



Victoria Airport Authority

Airport Consultative Committee

**Minutes of the
Meeting Held at the
Mary Winspear Centre at Sanscha
Tuesday, 20 February 2007, 8:30 - 9:15 AM**

**NOTE: VAA AGM IS 7:00 PM THURSDAY, 3 MAY 2007
Same location as the ACC meeting**

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

Paul Connolly – Committee Secretary

Matthew Watson – ACC Chair

Representative Members

Air Terminal Building Tenants	absent
Association of Canadian Travel Agencies	absent
BC Ministry of Transportation & Highways	absent
Canada Border Services Agency	Heath Lariviere
Canadian Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association	absent
Capital Regional District	Christopher Causton
Charter Airlines	absent
City of Victoria	absent
Corporation of the District of Saanich	absent
Department of National Defence	Bart Dennis & Phil Redgrave
District of Central Saanich	Zeb King
District of North Saanich	Cairine Green & Peter Chandler
District of North Saanich Residents' Association	Graham Ross
Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce	absent
Horizon Air	absent
Jazz / Air Canada	absent
Nav Canada	Brent Bell
Pacific Coastal Airlines	absent
Pauquachin Band Council	absent
Saanich Peninsula Chamber of Commerce	Liz Madro
Saanich Peninsula Water Commission, and Waste Management Committee	absent
Sidney Business Association	Peter Garnham
Sidney Ratepayers Association	absent
Tourism Victoria	absent
Town of Sidney	Bob Jones
Tseycum Band Council	absent
Victoria Airport Tenants' Association	absent
WestJet	absent

VAA Board Members in Attendance:

*Gordon Denford, *Matthew Watson, *Christine Stoneman, *Mervyn Lougher-Goodey,
*Chad Rintoul, *Bob Coulter, (*Victoria Kuhl and *Peter Dolezal sent regrets)

Other Board members in attendance: Mel Couvelier and Peter Parsons

VAA Staff: Richard Paquette, Danita Ouellette, Mike Booton, Ian West, Terry Stewart
and Paul Connolly.

*Board members on the ACC.

Public in attendance: 6

1. Call to Order

Matthew Watson, 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

Matthew Watson, 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. Approval of 24 October 2006 ACC Minutes

IT WAS MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE 24 OCTOBER 2006 AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES.

4. Report from the VAA Chair

Victoria Airport Authority Board Executive and New Directors - 2007

Board Executive for 2007

- Chair Gordon Denford
- Vice Chair Matthew Watson
- Secretary Christine Stoneman
- Chair, Audit and Finance Committee Peter Dolezal
- Chair, Planning and Development Committee Mervyn Lougher-Goodey

Joining the Board in 2007

- Bruce Knott Federal Government Appointment
- Bob Coulter Federal Government Appointment
- Lindalee Brougham Nominated by the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
- Chad Rintoul Nominated by the District of North Saanich
- Glen Crawford Nominated by the Corporation of the District of Saanich

Retired from the Board December 31, 2006

- Linda Petch Board Chair 2004-2006 – Board Nominee
- Bob Skene Chair, Airport Consultative Committee 2001-2006
Nominated by the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
- Haji Charania Nominated by the Corporation of the District of Saanich
- Wayne Tremblay Nominated by the District of North Saanich

Canada Airports Act

The original Canada Airports Act, introduced in 2004, was strongly opposed by airports because it was overly prescriptive and costly to administer; it ultimately died in Committee. The current version of the Act was introduced for first reading in the House on June 15, 2006. Transport Canada officials expect that it will be passed during this spring, unless there is an election call. VAA already exceeds accountability and transparency requirements of the proposed Act. The biggest impact will be a reduction in the number of municipal appointments from 8 to 5.

Master Plan

VAA has had a consultant working on the update to the Airport Master Plan since the middle of 2006. The board will be reviewing a draft this spring. Staff is then planning a round of public and stakeholder consultation. The results of the consultation will be reported to the board. The plan is expected to be finalized and approved before year end.

McTavish Road / Pat Bay Highway Interchange

The intersection at McTavish Road and Pat Bay Highway is dangerous and inadequate. Even this morning the Chair noticed traffic in the left-turn lane onto McTavish was extending into the fast lane of the highway causing other vehicles to swerve to avoid hitting vehicles waiting for the left-turn light to turn green.

