



Victoria Airport Authority

Airport Consultative Committee

**Minutes of the
Meeting Held at the
Mary Winspear Centre at Sanscha
Tuesday, 24 October 2006, 8:30 - 9:15 AM**

**Next ACC Meeting: 08:30 AM, Tuesday, 20 February 2007
Mary Winspear Centre at Sanscha
(2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney – Corner of Beacon & Pat Pay Highway)**

Paul Connolly – Committee Secretary

Mervyn Lougher-Goodey – ACC Chair

Representative Members

Jazz / Air Canada	absent
Air Terminal Building Tenants= Representative	absent
Association of Canadian Travel Agencies	absent
BC Ministry of Transportation & Highways	absent
Canadian Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association	absent
Canada Border Services Agency	Rolf Karger
Capital Regional District	absent
Central Saanich Municipality	absent
City of Victoria	absent
Department of National Defence	Stephen Allan
District of North Saanich	absent
District of North Saanich Residents' Association	Graham Ross
Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce	absent
Horizon Air	absent
Nav Canada	absent
Pacific Coastal Airlines	absent
Pauquachin Band Council	absent
Saanich Municipality	absent
Saanich Peninsula Chamber of Commerce	absent
Saanich Peninsula Water Commission, and Waste Management Committee	absent
Sidney Business Association	absent
Sidney Ratepayers Association	absent
Charter Airlines	absent
Tseycum Band Council	absent
Tourism Victoria	absent
Town of Sidney	absent
Victoria Airport Tenants' Association	absent
WestJet	absent

VAA Board Members in Attendance:

*Mervyn Lougher-Goodey, *Linda Petch, * Bob Skene, *Gordon Denford,
*Peter Parsons, *Haji Charania and *Wayne Tremblay

Other Board members in attendance: Mel Couvelier and Peter Dolezal

VAA Staff: Richard Paquette, Danita Ouellette, Randy Bogle,
Vincent Miller, Terry Stewart, and Paul Connolly.

*Board members on the ACC.

Public in attendance: 5

1. Call to Order

Mervyn Lougher-Goodey, Vice Chair of the Victoria Airport Authority Board, acted as the Chair of the meeting, and Paul Connolly acted as Recording Secretary.

2. Introduction of Members Present

Mervyn Lougher-Goodey, Airport Consultative Committee Chair, welcomed the members and the public to the Airport Consultative Committee meeting. Each Member of the Committee and the public present introduced themselves.

3. Public Participation Period

No questions from the public at this time.

4. Approval of 21 February 2006 ACC Minutes

IT WAS MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE 21 FEBRUARY 2006 AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES.

5. Report from the VAA Chair

Canada Airports Act (CAA)

The VAA Chair, Linda Petch, reported the Canada Airports Act (CAA) was re-introduced into Parliament in June 2006. The revised version of the CAA includes exemptions for smaller airports from some of the more onerous sections of the Act. The revised Act keeps changes to airport governance such as the composition of boards of directors. It is doubtful, however, the CAA will be passed in 2006; perhaps in 2007, if there is not an early election call.

Rent

Thunder Bay, Regina, Quebec City and Toronto have not signed on to the new rent agreement with Transport Canada, each for different reasons. Thunder Bay, for example, had set up a subsidiary company to raise extra revenue to operate their airport instead of collecting an AIF (Airport Improvement Fee). Under the rent agreement signed on by all airports (except the four as noted), airports are required to pay rent calculated on gross revenue, so the incentive for Thunder Bay to earn revenue through a subsidiary is reduced. Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) has proposed to accept Transport's rent formula with one change, that rent be calculated on gross revenue reduced by the annual cost of debt financing. Other airports, including Victoria, support the GTAA's proposal – and its application to all airports.

Completion of the Air Terminal Building

The VAA held a Public Open House on Saturday, 21 October to celebrate the completion of the Terminal Building. The Chair invited the members of the Committee and public to come and experience the ambiance of the newly expanded Terminal Building. The building offers the service and amenities of a large airport and the friendly convenience of a small airport. It is spacious and open to the surrounding landscape.

