

Representing Ontario's Airports





The Airport Environment and You

From the Desk of the CEO

Up Next at AMCO

Scotty recently scraped his elbow which led him to ask to wear a t-shirt to daycare so he could “show his friends how he hurt himself.” It seems like such a little boy thing to do, but isn’t that sometimes how we all act? We get a little worse for wear and sometimes we need people to know what we are going through.

Airports are a little worse for wear these days and we are letting people know it! AMCO is working through several avenues to draw awareness to the plight of airports in Ontario and to demonstrate the importance of these vital community assets.

AMCO had a positive meeting with Ontario’s Transportation Minister Caroline Mulroney, where we asked for airports to be enshrined as critical infrastructure, for a provincial funding program, and for an avenue of continued conversation. We noted the value airports bring to healthcare, the economy, and natural resources amongst other things. We look forward to working more closely with the Minister’s office.

The federal TRAN committee report recently cited AMCO’s brief calling for increases to ACAP and supports for small airports to align with new regulatory standards. This committee heard AMCO (and others) and agrees that airports require support like the reinvestment of rents into the airport system and assistance for rural airports to fulfill their greatest potential.

We have been approached by a couple magazines to provide articles regarding the value of airports in Ontario. One focuses on the economic force of airports within local communities while another offered the opportunity to publish an article that many municipal politicians and staff will see.

AMCO plans to attend the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference and Trade Show alongside many local and provincial politicians to inform these decision makers about the value of local airports. We also have a new sponsorship opportunity available to help AMCO attend this event on your behalf – please ask for more details if you are interested in supporting this venture.

Finally, we invite everyone to attend the Spring Airfield Workshop on May 2-3 in Midland, ON where there will be speakers on many topics, including Improving Your Airport’s Public Image. We want you to know how to tell your story and demonstrate your value. Please register for this event soon!

Whether you need government financial support or are trying to demonstrate the value of your airport to the public, it is important to speak up. The time is right to use our voices and push for what we need.

Sincerely,

Laura McNeice
CEO, AMCO

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Welcome To CYEEs AMCO Workshop



Huronia Airport is very excited to host the AMCO 10th Annual Airfield Workshop in the Township of Tiny – the heart of Georgian Bay!

The area was first inhabited by the Huron people (or Ouendat as they called themselves) over 500 years ago and was the heartland of the Huron nation. In 1610, Samuel de Champlain sent Etienne Brûlé to live with the Huron to learn about their language and culture. Champlain journeyed to the area in 1615. In 1793, John Graves Simcoe recognized the area with the establishment of a naval base in Penetanguishene Bay.

Today the area is a thriving region offering numerous amenities as well as an array of recreational activities and tourist attractions. During your visit, explore some of the great places in the heart of Georgian Bay.

North Simcoe is also home to a wide range of parklands with playgrounds, baseball fields, tennis courts, linked pathways, and waterfront trails with picnic areas and benches with free parking. Numerous marinas and municipal town docks provide full services and boat launching facilities. There are great beaches, fishing areas, many local golf clubs, and inland lakes.

Whether this is your first time visiting the North Simcoe area or one of many visits, we encourage you to get out and experience the beauty of our community and the surrounding area. Discover unique and exciting attractions, events, and activities in and around North Simcoe.

During the workshop, you will listen to professional speakers from the airport industry. Quality Inn is the host venue for the workshop with an off-site event at the Huronia airport. To cap off the event, after just completing a major airfield lighting upgrade, we at CYEE are looking forward to providing a tour of our airfield and some of our tenants!

We look forward to finally seeing everyone in person, here in North Simcoe from May 2nd to 3rd for what is sure to be a Workshop to remember!

AMCO 10TH ANNUAL AIRFIELD WORKSHOP AT CYEE

EVENT

This year the workshop will hold a Small Airports and Aerodromes meeting on May 2nd with an all-members workshop on May 3rd. The workshop will hold seminars and provide networking opportunities! A tour of the Huronia Airport will conclude the event.

