet has added 8 new daily departures and increased frequency on an additional 3 routes," noted Pasher.

WestJet's capacity will increase by 30% in Atlantic Canada this summer. WestJet and WestJet Encore expansion in the region means travelers in Atlantic Canada will have more frequent and efficient connections to regional flights and more connections to WestJet services at other major centres.

"We are very pleased that airlines have responded to our market and added much more capacity to the region," said Jamie Schwartz, President of Atlantic Canada Airports Association and CEO of the Deer Lake Regional Airport. "This is significant, it is the single biggest increase we have experienced from WestJet since they landed in the region in 2003," added Schwartz. "For travelers this will mean more choices, more frequency and lower prices in more communities."

For more information about WestJet and WestJet Encore new services in Atlantic Canada visit: <http://www.westjet.com/guest/en/deals/offers/routes/canada.shtml>

Air Canada Rouge new summer service in Atlantic Canada includes a 6 times weekly seasonal service from Halifax to Calgary and a daily service from Sydney, NS to Toronto.

Porter Airlines has added an additional weekly seasonal flight between Stephenville, NL and Halifax, NS.

About the Atlantic Canada Airports Association

The ACAA represents 12 airports in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The region's airports move 7.5 million passenger and approximately 60,000 metric tons of cargo and account for over \$560 million in wages. Atlantic Canada's Airports are significant economic generators with passenger and cargo traffic generating over \$2.6 billion into the Atlantic Canada economy annually.

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