SCULPTURAL MONUMENT AT PATRICIA BAY’S HOSPITAL HILL HONOURS AIRMEN

APRON EXPANSION PREPARES AIRPORT FOR TRAFFIC INCREASES

LONG-TERM PARKING AND COVERED WALKWAYS EXPANSION ENHANCES SERVICES FOR TRAVELLERS

EMERGENCY RESPONSE EXERCISE PROMOTES SAFETY

TENTEN CREEK SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT SUPPORTS FRAGILE ECOSYSTEM

VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT OFFERS ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING
Victoria International Airport Offers Electric Vehicle Charging

Electric vehicle charging services are now available at Victoria International Airport. Three new charging stations, two in the long-term parking lot and one in the short-term parking lot, permit up to six electric vehicles to be charged at any given time. Convenient electric vehicle charging is included in the airport’s standard parking rates. In other words, there is no additional cost to charge an electric vehicle that is already parked in an airport lot.

In the process of installing these charging stations, Victoria Airport Authority laid sufficient electrical infrastructure to enable future installation of additional chargers, should demand for the service indicate they are required.

“Now that electric vehicle charging stations are available in both of our parking lots, electric vehicle users can conveniently charge their vehicle at the airport,” said James Bogusz, Vice President, Operations and Development.
While no one wants to contemplate the possibility of a tragic accident at the airport, everyone wants to know that one would be handled quickly and effectively. On September 29, local emergency services agencies co-operated with Victoria Airport Authority and WestJet to conduct a full-scale live emergency response exercise that provided an opportunity to work together, determine the effectiveness of the group effort and identify any areas that needed improvement.

During months of planning, it was determined that the exercise would involve an airplane that had crashed and broken into several pieces. The simulated accident would cause multiple injuries and fatalities, and require the response team to use all of their equipment and training to rescue as many passengers as possible.

Inventive Substitutions

The crash site, which was set up in a field far away from the air terminal, included an inventive collection of vehicles and apparatus designed to mimic the configuration of a downed aircraft that had shattered and caught on fire. A bus, an old heating boiler and a minivan substituted for the various parts of the aircraft. They gave emergency response teams realistic conditions in which to rescue people who, in this case, were mannequins strapped into their seats with seatbelts. Volunteers, costumed and made up to look like crash victims, walked around the scene, providing emergency workers with realistic ‘passengers’ who needed help.

When the alarm bells rang, members of 15 local emergency services raced to the crash site. Participating organizations included the BC Ambulance, RCMP, BC Coroners Service, NAV Canada and fire departments from North Saanich, Central Saanich and the Town of Sidney.

Fast Response

YYJ’s fire services team reached the site well in advance of the three-minute limit required by Canadian Aviation Regulations. The action continued to move quickly, with members from all organizations working together to extinguish the fire, rescue the passengers and secure the scene for the safety of the public. The whole exercise, which included the site preparation, briefing, response and debriefing, was over in less than five hours.

According to Mike Garraway, Manager of Safety and Emergency Services at Victoria International Airport, Tier II airports must perform a full-scale emergency preparedness exercise every four years in order to comply with Transport Canada regulations. Victoria Airport Authority determines the size, scope and scenario of the emergency response exercise, taking into account the organizations involved, the possible emergencies and the aspects of response that it wants to evaluate. Planning for this exercise, which involved more than 150 people on the day of the exercise, began more than five months before the event took place.

On-going Safety Improvements

Victoria Airport Authority maintains rigorous efforts to improve safety procedures and responses. Simulation exercises provide the opportunity to review various aspects of a coordinated response, which is critical for ensuring that all involved organizations are prepared to respond quickly and effectively to an emergency.
TenTen Creek, a freshwater creek that runs through Victoria International Airport lands, is receiving crucial support for its recovery. The $540,000 TenTen Creek Sediment Reduction Project is a massive undertaking that aims to repair damaged creekbanks and restore natural habitat for fish and other wildlife.