The VAA Board Chair, Gordon Denford, has written to the Minister of Transportation, Kevin Falcon, requesting the Province to confirm its commitment to fund detailed design of the interchange in the upcoming fiscal year and complete construction of the interchange before 2010. Central Saanich, North Saanich and Sidney Councils are all supporting the interchange.

The VAA Board Chair asked the members of the Committee and the public to lend their support by writing a letter to Minister Falcon telling him what they think of the highway access to the airport.

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

The Chair of the VAA Audit and Finance Committee, Peter Dolezal, sent regrets as he was out of town. In his place, Matthew Watson, the Board's Vice Chair presented the financial report. He noted the positive financial year for VAA; 2006 saw the largest capital expenditures, just over \$14 million. The VAA is a not-for-profit corporation, all revenue received is used to pay operating and maintenance costs and fund capital improvements. Since 1997, the VAA has completed over \$55 million in capital improvements to the airport and its infrastructure. After all that has been accomplished, the debt is only \$18 million which will be paid off in 10 years.

In 2006, Operations Sector Revenue increased by 9.4% over 2005 to \$11,876,800 and Expenses increased by 8.9% to \$9,270,500 (not including depreciation). Net AIF Revenue increased by \$315,500 or 5.2% to \$6,372,500 in 2006.

Matthew Watson complimented management and staff on the financial management of the Airport and noted this Airport is recognized across Canada on how well it is managed and operated.

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

7. Report from the VAA President and CEO

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

Air Terminal Building (ATB)

The Airport celebrated the final phase of ATB development with a Grand Opening October 21, 2006. Two new pieces of commissioned artworks are featured – Bouquet of Memories by Illarian Gallant, and Airplay (stained glass artwork) by Ed Schaefer and Tom Mercer; and the rotating artwork program has begun with the Victoria Art Gallery's collection. Food and beverage services are improved with the addition of Tim Hortons which opened in 2006 and a White Spot restaurant which is planned for 2007. The parking facility was expanded, adding 575 spaces. The 3rd floor observation area will be finished, and new landscaping is planned in 2007.

Passenger Traffic and Airlines

Passengers were up by 5.4% to 1,390,000 by the end of 2006. Air Canada Jazz began direct service to Edmonton. Delta Airlines direct service to Salt Lake City returns in 2007. Horizon Air introduced a 70 seat Q400 aircraft translating into a 43% increase in passengers. VAA's destination prospects for 2007 are flights to Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

Trident Fury

VAA successfully hosted a multi national military exercise in 2006 which provided millions of dollars of economic benefits to the community including accommodating approximately 400 personnel associated with the Exercise. DND has asked for VAA's support for Trident Fury II May 7 - 18, 2007

Land Development

A 4-bay car rental service facility near the ATB will be completed by April 30, 2007. The site is prepared for Viking Air's new production facility in the East Camp. A lease was finalized with Milwest Holdings for a marine Dry Dock Storage Facility. West Sidney Business Park at Henry and Galaran is now complete and a majority of units are sold. Purolator's on airport package distribution facility now operates out of upgraded Awood Hangar in the East Camp. Sidney light industrial land is now fully leased. The priority for 2007 is the high tech business park proposed for Mills Road in North Saanich

Safety and Security

There were no significant problems or events at the airport in 2006. New biometric identification cards are now used, providing access control for appropriate personnel to restricted areas. The number of CCTV (closed circuit TV) cameras increased from 13 to 62 providing greater coverage at the airport. The RCMP is now a regular presence in the Terminal Building. Transport Canada will likely have new regulations on air cargo and large general aviation aircraft in 2007. VAA is beginning to plan for 2010 – security requirements and the role the Airport can play to support the games and the community

Environment

Transport Canada's 2006 annual audit was successful. Activities of six tenants were audited, minor issues identified and cleaned up. An environmentally friendly rainwater management system was incorporated into the newly expanded parking lot to clean rainwater runoff before it reaches Reay Creek. A new glycol blending facility will be in operation for the 2007 / 08 winter season. It is temperature based blending which reduces glycol use by half. WestJet retired its 737 – 200 series which means less noise and reduced CO2 emissions.