The VAA Chair, Linda Petch, thanked the community, airport customers and Terminal Building tenants for their support and patience during construction. She expressed gratitude to the Board members over the past ten years for their guidance during the entire process, and also to the VAA President and CEO, Richard Paquette, for his leadership and direction during the project and for bringing the project in on budget, as well as to Tom Moore, Moore Paterson Architects; Darcy Kray, President of Durwest Construction Management, Project Manager; and VAA management and staff.

Chair's Term on the VAA Board

Linda Petch said her term on the Board finishes at the end of 2006. She thanked the Committee for their input, and said it was her pleasure to serve on the VAA Board of Directors.

6. Report from the Chair of the Art at the Airport Committee

Linda Petch stated Victoria Kuhl, Chair of the Art at the Airport Committee, sent her regrets. Linda Petch, VAA Chair, reported the two new pieces of commissioned artworks are complete. VAA is very proud of the artworks:

- Illarion Gallant's giant, colourful flowers situated in the plaza north of the parking lot and south of the Departures Area "drop-off" road. The piece is called "Bouquet of Memories" inspired from memories of images that have stayed with the artist for decades including butterflies migrating north, and wild flowers growing up through cracks in the pavement at old airfields.
- Ed Schaefer and Tom Mercer produced a series of stained glass windows called "Airplay" in the new departures check-in area. When the sun is shining it sprays some of the colour onto the floor, walls and pillars.

Both artworks provide continual changing patterns of colour, form and shape as the sun patterns change. VAA hopes the artworks engage the travelling public.

The rotating artwork program has begun with the Victoria Art Gallery's rotating collection.

7. Report from the Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee

The Chair of the VAA Audit and Finance Committee, Bob Skene, presented Unaudited Statements of Income and Expenses, and Balance Sheet for the Operations and AIF Sectors for the nine months ending September 30, 2006. Bob Skene noted they are positive financial reports.

Revenue and Net Income in the Operations Sector is up primarily because of the increase in the number of passengers.

Gross revenue in the AIF Sector is approximately \$5.2 million year-to-date. Year-end projection is \$6.8 million; higher than 2005 primarily because of the increase in passenger traffic.

The Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee stated the Balance Sheet shows a cash balance of approximately \$5.7 million. Much of the funds will be spent on the expansion to the public parking lot. The cost of the parking lot does not come out of the Airport Improvement Fee (AIF).

There were no questions on the financial report to the Committee.

Bob Skene said he is retiring from the VAA Board at the end of 2006. He thanked the Committee and also VAA's President and CEO, Richard Paquette; VAA Manager Corporate Services, Danita Ouellette; and VAA Controller, Randy Bogle, for their professionalism and competency in preparation of the financial statements and for keeping VAA on a positive financial track.

8. Report from the VAA President and CEO

Richard Paquette, President and CEO, briefed the Committee on a number of matters:

Air Terminal Building

VAA held a public open house at the Terminal Building Saturday afternoon, 21 October to celebrate the completion of the Terminal Building Expansion Project. It was a long road made up of quite a number of individual steps, and a very significant pause and change in direction in the middle to accommodate 9/11 security requirements. VAA arrived at the final destination on budget.

There is still some work to be done because VAA added some elements to the project.

- 575 vehicle expansion to public parking
- Parking lot covered walkways
- Food and beverage improvements
- Tim Hortons – to be opened tomorrow, 25 October.

Pat Bay Highway / McTavish Road Intersection

VAA is working with the District of North Saanich to encourage the Provincial government for improvements to the Pat Bay Highway / McTavish Road intersection and to get on with the work. The Pat Bay Highway is a vitally important transportation link for the CRD and in fact the whole Island. Everybody benefits from improvements at this intersection. The whole corridor is important between Victoria and BC Ferries, but if any improvements are to be undertaken the BC Government has to start somewhere, and the Pat Bay Highway / McTavish Road Intersection is a project which has virtually unanimous support and faces no major hurdles such as land acquisition. VAA is asking for design in 2007 and construction in 2008. VAA encourages those who have an opportunity to get behind this project, and to please lend support.