Originating on Mount Newton, TenTen Creek travels about 1.3 kilometres through airport lands to Patricia Bay. The creek is threatened from pollution caused by historic activities. Toxic runoff from a federal landfill that was capped in 1986 and heavy metals from a damaged storm drain system have entered the creek. In addition, farming operations contribute nutrient-heavy water into the fragile ecosystem.

Historically, TenTen Creek supported runs of coho, chum and cutthroat trout. Sightings of aquatic life had been rare since the 1950s but, as a benefit of recent environmental improvements, juvenile sea-run cutthroat trout and three-spined stickleback were spotted in 2012. More trout have been documented since the initial discovery.

Victoria Airport Authority began investing in remediation efforts shortly after it took over operations of the airport in 1997. Since then, Victoria Airport Authority has worked with local partners, including Peninsula Stream Society, Shorekeepers and the Tseycum First Nation, as well as Transport Canada, to restore the health of TenTen Creek.

The TenTen Creek Sediment Reduction Project is the latest extensive environmental improvement made to TenTen Creek.

In 2000, Victoria Airport Authority and its partners built a wetlands complex that treats stormwater before it enters the creek. Since its construction, the complex has treated an estimated 2.5 billion litres of nutrient-heavy water from nearby farmland.

In 2013, Victoria Airport Authority and its partners cleared organic material, repaired a portion of the storm drain system that had been leaching heavy metals into the creek and diverted the creek to bypass contaminated areas. The partnership also streamlined stormwater run-off into a pond and created a diversion channel that directed pond overflow into an irrigation retention area. These improvements significantly reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient-rich stormwater entering TenTen Creek.

The TenTen Creek Sediment Reduction Project is an initiative of the Peninsula Streams Society, Transport Canada and the Victoria Airport Authority. The project includes the following activities:

- Re-profiling and armouring two large steep creekbanks within the federal dumpsite to reduce erosion
- Constructing two large sediment traps to reduce the flow of sediment load into the receiving waters at Patricia Bay
- Planting vegetation and installing rip-rap along the creek to create aquatic habitat
- Removing visible garbage from sections of the dumpsite
- Modifying the current water flow in sections of the creek to reduce bank erosion

“The TenTen Creek project is expected to make a huge difference in improving the health of the watershed by reducing sedimentation and future erosion,” said James Bogusz, Vice President, Operations and Development. “The team that was assembled did a tremendous job of executing this important environmental initiative.”

Through its on-going efforts to restore the good health of the airport lands watershed, Victoria Airport Authority demonstrates its commitment to environmental stewardship and its leadership in environmental protection and management.

To learn more about the Victoria Airport Authority’s commitment to the environment, please see the 2016 Environment Management Plan at www.victoriaairport.com.
The Victoria Airport Authority has commissioned well-known Victoria sculptor Illarion Gallant to create a monument honouring the twenty-five local Allied airmen who gave their lives at the Patricia Bay Air Station during the Second World War. It will be constructed on Hospital Hill, along Mills Road on the north side of the airport. This place was home to the medical facilities for the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Station Patricia Bay during the Second World War.

The monument, known as The Lost Airmen of the Empire, was selected by the Victoria Airport Authority and a working group of local citizens with the common goal of increasing awareness of the airport’s proud military history.

The Lost Airmen of the Empire will incorporate twenty-five 3.5-metre representations of Cooper’s hawk feathers. They will be made of strong corten steel and each feather will be waterjet cut with the name of a lost airman. The Cooper’s hawk, known for its agility and power, symbolizes the skill and bravery of the air force pilots.

A row of red maple trees on either side of a path will lead people to the monument and interpretive signage. Seating areas will feature bricks that were salvaged from the previously demolished RCAF headquarters at Victoria International Airport. The central seating area includes a memorial capsule containing sealed letters written to veterans by community members.

