



# Representing Ontario's Airports

**Feds Invest in Dryden's Airport,  
Businesses**

**Wings and Wheels Draws  
Thousands**

**Solar Farm is Landing  
at Windsor Airport**

**Porter Airlines:  
North America's  
Best Regional Airline**

**Greater Sudbury Airport  
is Getting a Facelift**







# Airport Management Council of Ontario

AUGUST 2014

Volume 3, Issue 3



The Airport Environment and You

## From the President's Desk

There have been many changes at AMCO over the last few months- most significantly is the departure of our Executive Director, Bryan Avery. I would like to congratulate Bryan on being successful in gaining a new position, and congratulate Jack at the North Bay Jack Garland Airport on hiring such a great individual for the position of Security/Operations Development Manager. Both Bryan and the North Bay Airport have been exceptional in assisting AMCO with the transition and have been most accommodating. Bryan actually began his new position on July 7th, but has agreed to stay on with AMCO to assist in the transition. Bryan will be with us through the convention and a period of time thereafter in completing the transition to a new Executive Director. Again, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Bryan on his new position and to thank him for staying on with AMCO to assist in this transition, below are a few words from Bryan.

*"While I have decided to step-down as Executive Director of AMCO in order to take another position, I have certainly not left AMCO. Over the next few months I will be working with Laura, the AMCO Board, and the individual hired for the Executive Director position. Beyond that, I will still be involved with AMCO, although from a member perspective now.*

*I'd like to thank everyone for their generous support, both for me personally and professionally, and also the association that I'll always have pride in having worked for. It's been a journey, an amazing experience, but most importantly a very enjoyable time working with each of you.*

*Highest Regards,  
Bryan Avery"*

AMCO has also seen the addition of Jasen Belanger as our new Administrative Assistant. Jasen began his position with AMCO on July 14, 2014 and I would like to take the opportunity to welcome Jasen to the AMCO team. Our other office change is our new phone system. Our phone number remains the same, and each staff member has an extension and their own voicemail. Our new fax number is 705-474-2379.

AMCO's 29th Annual Convention and 17th Annual Tradeshow is quickly approaching! We are very excited for this year's program, focussing on Quality Assurance. We have some great presentations lined up, paired with quality networking, a golf tournament, and more! Following the convention AMCO will be hosting 3 days of training, including a Quality Assurance seminar by Transport Canada, and a two day Accident/Incident Investigation Course. These courses are sure to be informative for you. There is also an AMSCR course scheduled immediately prior to the convention, in Dryden.

I want to thank our members for all of the support we receive from you. Your dedication to our association is greatly appreciated. Lastly, I am pleased to welcome our newest business members R.P.M. Tech Inc. and Avjet Holdings Inc. I wish everyone a great end to the summer and I look forward to seeing you all at the Convention.

Highest Regards,

Terry Bos, BBA, CM  
President, Airport Management Council of Ontario  
CEO, Sault Ste. Marie Airport Development Corporation

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**Starting in October, New York is Just 90 Minutes from London, Ontario**

Original Article By: (CFPL AM) AM 980, July 14, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/newyork90minfromlondon](http://news.amco.on.ca/newyork90minfromlondon)

As first reported by AM980, the London International Airport has now confirmed it will begin offering direct flights to New York this fall.

The 90 minute United Airlines flights will depart twice daily

starting October 26th from London to Newark Liberty International Airport — located just 22 kilometres from Manhattan. Seasoned travellers often prefer Newark Liberty International Airport to LaGuardia or JFK airports because of its modern terminal and faster access to downtown New York City.

London would be the only airport in southwestern Ontario offering direct flights to New York City, aside from Pearson in Toronto.

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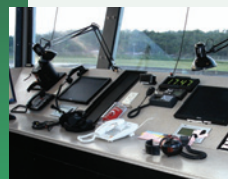
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## Airlines to Fight 'Unbelievably Punitive' Ontario Fuel Tax

Original Article By: GREG KEENAN at The Globe and Mail, July 13, 2014

[news.amco.on.ca/airlinesfightfueltax](http://news.amco.on.ca/airlinesfightfueltax)

Canada's airlines and airports are gearing up to fight Ontario's plan to more than double the tax on aviation fuel, arguing it will increase the number of Canadians travelling out of U.S. airports where taxes and fees are substantially lower.

The tax will rise from its current level of 2.7 cents a litre to 6.7 cents by April 1, 2017, under the Ontario budget that will be reintroduced Monday. It's the same budget presented in May by the Liberal government of Premier Kathleen Wynne, which went from a minority government to a majority after a June election.

The tax increase comes as airlines face increased volatility in jet-fuel prices because of the crisis in Iraq, and as they continue to adjust to the decline in the value of the Canadian dollar, which has also hit airlines because the price of fuel is measured in U.S. dollars.