Environment

- At the last Airport Consultative Committee meeting the CEO reported that the federal government agreed to fund an assessment of the Airport section of Reay Creek. Unfortunately the government did not come through with the money so the work was not done. VAA will continue to pursue the work with Environment Canada and Transport Canada. In the interim VAA is continuing regular monitoring of water quality in the Creek.
- Viking Air has removed the floor slab from the old hangar which has now been dismantled. Soil samples have been taken in and around the old building and a limited amount of heavy metal and hydrocarbon contamination was identified for removal and remediation.
- Victoria Airport has been selected by Transport Canada as the site of a study of the effects of airport operations on air quality.
- VAA will be engaging a consultant to follow up on earlier work and complete an environmental assessment on the activities of 6 Airport Tenants.
- Environmental measures have been built into the design of the new parking lot to detain water on site, manage peak flows into Reay Creek to prevent flooding, and for natural treatment of rainwater.

Air Service

- Passengers up - almost 6% year to end of September 2006.
- Air Canada Jazz- - Introduced non-stop service to Edmonton.
- Westjet - 200 series 737's are gone.
- 600 & 700 series to Calgary, Edmonton, Kelowna, seasonal to Toronto.
- Delta - - Seasonal service to Salt Lake with 50 seat RJ
- Expected to return next year, VAA is working with Delta to make it year round service.
- Horizon - Significant developments:
- Horizon be leasing out many of the 37 passenger 200 series Dash 8's, and replacing them on many routes with the 70 seat Q 400's
- Significant implications for YYJ (Victoria):
- Frequency remains the same, with a 43% increase in capacity.
- The VAA CEO meets this afternoon in Seattle with senior Horizon officers to work on plans to fill the extra seats, and to continue to explore non stop service to LAX (Los Angeles).
- **Charters to Sun Destinations this Year:**

DESTINATION	CARRIER	FREQUENCY
Hawaii	Harmony	Wednesday
Cancun	Skyservice	Saturday
Puerto Vallarta	Skyservice	Friday
Puerto Vallarta	Air Transat	Saturday

Land Development - Update

- Site preparation underway for Viking Air's new production facility. . When their new plant is in operation they will have created an additional 100 jobs.
- 4-Bay Car Rental Service Facility is under construction to the South East of the Terminal Building.

- The lease has been finalized with Milwest Holdings for development for a Marine dry dock, storage and service facility at Beacon Avenue and Galaran. Design is underway.
- Upper floor of the Viscount Centre has been redeveloped for a new restaurant – Bojangles.
- West Sidney Business Park at the corner of Henry and Galaran is near completion.
- Industrial land in Sidney is now fully leased.
- The Awood Hangar at the base of the Control Tower is being re-developed for Purolator's on airport package distribution facility.

Other Matters:

- **Security**
 - The VAA CEO made a presentation to the Federal Task Force studying the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority.
 - VAA managed the passenger service implications of the revised measures from Transport Canada respecting liquids.
 - VAA is in the process of implementing the national Restricted Air Identification System and Access Control (RAIC); it will be in operation at YYJ before the end of year. RAIC is a biometric system that controls all non-passenger access points to airside.
 - RCMP officers are regularly at the airport.
 - Comprehensive expansion of closed circuit TV at the Airport from 13 to 62 cameras.
- **VAA is Closing in on 10 Years of Airport Operation**

A lot has been achieved over the past almost 10 years. Work is never finished as the demand for air service continues to grow.

VAA is well underway with a Master Plan which will chart the future course of the Airport. The Committee will be presented a summary of the Master Plan recommendations early in the New Year.

9. Call for New Business

None

10. New Business

None

11. Questions / Comments

- Graham Ross stated the District of North Saanich had proposed 3 village centres. The District's OCP has since taken out one of the areas from the village centre concept, one which Mr. Ross described as a "high density development" of approximately 200 units located between the Airport and the Pat Bay Highway in the vicinity of Rideau Avenue / Canora Road. He suggested it could cause further strain on an already congested transportation corridor. He asked if the Airport had a position on the development.

