

For Immediate Release

Atlantic Canada's Airports pleased with Senate Committee report on airports

It's time to fine tune our airport model in Canada

Charlottetown, PEI (June 6th, 2012) – The Atlantic Canada Airports Association commended the Senate Committee on Transportation and Communications for their report on airports released yesterday titled *“The Future of Canadian Air Travel: Toll Booth or Spark Plug.”*

“Air transportation is a cornerstone to economic growth in Atlantic Canada and we are pleased to see that the Senate Committee is recommending Government improve policies to support aviation,” stated Monette Pasher, Executive Director of Atlantic Canada Airports Association.

The Senate Committee report notes that the National Airports Policy has been successful in privatizing airports, but it has also represented increased costs for air travelers. The report calls for a single cohesive National Air Travel Strategy and an updated National Airports System, which includes phasing out airport rent that airports pay to the Government of Canada.

“Aviation is a catalyst to business growth, tourism and trade in our region and we welcome with open arms this comprehensive report that calls for updated policies and systems to address inefficiencies in air transportation” stated Doug Newson, President of the Atlantic Canada Airports Association CEO of Charlottetown Airport Authority.

“Over the past two years the Senate Committee has studied aviation issues and consulted with industry. We encourage the Government of Canada to consider the recommendations put forward by the Senate as they adequately represent the views of the industry and provide a clear path to move forward” added Newson.

About the Atlantic Canada Airports Association

The ACAA represents 14 airports in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. ACAA provides a collective voice for its member airports to undertake collaborative action on policy issues affecting our airports and communities. Member airports are significant economic generators with passenger and cargo traffic generating over \$2.6 billion into the economy annually. The regions airports move 6.6 million passenger and over 55,000 tons of cargo and account for over \$560 million in wages.

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