HOST

Huronia Airport is located 9.8km west of Midland. It is owned and operated by the Town of Midland, the Town of Penetanguishene, and the Township of Tiny. The Airport property contains approximately 350 acres of land and brings in a mix of aircraft. Regularly, there are recreational flights, charter flights, medical evacuations, training aircraft, and corporate aircraft throughout the year. The types and sizes of aircraft flying into the airport vary from small, single-engine to helicopters and jet aircraft.

Huronia Airport is a registered aerodrome in North Simcoe County. It is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can support aircraft flying in inclement weather situations. The airport can accommodate commercial and private aircraft that other airports in the area may not receive due to its existing infrastructure.

The airport's infrastructure benefits the region with the primary runway of approximately 3996 feet in length and 75 feet in width. The AMCO workshop will contribute to tourism directly by attracting people from all around Ontario to visit, stay, and explore North Simcoe.

North Simcoe is home to:

- ◆ Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons (Ontario's first European Community)
- ◆ Martyrs' Shrine
- ◆ Awenda Provincial Park
- ◆ Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre (Situated on 3,000 acres of National and Provincial Wildlife Area)
- ◆ Midland Harbour
- ◆ Balm Beach
- ◆ Midland Food Tours
- ◆ King's Wharf Theatre
- ◆ Discovery Harbour (Discovery Harbour traces its roots back to the original British naval and military base in Penetanguishene, built to safeguard access to Upper Canada after the War of 1812)
- ◆ Belle Eau Claire Beach



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CYEE would like to share a sincere "Thank You!" to AMCO's sponsors. It would not have been possible without you!

Toronto Pearson marks National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Original Article by CISION, Feb. 22, 2023

For full article click here

The Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA), operator of Toronto Pearson International Airport, is renewing its commitment to help fight human trafficking through its continued partnership with #NotInMyCity, an organization dedicated to preventing and ending human trafficking.

February 22 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Canada, and it provides an opportunity to bring attention to this important issue. Since partnering with #NotInMyCity last year, Toronto Pearson airport workers have been taking part in airport-specific training that gives them the skills to help spot the signs of human trafficking and also educates them on how to respond.

Human trafficking is one of the fastest-growing crimes in Canada, and 93% of reported victims are Canadian citizens who are trafficked domestically. Air transport is frequently used as a method of transport by traffickers, making airlines and airports ideally positioned to assist in the effort to defeat human trafficking.

"We know we have a role to play in disrupting human trafficking, as victims could be passing through our doors," says Dwayne MacIntosh, Director of Corporate Safety and Security at the GTAA. "Partnering with #NotInMyCity allows us to leverage their well-researched e-learning, along with their extensive expertise, and then provide that to our airport workers."

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US Military shoots down 'space object' in Lake Huron SW of Manitoulin

Original Article by Tom Sasvari, The Manitoulin Expositor, Feb. 15, 2023

[For full article click here](#)

An unidentified high-altitude object was shot down by the United States over Lake Huron this past Sunday, south of Manitoulin Island. The object was in US air space and was close to passing over the US-Canada border when it was brought down.

"It's pretty serious when they close airspace," said Robby Colwell, manager of the Gore Bay-Manitoulin Airport, which received notice at about 2:55 pm Sunday that airspace was closed south of Manitoulin Island. He said the only other time airspace has been closed for emergency purposes near Manitoulin was following the September 11, 2001 (9-11) terrorist attack in New York City and Washington, D.C.

At 11 am Monday, an observer at Michael's Bay reported seeing a US Coast Guard Hercules aircraft flying a pattern over Lake Huron, in all likelihood attempting to spot debris from the 'space object' the US military had shot down the previous afternoon.

The observer reported the aircraft was flying a northwest-southeast pattern with its northerly loops approximately 8-10 miles off Manitoulin between Michael's Bay and Square Bay.

Carol Hughes, MP for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing told The Expositor, "I'm not quite sure at this point what to make of all of it. It is concerning that these objects are there. But we will have to wait and see when they retrieve the materials."

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Swoop announces Atlantic Canada flights out of Hamilton for upcoming summer season

Original Article by Fallon Hewitt, Hamilton Spectator
Mar. 8, 2023
For full article click here

Hamiltonians looking to dip their toes in the Atlantic Ocean this summer will have two new flight options departing the city.

Swoop announced Monday that starting May 21, the low-cost airline will begin offering non-stop flights to Charlottetown, P.E.I., and Deer Lake, N.L., out of John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport.