The VAA CEO stated he is not familiar with the proposed development. The VAA will review it as it would likely be impacted from Airport operations and aircraft noise.

- Chad Rintoul asked if the local RCMP detachment's resources are going to be used at the Airport.

The CEO explained there is no financial impact on the District of North Saanich and the Town of Sidney to cover the level of policing required at the Airport. Any incremental policing costs to the local detachment are borne by the VAA. At the moment RCMP are covering Airport requirements by overtime. To cover the planned increased police presence at the Airport three additional RCMP members will be required. Having officers at the Airport will not take away from policing requirements in Sidney and North Saanich; to the contrary, there is a net benefit to the community having additional officers who can respond to a community emergency.

- Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Allan was asked by the Committee Chair if he would like to report on the activities of 443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron stationed at Victoria International Airport.

Lieutenant Colonel Allan reported that in 2004 the government selected the CH-148 Cyclone Sikorsky H92 helicopter as the new Canadian Forces Maritime multi-role helicopter to replace the CH-124 Sea King which has been in service since 1960. The East Coast will receive the new aircrafts first.

443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron will be building a new facility adjacent to its current building. Ground will be broken in 2008 with a scheduled completion in 2012 in time for delivery of the Cyclone to the West Coast. There are no plans for an increase in Sea King operations.

- Mary Tutt asked about the building being constructed south of the Terminal Building along Willingdon Road.

The CEO explained the building under construction is a 4 bay car rental service centre which will centralize car rental operations at the Airport, eliminating vehicles travelling back and forth from car rental facilities beyond the Airport.

- Mary Tutt commented on the stop signs on Willingdon Road located where vehicles exit from the Terminal Building / Parking Lot. She explained from her perspective, as a user of Willingdon Road, she appreciates having access to the Airport owned Willingdon Road because it cuts travelling distance by avoiding driving down West Saanich Road. She stated, however, the design of the new intersection appears to cause some confusion, as she observed vehicles exiting the Terminal Building area tend to stop anyway, assuming they are required to do so, not realizing they have the right of way.

VAA took the comments under advisement.

- Mary Tutt asked if there are any plans for a bicycle / walking path around the perimeter of the Airport.

The CEO explained the first priority was for a bicycle lane along Willingdon Road from East Saanich Road to the Terminal Building. It is considered a bicycle transportation link to the Lockside Regional Trail connecting travellers to the Airport. The CEO stated he is also a cyclist and it would be ideal to have a bicycle path around the airport. VAA will confer with North Saanich on the matter.

The Committee Chair commented VAA is considering increasing the amount of covered protection for bicycles.

- Mary Tutt asked if the “viewing road” just west of the Terminal Building will be open to the public again.

The CEO stated, yes, it will be open again for public access. It is currently used by the car rental companies until the completion of their new facility.

- Mary Tutt complimented VAA on aircraft noise control in the Deep Cove area of North Saanich. She stated aircraft used to “take shortcuts” over the area but that has been greatly reduced. She hopes the reduction in noise will continue.

- **Closing Comments by the Committee Chair**

The Committee Chair, Mervyn Lougher-Goodey, complimented two outgoing Board members, Linda Petch, VAA Chair; and Bob Skene, Chair of the VAA Audit and Finance Committee. He stated they provided effective leadership during their terms on the VAA Board of Directors.

The Committee Chair said this is his last year as Vice Chair, and Chair of the Airport Consultative Committee. He will continue as a Board member for another two years. He thanked the Committee members and the public for their input on various issues. He also thanked the Committee’s Recording Secretary, Paul Connolly, for his assistance.

12. Announcements

None

Next ACC Meeting

The date for the next Airport Consultative Committee meeting is Tuesday, 20 February 2007, 8:30 am at the Mary Winspear Centre at Sanscha.

13. Adjournment