

# Airport Management **Council of Ontario**

Sept/Oct 2021







# Airport Management

Sept/Oct 2021

Volume 10, Issue 5

The Airport Environment and You

## From the Desk of the Executive Director

### **Up Next at AMCO**

My son, Scotty, keeps reminding me that we are "in fall—because the leaves are falling!". While he is absolutely correct, I'm not entirely sure how we got here! This year has flown by—feeling very much the same as last year with a myriad of lockdowns and unending restrictions. However, we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel with airports finally starting to see a return of passengers.

AMCO was fortunate to be able to hold our 35th Annual Convention and Trade Show in Sault Ste. Marie at the beginning of this month. It was a great time to get together in person to learn from speakers, see new products and network with each other. Sessions included presentations from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, Explorer Solutions, The Loomex Group, Thunder Bay International Airport Authority, Intervistas, NAV Canada and Transport Canada.

This event is made possible each year by our host and sponsors. A big thank you to the Sault Ste. Marie Airport Development Corporation for hosting us and being a huge help during the planning process. A special mention goes to Avia NG who has been the Presenting Sponsor of this event for the past 3 years and supports the association throughout the year.

Thanks also goes to the following sponsors:

Sault Ste. Marie Airport Development Airport Corporation, Precise ParkLink, WSP, St. Andrew's Airport, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Tradewind Scientific, London Airport, Airlines Pavement Markings, Tetra Tech, Avjet Holdings Inc., The Loomex Group and Denso.

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We are so grateful for everyone that was able to attend and look forward to holding next year's event in Kingston!

While the holiday has passed, I hope you had a happy and blessed Thanksgiving with family, friends and lots of food!

Best Wishes,

Laura McNeice,
Executive Director, AMCO

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## Waterloo Airport General Manager Elected President of the Airport Management Council of Ontario

Original Press Release, Oct. 8, 2021

Waterloo Region, ON – Region of Waterloo International Airport (YKF)'s General Manager, Chris Wood was elected President of the Airport Management Council of Ontario (AMCO) at their annual conference in Sault Ste. Marie this week. This is a two-year volunteer position with AMCO, which represents the interests of Ontario's



airports and aerodromes, and promotes safety and efficiency.

"I am humbled to be elected President of such an outstanding organization," commented Chris Wood, General Manager of the Region of Waterloo International Airport. "I've been an active member of the AMCO board of directors since 2015, and I'm looking forward to leading the organization as our industry recovers from the pandemic."

Chris Wood served as Southwest Regional Director from 2015-2018, and in 2019 was elected Vice President. Elections are held at the Annual General Meeting, which takes place during the Annual Convention and Trade Show. This year marks the 35th Convention and Trade Show, which was held October 3-6 in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

The board is made up of four executive positions – Past President, President, Vice President and Treasurer, as well as four regional directors. The President is elected for a two-year term, with a two-term limit.

This position provides a beneficial connection for YKF as a leader in the industry and a world-class organization. Chris Wood has been the general manager of YKF since 2009 and is currently leading the airport's expansion project, which will double the size of the current terminal building and staff.

As the senior advocate of airport owner and operator organizations in Canada, AMCO has evolved into a strong provincial organization committed to sustainability of airports nationally. Incorporated in 1985, AMCO's aims are to represent the interests of the owners and/or operators of airports and aerodromes in the province of Ontario, and to promote the safe and efficient operation of those airports.

### Vice President & Treasurer of AMCO Elected

The Treasurer and Vice President's positions were also filled at this year's Annual General Meeting of the Airport Management Council of Ontario.

Terry Bos, President and CEO of the Sault Ste. Marie Airport Development Corporation leaves his position as Treasurer and moves into the Vice President's role. He continues to serve on the board after beginning in the President's role in 2011, Terry provides great insight and support for the association.

Michael Antle, Director, Airport Operations and Planning for the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport has been elected as Treasurer. New to the board of directors, Michael will bring a fresh perspective and new ideas to the Airport Management Council of Ontario.