“Our goal is to recognize the pivotal role that Victoria International Airport played during the Second World War by honouring those who lost their lives while training for their duties. We look forward to seeing Illarion bring his concept to life and adding this unique feature to the multi-use community trail, the Flight Path,” said Geoff Dickson, Victoria Airport Authority President and CEO.
Victoria International Airport has seen significant growth in passenger and aircraft traffic recently and projects even greater growth for the future. To meet increased demands, Victoria Airport Authority completed the first phase of a multi-year, multi-million dollar project that will expand the overall size of Apron IV by approximately 38,250 square metres. A larger apron provides more space for the parking and refueling of aircraft, as well as the loading and unloading of passengers, baggage and cargo.

Victoria Airport Authority is conducting this project in a phased approach that allows each increment to be completed as required to meet demand. Overall, the project will create a larger area that accommodates increasing passenger and aircraft traffic, allows expansion of the Air Terminal Building and provides space for a dedicated de-icing facility.

**Phase I Complete**

The first phase provides 17,500 square metres of dual-purpose area that will accommodate overnight parking for three large aircraft and a new dedicated de-icing facility that will greatly improve efficiency of the aircraft de-icing operations. The new area is located far enough north of the existing operating surface for Phase II to be built without affecting airport operations.

The first phase of construction also included the following infrastructure improvements that will serve the airport for many years to come:

- Storm system improvements and upgrades, including
  - a new aircraft de-icing fluid collection system with above ground treatment tanks
  - a new treatment pond
- System automation for the aircraft de-icing fluid collection system
- Energy efficient floodlighting
- Security camera monitoring equipment

**Phase II Nearing Completion**

The second phase of this project started in April 2016 and is also nearing completion. It includes the following upgrades:

- A wide taxiway between the existing and new phase I areas of the apron
- Rehabilitation of the existing taxiway and apron asphalt surfaces
- Three concrete aircraft parking stands on the apron
- Additional storm system improvements, upgrades and tie-ins to existing systems
- New paint marking
- Lighting and electrical work

The completion of phase II will create open space on the apron that can accommodate expansion of the lower departure lounge in the Air Terminal Building. This will provide additional passenger access to ground-loaded aircraft. Construction activity on the apron is expected to be complete by winter of 2016.

**Phase III Begins in 2017**

The third phase of work will expand the lower passenger departure lounge, allowing for additional amenities to enhance the passenger experience. Improvements will include more seating, dining options, retail stores and washrooms in the Air Terminal Building. Subject to approval by the Victoria Airport Authority Board of Directors, construction of the Air Terminal Building will begin in the summer of 2017.
The parking lot used for overflow parking at Victoria International Airport is being upgraded to provide 325 paved parking spaces and improve the existing infrastructure with the addition of rain gardens, covered pedestrian access and electric vehicle charging stations. Construction on the $3.75 million expansion project began in June and will be complete in time for the busy winter travel season.

The new long-term parking lot is located south of the main airport parking lot on land that became available after the 2011 realignment of Willingdon Road. Since then, the area has been used as overflow parking for approximately 120 vehicles.

With this project, Victoria Airport Authority will enhance the parking area with paved vehicle parking spaces and several other features:

- Clearly marked pedestrian paths, including two new covered walkways, will create a clearly visible and partially sheltered route between the parking lot and the Air Terminal Building.
- Pedestrian access to the roundabout on Electra Boulevard will connect the Air Terminal Building to the Flight Path, making it easier for travellers and employees to take advantage of this 9.3 kilometre multi-use trail around the airport lands.
- Electric vehicle charging stations at the west end of the new long-term parking lot will provide convenience for electric car drivers.
- A state-of-the-art irrigation control system will reduce water use and schedule watering to maximize its effectiveness.
- A generator will supply dependable power to all of the public parking and car rental lots.
- A bicycle assembly shelter near the entrance to the Air Terminal Building will better serve travelling cyclists.
- Stormwater management systems with rain gardens will collect and treat rainwater from the parking lot to reduce the rate of discharge, recharge the aquifer and enhance the quality of water released into the environment.