At the full hit of 6.7 cents a litre, the extra tax will cost Air Canada \$50-million annually, Mr. Smith said, but he and other industry officials pointed to the impact it will have on air traffic.

Susie Heath, a spokeswoman for Ontario Finance Minister Charles Sousa, said the estimated revenue of \$135-million (Canadian) from the tax during the next three years will be spent on public transit and transportation infrastructure.

The fuel has been taxed at a rate of 2.7 cents a litre since 1992, Ms. Heath said, which is significantly lower than the tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.

Ontario's move is the opposite direction taken by British Columbia, which eliminated its aviation fuel tax on international flights in the 2012 provincial budget and credits the move for contributing to decisions by 22 airlines to add flights into and out of Vancouver.

## Edmonton Airport Testing Out Customer Service Robots

Original Article By: Patricia Kozicka, July 17, 2014

[news.amco.on.ca/customerservicerobotsinedmonton](http://news.amco.on.ca/customerservicerobotsinedmonton)

The Edmonton International Airport (EIA) is trying out a high-tech kind of help that's a cross between a customer service agent and a digital kiosk.

The customer service robots are the first of their kind in Canada. They're designed to interact with people, as well as detect and display emotions.

*"The cool part about the robot is its mobile so it can actually move to you. We have info booths, which are great. We have wonderful volunteers, who walk around and help folks a lot. But the robot would extend our reach,"* said EIA spokesperson Heather Hamilton.

The robots can not only give you directions, but actually take you where you need to go. And they have the potential to do so in 30 different languages.

There's no guarantee that the robots will become full-time members at EIA. They'll be tested out at K-Days over the course of the fair; after that, EIA will decide whether it wants to purchase them based on the public's response to them.





## Wind Turbines Generate Trouble for Two Ontario Airports

Original Article By: Christina Blizzard, Toronto Sun, July 11, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/windturbinesgeneratetrouble](http://news.amco.on.ca/windturbinesgeneratetrouble)



Two rural airports in this province are facing the serious consequences of wind turbines sited too close to their runways.

Transport Canada recently issued an order forcing the removal of eight turbines near Chatham-Kent's airport. And Collingwood airport is fighting a plan to place massive turbines close to its runway.

A spokesman for Transport Canada said the turbine company, GDF Suez, was asked to voluntarily comply with its Airport Zoning Regulations (AZR) and remove or lower the turbines.

*"When this was not achieved, Transport Canada issued a notice requiring the company to lower or remove the wind turbines in compliance with the Chatham AZR. The notice to enforce compliance with the Chatham AZR has been issued because eight wind turbines contravene the height limits and voluntary compliance was not achieved,"* said Jana Regimbaldy by e-mail.

The company has until Dec. 31 to comply with the order.

## NAV CANADA Improves Communications Between Pilots and Controllers

Original Article By: MarketWired, July 8, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/navcanadaimprovescommunications](http://news.amco.on.ca/navcanadaimprovescommunications)

Canadian airspace has undergone safety and efficiency enhancements with the completion of the national implementation of Controller Pilot Data Link Communications (CPDLC). CPDLC enables controllers in Area Control Centres (ACC) and pilots in suitably equipped aircraft flying above 29,000 feet to communicate via data link or text-based messages instead of voice.

CPDLC delivers many safety and efficiency improvements over spoken communications broadcast over VHF or HF radio. Text messages provide greater clarity so the risk of communications errors is significantly decreased.

*"Miscommunication is a common air safety issue, but there is much less chance of error when both the flight crew and the controller have the ability to communicate using standardized text messaging,"* said Rudy Kellar, Executive Vice President, Service Delivery.

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## Porter Airlines: North America's Best Regional Airline

Original Article By: newswire.ca, July 15, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/porterairlinesbestregionalairline](http://news.amco.on.ca/porterairlinesbestregionalairline)



Porter Airlines was chosen as North America's Best Regional Airline in the 2014 Skytrax World Airline Awards. This is the first year for Skytrax to recognize the category of North American Regional Airline.

Each year, travellers from over 160 countries take part in the world's largest airline passenger satisfaction

survey to select the award winners. This year's presentation ceremony was held at the Farnborough International Airshow, in the United Kingdom.

*"This accolade highlights Porter on an international stage," said Robert Deluce, president and CEO of Porter Airlines. "It demonstrates that passengers appreciate our approach to service and recognize the value of a convenient downtown airport like Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport."*

Porter sets itself above the competition by emphasizing service, and providing complimentary amenities, including lounge access, beer, wine and food for all passengers.