The AMCO Board of Directors looks forward to continuing to serve the membership!

# DHL opens new \$100M facility at Hamilton's International Airport

Original Article by Don Mitchell, Global News, Sept. 29, 2021 For full article click here

German-based shipping company DHL opened the doors Tuesday to its new \$100 million facility at the John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport. The 240,000 square foot building is about four times the size of the previous home for the shipper and features a fully automated sorting system with a capacity of processing 28,000 packages per hour. "It just gives us real flexibility to grow into the future and anchors our Canadian infrastructure in Hamilton to support growth for years to come," said Darryl Wettlaufer, vice president of operations for DHL Express Canada, on 900 CHML's Good Morning Hamilton.

Wettlaufer said key pieces like the airport's 24-hour landing capability and dedicated Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) staff on site were paramount in DHL's decision to build the Hamilton facility and make it the company's hub for Ontario.

# Thunder Bay Airport Authority pleased with brand new fire trucks

Original Article by Justin Hardy, tbnewswatch.com, Aug. 15, 2021 For full article click here

The Thunder Bay Airport Authority crew members are more than pleased with the two new state-of-the-art Rosenbauer Panther fire trucks that will replace their old Oshkosh trucks from 1994.

"Fire trucks have completely changed in design over the last 20 years, so we're extremely excited to be receiving these pieces of equipment," said Ryan Brading, manager of airport services,

"We didn't expect these trucks to deliver the power that they deliver compared to our old units, we're very impressed and satisfied with this equipment."

The trucks both feature a water capacity of 6,800 litres and the roof turrets are able to pump out 3,000 litres a minute when set to high-flow. The trucks also have FLIR thermal imaging cameras installed as well as FLEXILIGHT light towers which provide an exceptionally bright light to aid emergency service workers when providing services at night.





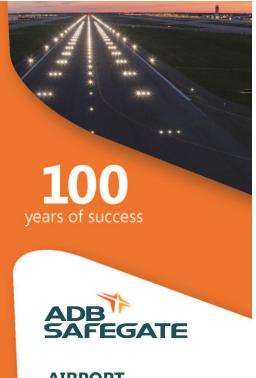
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### AIRPORT PERFORMANCE

How we make it happen

## Porter Flights Resume At Windsor International Airport

Original Article by Aaron Mahoney, AM800, Oct. 6, 2021 For full article click here

Porter Airlines flights resume at Windsor International Airport today.

The airline will have a reduced schedule to start.

They'll be offering two flights per day to Toronto's Billy Bishop Airport, the first departing around 10 a.m. and the other around 6 p.m.

From there, passengers can connect into the airline's network.

Speaking on AM800's Morning Drive, Airport Chief Executive Officer Mark Galvin says today is a great day.

"Today is their restart, they're starting with two flights obviously we hope that grows to more as we move through this recovery, which is taking some time but we're seeing some signs of it ending and again it's a great day for us and a great day for Porter," he continued. "We welcome them back, they've been just a fantastic partner for Windsor and Essex County and the region."

Galvin says they've seen a demand since the airport re-opened, which they hope continues.

### Regional airport's runway widening completed ahead of schedule

Original Article by OrilliaMatters Staff, Sept. 20, 2021 For full article click here

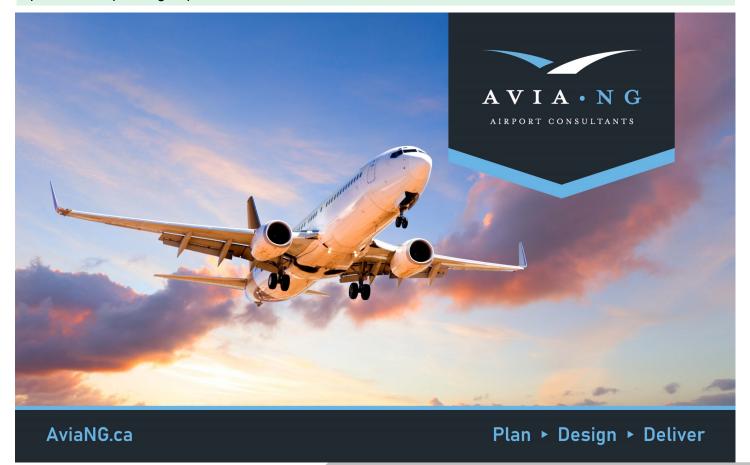
The county continues to invest in the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport (LSRA) and recently completed phase one of a multi-phase runway expansion project.