In 2007 VAA plans to clean up a couple of areas in Reay Creek and continue the water quality monitoring program. Transport Canada will use Victoria Airport as a pilot site to study effects of airport operations on air quality. VAA will rebuild Pumpstation Number 2 incorporating redundancies for environmental protection.

Master Plan

The Master Plan outlined by the Board Chair will guide airport development for the next 20 years.

8. Call for New Business

None

9. New Business

None

10. Questions / Comments from the Committee and the Public

- Graham Ross stated that at the ACC meeting October 24, 2006 he raised the subject of the District of North Saanich's OCP and associated developed. He asked if VAA has since formulated a position on a proposed high density, approximately 200 unit housing development 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. The VAA CEO apologized to Mr. Ross and stated he has not familiarized himself with the proposed development. He suggested it would have some indirect impact on the airport. The Chair of the ACC suggested interested parties meet off-line to discuss this topic.

(Note: the parties met after the meeting, and it was determined that there was no active proposal currently under consideration by the District of North Saanich Council. If a proposal is presented, VAA will have an opportunity to comment at that time.)

- Christopher Causton suggested international transit signage be appropriately placed in the Terminal Building to clearly identify where users can access public transit. He also suggested that improved signage in the terminal building was required to make passengers aware of the public transit service option. The CEO agreed.
- Christopher Causton provided some input on the issue of the McTavish Interchange. He suggested VAA submit another application, this time to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) incorporating traffic counts, waiting times, economic impact around traffic flow and highlighting the airport as an economic generator for Southern Vancouver Island. *(Information: 8 RTA Committees were set up by the Minister of Transportation throughout the Province to advise the Minister on regional transportation priorities.)* Christopher Causton also suggested obtaining local municipal support rather than going directly through the CRD. He said it is difficult to compete on a regional basis with other transportation concerns. The VAA Chair thanked Christopher Causton for his input.
- Christopher Causton said he was a passenger on the airporter the other evening when the bus turned right at the roundabout onto a local residential road - East Saanich Road, and then a left at a 4-way stop onto McTavish Road - apparently to avoid the turn off further along at Canora where traffic backs up trying to access McTavish. The two District of North Saanich Councillors in attendance at this meeting, in response to a question, said they have not received complaints from local residents about an increase in traffic using East Saanich Road as an option to access McTavish Road. The VAA CEO said visitors and others less

familiar with the area do not know about the alternate local route cutting through a residential area. They get caught at the dangerous and sometimes congested left turn at Canora and McTavish roads.

- Christopher Causton suggested plants would make a welcome addition in the area of the ground floor observation by the Café where cushy seating and a television is located. The CEO agreed.
- Frank Witthoeft, a resident of Central Saanich, referred to the Report from the CEO and asked, when reference is made to pollution what does that mean? The CEO stated most discussion around pollution is in reference to the quality of water. Frank Witthoeft's question was related to concerns about seaplane overflights on the Peninsula so the CEO explained to the Committee the issue being raised is the routing of seaplanes operating from / to Vancouver and Victoria Harbours over the centre of Victoria International Airport and up / down the Peninsula causing disturbance to some residents. The change in routing came about a couple of years ago as a result of safety concerns and conflicts with aircraft arriving and departing Victoria International Airport. Although overflight of aircraft is outside the purview of the VAA it has been acting as a facilitator bringing the parties together to discuss the matter at Noise Management Committee meetings.
- Doug Straub, a North Saanich resident, asked if VAA was able to find a solution to reduce the glare of the south facing lights used to illuminate the main Apron 4. The CEO said he was aware of the residents' petition and has asked the manufacturer to recommend a safe solution to reduce the glare beyond the airport.
- Doug Straub said he heard rumours about a possible runway closure. The CEO said all infrastructure options are on the table during the study to update the Master Plan including runway extension to service intercontinental flights. The various issues will be discussed during the Master Plan consultation with the public and stakeholders.

12. Announcements

Next ACC Meeting – 30 October 2007

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

VAA AGM – 3 May 2007

The VAA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is Thursday, 3 May 2007, 7:00 pm at the Mary Winspear Centre at Sanscha. All members and the public are invited to attend.

13. Adjournment