*"We hope to spread our wings, servicing routes across North America," said Deluce. "Adding destinations such as Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Vancouver, will allow us to offer the Porter experience to even more passengers."*

## Greater Sudbury Airport is Getting a Facelift

Original Article By: CBC News, June 26, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/sudburyairportgettingafacelift](http://news.amco.on.ca/sudburyairportgettingafacelift)



The runway at the Greater Sudbury Airport is being repaved for the first time since 1977.

Bob Johnston is the Chief Executive Officer of the airport. He said the

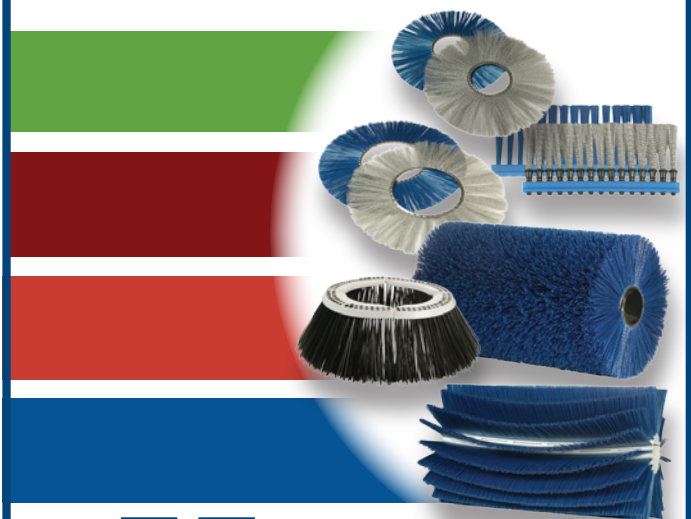
runway was built on a type of rock that has allowed the runway pavement to last twice as long as it does at most airports.

*"Essentially we have pit-run gravel and water will filter through the gravel very easily so we don't get frost heaves," said Johnston.*

The last time the tarmac was repaved, according to the airport records, was in 1977. Johnston said typically the life cycle of a runway surface is 15 to 20 years but they are lucky that its runway has held up almost 40 years. *"Every year we do crack sealing, any cracks that appear we seal with tar. We are not the norm."* said Johnston.

The Sudbury airport received a 70 per cent subsidy from Transport Canada towards the four million dollar repaving project.

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## Thunder Bay Airport Celebrating Twenty Year Anniversary

Original Article By: James Murray, July 10, 2014

[news.amco.on.ca/thunderbaycelebrates20years](http://news.amco.on.ca/thunderbaycelebrates20years)



On July 10th, the TBIAA is celebrating twenty years since moving into the new terminal building.

Shortly after, the Airport was transferred to local control with the Thunder Bay International Airports Authority Inc. in 1997; a move designed to capitalize on the Airport's potential. Activity has grown exponentially since those two milestones.

Passenger volumes have increased from 456,000 that year, to almost 780,000 in 2013. The Authority also has three subsidiary companies selling airport-related technology and expertise across Canada, the US, Caribbean and overseas.

The economic impact of the Airport has grown as well. An economic impact study completed in the nineties placed the total economic impact at \$156 million. The most recent study, completed in 2011, calculated that the impact had more than tripled to \$569 million. Total employment has similarly risen from 1,548 to 4,986 full-time equivalent jobs.

## Peterborough's 20 Most Influential People

Original Article By: Peterborough This Week, July 16, 2014

[news.amco.on.ca/peterboroughmostinfluentialpeople](http://news.amco.on.ca/peterboroughmostinfluentialpeople)



### TRENT GERVAIS

If you don't feel Peterborough is progressing, then you probably haven't ventured to the Peterborough Airport recently.

The airport is alive with activity with Peterborough's most influential person at the helm.

Airport manager Trent Gervais is overseeing all projects at the airport. From the construction of hangars to the recent partnership with Seneca College, there is no shortage of important work to do.

Mr. Gervais is also the CEO of The Loomex Group, based at the airport. As part of his portfolio, Mr. Gervais offers seminars, training and design services in a number of areas including crisis communication, leadership and emergency management planning.

It's been a busy few of years for Mr. Gervais to say the least. Early this year marked the opening of Seneca College's School of Aviation. The new school brought 150 students and 50 faculty to the region.

In keeping with the education theme, the airport has opened its doors to a new high school course.

## Feds invest in Dryden's Airport, Businesses

Original Article By: FedNor, June 30, 2014

[news.amco.on.ca/fedsinvestindrydenairport](http://news.amco.on.ca/fedsinvestindrydenairport)

Earlier today, Kenora MP Greg Rickford announced funding for the Dryden Regional Airport. Rickford is also the minister responsible for FedNor, the regional development agency for Northern Ontario.

The \$920,404 commitment will go towards the installation of a new wildlife management fence and the replacement of a snow blower. The wildlife management fence is an important tool in controlling animals, such as deer, on airport runways and surrounding land while the snow blower will ensure the timely and effective removal of snow, slush and ice from runways and taxiways.