The flights from Steeltown — which start at \$59 one way — will be offered until Sept. 3, according to a press release.

In the release, Swoop president Bob Cummings said the ultra low-cost carrier is proud to expand its footprint from coast to coast with its summertime flight schedule.



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Food is being served again at North Bay Airport

Original Article by Jaime McKee, CTV News Northern Ontario, Feb. 14, 2023
For full article click here

A new restaurant in North Bay has made the airport home. Flight Deck Cafe opened at the end of January at the Jack Garland Airport.

Sister duo Tracy Bissonnette and Shelley Dunsmore are running the café. It marks the first time in two years that airport staff and those awaiting a flight have had somewhere to eat.

"We just felt the time was right, we came together and took the chance and so far, so good," said Bissonnette.

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Northern Ontario airports seek funds to prevent fee hikes

Original Article by Kenneth Armstrong, SooToday, Mar. 22, 2023

For full article click [here](#)

Airports did their part during the height of the pandemic to slow the spread of COVID-19. Now, the senior management at four northern Ontario airports are asking the federal government to return the favour and continue to support them while the sector recovers.

Terry Bos, CEO of Sault Ste. Marie Airport, is among the four airport managers who recently signed a letter to federal cabinet ministers, titled: New Investment in Regional Air Transportation.

“It’s not a matter of disparity, the entire industry is hurting and left dangling throughout the pandemic. A lot of other countries provided cash assistance to airlines and airports. Our airlines never really got that support,” said Bos in a telephone interview.

The letter calls on Canada’s ministers of Tourism, FEDNOR and Transportation to ensure airports have the funding needed to continue recovering after the effects of the pandemic. It follows similar letters penned by provincial and national bodies that oversee airports in Canada.

This letter was signed by senior management at Sault Ste. Marie Airport, North Bay Airport, Greater Sudbury Airport and Timmins Airport.

“We just though we would take a chance, just the four of us in the northeast and see if we can get any traction or assistance,” said Bos.

Transportation Committee recommends Ottawa return airport fees to improve infrastructure

Original Publication by Open Jaw, Feb. 22, 2023

For more details click [here](#)

A report from the parliamentary Transport Committee is recommending Ottawa restructure a user-pay system that is holding airports back from necessary upgrades and improvements to operations.

Under the current system, the Globe reports, passenger fees added to fares provide the funds for airports to both operate and pay rent to the government.

That funding structure collapsed during the pandemic when travel came to a virtual stand-still.

A new report from the Transport Committee falls in line with the request of the Canadian Airports Council (CAC), and recommends that the government return rent payments to Canada's airports. The move would give airports additional funding to "upgrade terminals and runways without charging passengers ever-increasing amounts," the report says.

It adds that airports pay about \$400 million in rent every year to Ottawa. During the pandemic, airports were forced to borrow billions - and stop improvements. Once travel restarted, weaknesses created by reduced investments were exposed and operations struggled to cope.

The CAC isn't asking for rent relief forever. It says it wants rents to be reversed and reinvested for the next decade "to allow airports to make improvements to runways, terminals and technology systems, including better check-in procedures.

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Toronto's Billy Bishop airport ranked among the best in the world

Original Publication by Osobe Waberi, Now Toronto

Mar. 21, 2023

For more details click here

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport just got major bragging rights after ranking as one of the best regional airports in North America and in the world.

That's right, the tiny airport on Lake Ontario is steadily making noise all the while catching the attention of passengers.

Billy Bishop came 8th in the world's best airports category, with under five million passengers, according to Skytrax, an international air transit rating organization.

The airport also ranked in 9th place among the best airports in North America behind many other airports in the U.S. and Calgary, the other Canadian city that cracked the top 10.

Flight connectivity to jump

Original Publication by Sandi Krasowski, Wings Magazine, Mar. 18, 2023

For more details click here

The Thunder Bay International Airport passenger capacity numbers during this March break appear encouraging and could indicate what the airport will see through the year.

Airport manager Ed Schmidtke says they will see some of the best connectivity options Thunder Bay has had in recent memory.