Upon completion of the Long-Term Parking and Covered Walkways Expansion project, Victoria International Airport will have more than 1,400 parking stalls. This new parking lot will reduce the need for the peak period overflow provisions that routinely saw non-traditional parts of the airport grounds used as makeshift lots.
Customer service plays a vital role in building Victoria International Airport’s reputation as a safe, friendly and professional travel destination. While the collective efforts of airport employees build a well-deserved image for the Victoria airport and community, some individuals are noteworthy for the positive influence they have on those around them. One such person, Jean Jacobson, the former Regional Manager at G4S Canada, deserves special recognition on her recent retirement.

14 Years at Victoria International Airport

G4S Canada is contracted by the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA) to screen passengers and baggage prior to departure, ensuring that critical elements of the air transportation system are secure. In her most recent role, Jean was directly involved in these efforts – and she has been involved with so much more over her 14 years at Victoria International Airport.

Whether in a front-line service role or behind the scenes in management, Jean enjoyed working with people. She made a point of meeting them, getting to know their challenges and finding ways to make their experiences positive. Jean is well known for her friendly manner. It’s not surprising that she spent most of her career helping people travel from one destination to another.

Helping People Travel

Before moving to Victoria, Jean lived in Calgary where she had an 18-year career driving a bus for Calgary Transit. Her first job at Victoria International Airport was in customer service at the check-in counter for the charter airline Canada 3000. During her time there, she also put her driving skills to good use, moving the bridge that allowed passengers to embark and disembark their plane.

Canada 3000 closed operations in 2001, and Jean’s career headed in a new direction when airport security requirements increased after the 9/11 tragedy. In 2002, she returned to Victoria International Airport as a pre-board screener. The companies that provided security screening changed over the years, but Jean remained a regular fixture in the airport, finding employment with each successive contractor. Over time, her natural people skills and genuine desire to help travellers led to her promotion as Point Leader, Supervisor and, ultimately, Regional Manager at G4S Canada.

Jean has been directly involved as Victoria International Airport’s security protocol changed to meet new regulations, incorporate new technology and accommodate increases in passenger volume. She was working as a pre-board screener when few limitations were placed on the amount and type of liquids in carry-on baggage, as a supervisor to help implement the full-body scanners that are commonplace today and as a manager to implement recent non-passenger screening policies.

As the person responsible for implementing most of the dramatic transformations in air security at Victoria International Airport, Jean maintained a positive approach to change and collected many positive memories of her time on the front lines of airport security.

In her retirement, Jean continues her people-focused approach to life. As a companion to seniors, she visits people living in retirement homes, offering a friendly visit, a game of cards and some welcome distraction from the daily routine. She enjoys spending time with seniors and, true to her nature, she thrives on getting to know them better and finding ways to make their experiences positive.

When your career involves looking out for the well-being of others, it is only natural that your recognition of life’s challenges and desire to help continues beyond the limits of the work day. The employees at G4S Canada, the company that provides passenger and baggage screening at Victoria International Airport, are proof positive: they have joined to support of one their co-workers, long-time G4S employee Shane Befurt, as he battles leukemia.

When Shane was diagnosed in February, he was immediately transported to Vancouver General Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia, where he received the stem cell transplant and chemotherapy that would save his life. Although his condition has improved, he must stay in Vancouver near the hospital where he can get immediate treatment if his symptoms become worse.

For Shane and his wife Dianne, both long-time residents of Vancouver Island, the expense of maintaining two places to live is a stressful and necessary hardship. Shane’s co-workers soon learned that financial support for such expenses can be found for families of children who need life-saving treatment away from home, but little is available for adults.

They quickly stepped in to fill the void, staging fund-raisers and galvanizing the support of the entire airport community. Screening Officer Rose McLean assumed the lead, organizing a team of G4S employees who wanted to help. They, in turn, contributed to bake sales, 50-50 draws and basket raffles that inspired workers throughout Victoria International Airport to support the Befurts. Since February, their efforts have raised more than $6,000 for the family.

While Shane strives to improve his health in Vancouver, his co-workers at YYJ build upon the airport’s sense of community and responsibility to offer their support to the Befurt family.
Visit victoriaairport.com for the latest information about the airport, including flight status reports and, of course, links to the airport’s social media sites.