To date, through the Airport Capital Assistance Program, the Dryden Regional Airport has received over \$5.4 million in funding for 11 safety projects.

The Government of Canada has made several commitments to airport upgrades and safety across the riding including Kenora, Red Lake, Dryden, Sioux Lookout and many First Nation communities.

*"The Dryden Regional Airport is a vital gateway for local residents, businesses, trade and tourism. This investment will enhance safety for travelers and residents while supporting productivity and economic growth in the region,"* said Rickford.



## Multimillion-Dollar Solar Farm Landing at Windsor Airport

Original Article By: Luke Simcoe, June 26, 2014

[news.amco.on.ca/solarfarmatwindsorairport](http://news.amco.on.ca/solarfarmatwindsorairport)

After nearly three years of negotiations, the City of Windsor and Samsung have reached a deal to build a 50-megawatt solar farm at the Windsor airport.

If approved, the plan would see the South Korean company lease 400 acres of land at the airport. The city estimates the project will generate \$25 million in municipal revenue.

"We're partnering with a world leader in renewable energy on a deal that will contribute millions of dollars to our community," Mayor Eddie Francis said in a press release.

The project would be Samsung's second green energy venture in the Windsor area. Local firm CS Wind was previously awarded a contract to build turbines for the company's wind farm in Chatham-Kent.

"Samsung is proud to be a part of the Windsor community and excited about our partnership with the city that will create local jobs," said Steve Cho, vice president of Samsung C&T Corporation.

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## Wings & Wheels Draws Thousands to Airport

Original Article By: Denis Langlois, July 7, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/wingsandwheelsowensound](http://news.amco.on.ca/wingsandwheelsowensound)

Mark Lewis says he and his eight-year-old son Josh are a pair of history buffs.

So the two Meaford residents were definitely in their element Sunday at the sixth annual Wings and Wheels event at the Owen Sound Billy Bishop Regional Airport.

*"We really like classic cars and planes,"* Mark said while standing on the airport's runway where aircraft was on display for people to see.

*"I really like finding out what happened in the past,"* added Josh.

He said one of the highlights of the day was a tour with his dad inside an authentic North American B-25 Mitchell bomber, which was brought to the event by the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum of Hamilton.

*"It was really cool,"* Josh said, after getting an up-close look at one of the machine guns inside of the fully restored and air-worthy 1945 American-built plane.



More than 2,000 people were expected to attend Sunday's event, which was sponsored by the Owen Sound Rotary Club and the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA) Flight 144.

All proceeds will help send children to the Rotary Club's Camp Presqu'île near Kemble.



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## Pilot BBQ a Bonding Experience at Muskoka Airport

Original Article By: Jennifer Bowman, July 23, 2014  
[news.amco.on.ca/pilotsbondatmuskokabbq](http://news.amco.on.ca/pilotsbondatmuskokabbq)

**SOUTH MUSKOKA** - Every Wednesday the barbeque lights up in Bob Marsh's hanger at the Muskoka Airport.

Pilots from all over Muskoka, and on sunny days from all over Ontario and Quebec, gather to talk flying.

Marsh said he bought his hanger and set up shop at the airport with his business, Grassroots Aviation, around the time the District of Muskoka acquired the airport from Transport Canada. That change brought with it much friction between pilots and the district on a number of issues that have never been fully resolved.

*"Since I've been here I've seen all the infighting going on... All the neighbours were fighting with the district,"* he said.

He started barbequing on his own on Wednesdays as a sort of mid-week reprieve.

Gradually other pilots began to join him, and now, three years later, there are regularly between 20 and 27 people.

*"We don't invite anybody... the rest of the guys (and women) just drift in,"* he said.

There were several exceptions on July 16, two were district representatives, Samantha Hastings, acting commissioner of planning and economic development, and CAO Michael Duben.



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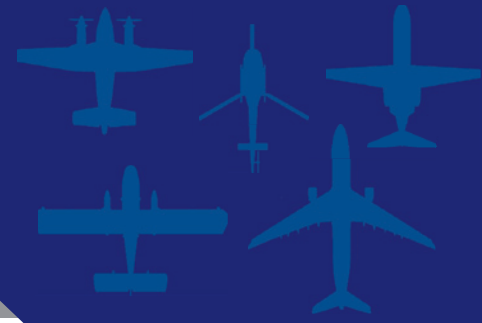




# Airport Management Council of Ontario

AUGUST 2014

Volume 3, Issue 3



The Airport Environment and You

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The Airport Management Council of Ontario was formed to represent the interests of airport owners and operators. The AMCO Newsletter, The Airport Environment and You, is distributed quarterly to members and the airport industry as one method of disseminating information.

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