"Westjet's expansion of service into Western Canada from Thunder Bay will significantly improve connectivity," he said. "Instead of one flight to Winnipeg, we have two a day to Winnipeg. And instead of zero flights to Calgary, we have seasonal service to Calgary three times a week. These are significant votes of confidence by WestJet in the local market to fill seats to Western Canada."

London International Airport announces new flight to B.C. taking off this spring

Original Publication by Amy Simon, Global News, Mar. 7, 2023

For more details click here

The London International Airport is adding some additional flights ahead of its summer lineup with new routes to British Columbia set to take the skies this spring.

Beginning May 22, Swoop will launch two non-stop services per week from London to Abbotsford, B.C., on Fridays and Sundays. The airport says that the flights will increase to four per week starting on June 26.

“The London International Airport is thrilled to announce non-stop service to beautiful Abbotsford, British Columbia with Swoop this summer,” said Scott McFadzean, president and CEO of the London International Airport.

Bob Cummings, president of Swoop, added that “as Canada’s leading ultra-not-expensive airline, we’re proud to be expanding service this summer from London International Airport to Abbotsford International Airport.”

“Affordability, accessibility, and convenience are a key focus as our ultra-not-expensive flights enable more Canadians to explore from coast to coast,” he said.

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Federal budget 2023: Ottawa moves to strengthen air passenger rights after 'unacceptable' flight delays, airport chaos

Original Article by Sean Silcoff, Globe and Mail, Mar. 28, 2023.

For full article click here

The federal government promised in its 2023 budget to address “unacceptable flight delays, long lineups at airports, and mishandled baggage” that affected Canadians last year by strengthening the rights of passengers and improving their experience at airports.

The budget proposes \$1.8-billion over five years to the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA) to maintain and increase service levels, improve screening wait times and strengthen airport security measures. The budget also proposes legislative changes that will require sharing and reporting of data by airports and airlines to reduce delays and improve co-ordination. Transport Canada will get \$5.2-million over five years to collect and analyze air-sector performance data.

To help pay for the CATSA funding, the government said it would increase the security charge levied on air travellers by 32.85 per cent starting May 1, 2024. Fees for a one-way domestic flight will rise to \$9.94 from \$7.48; for an international flight, they will increase to \$34.42 from \$25.91. It's the first time since 2010 that the government has raised the fee.

The government said it would amend the Canada Transportation Act to beef up airline obligations to compensate passengers for delays and cancellations.

The advertisement features a dark background with the OCTANT logo at the top, consisting of a stylized white 'A' shape above the word 'OCTANT'. Below the logo, the text 'On-Site Services & Training for your Airport!' is displayed in a light blue font. Four circular icons represent different services: 'SMS & Human Factors Training' (two people), 'SMS & Airside Audit' (airplane), 'Airport Emergency Response' (ambulance), and 'TP312' (document). A white button with the text 'And much more ...' is positioned below the icons. At the bottom, a photograph shows a man in a high-visibility orange vest and cap standing on an airfield. The OCTANT logo is visible on his vest. Below the photo, the text 'Please check us out on <https://octantaviation.ca/en/>' is followed by Facebook and LinkedIn social media icons.

Porter launches direct flights to Ottawa

Original Article by Leith Dunick, TB NewsWatch, Mar.27, 2023

For full article click here

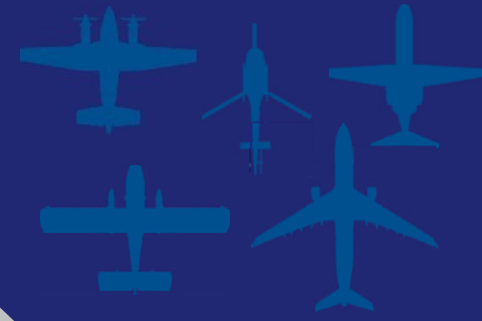
Access to the nation's capital is now a direct flight away for Thunder Bay travellers.

Porter Airlines on Monday launched its new Thunder Bay-to-Ottawa route, a twice-daily flight that provides passengers with more options into and out of the city, and an expanded network of connections to destinations far and wide.

It was one of three new routes introduced by Porter out of Ottawa International Airport, a list that includes a daily flight to Boston and two flights a day to New York City, via Newark, N.J.



Airport Management Council of Ontario



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