The widening of the runway from 100 to 150 feet, combined with other airport service upgrades, including LED high intensity runway lighting, machinery and infrastructure enhancements, are the latest steps in an extensive \$60-million Strategic Plan designed to enhance the LSRA as a key economic asset for the region.

The county's Airport Development Strategy focuses on making improvements to attract and sustain growth in corporate services, while supporting growing demand from our area businesses to utilize the airport for shipments of goods and services around the world.

The county's early completion of its runway-widening project allowed for early reinstatement of Canada Border Services. Construction was completed approximately four months ahead of schedule, just as the LSRA was chosen by Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to be one of a select few airports to have its CBSA clearance status reinstated, allowing international flights to resume in and out of the LSRA following all COVID safety protocols.

Since becoming the majority shareholder in 2019, the county's financial investment and future commitment has propelled LSRA's competitive position and secured new opportunities in advanced manufacturing and aerospace, including strategic collaboration with Volatus Aerospace, MediCA Park and the Oro Station Sports Development group.



The Airport Environment and You

# Kingston, Ont. airport still looking for carrier service

Original Article by Paul Soucy, Global News, Oct. 7, 2021 For full article click here

It's been a while since Kingston's Norman Rogers Airport has seen any significant foot traffic.

In March of 2020, the city's only air carrier, Air Canada, cancelled service to the Limestone City.

And other than a short stint with charter company Fly GTA, there haven't been many planes flying out of Kingston's airport.

"It's had a huge impact on the airport since that time," airport manager Aron Winterstein said. "We haven't had scheduled service and it's been hard."

Air Canada left just as the pandemic was beginning.

And Winterstein says it's because of the pandemic that finding a new partner has taken so long.

"As COVID evolves, it's very volatile for the air carriers. And there's not a lot of appetite for taking risk," Winterstein said. "So there's got to be some certainty in the path going forward."

The lack of a commercial carrier has also affected the number of people employed at the airport. Prior to Air Canada leaving, there were 25 full-time positions; now that number has shrunk to only two.





# New management for Tillsonburg Regional Airport

Original Article by Chris Abbott, Stratford Beacon Herald, Sept. 20, 2021 For full article click here

The Tillsonburg Regional Airport is under new management.

The airport, owned and operated by the Town of Tillsonburg, which is advised by the Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee, is home to 74 aircraft stored in 26 stand-alone hangars, and two buildings of 10, and four T-hangars. An air terminal building houses the airport administration office, SkyWay Café, boardroom, washrooms and leasable space currently occupied by the Tillsonburg Flying School.

Carlos Reyes, director of Operations and Development, submitted a report to town council stating the airport "primarily serves flight training providers, private and corporate aircraft owners and operators, charters and aerial work activities and flying clubs and gliders."

On Aug. 18, airport administrator Annette Murray announced her retirement after 17 years working for the town. In addition, a part-time attendant also resigned effective Sept. 3.

As part of its investigations for the 2021 Tillsonburg Regional Airport Master Plan, town staff requested proposals from two companies that provide airport management services in Ontario.

## Fly-in draws a crowd to Sarnia's airport

Original Article by Tyler Kula, The Observer, Aug. 16, 2021 For full article click here

There was a buzz of plane rotors as pilots flew in and took off at the general aviation ramps and hangars at Sarnia's Chris Hadfield Airport Saturday.

About 100 pilots, some from as far as Sault Ste. Marie, brought their aircraft for a fly-in to support the beleaguered airport, which has been faced with a potential sale by the city – though a \$1.9-million federal cash injection Friday to improve the 1950s-built asset came as welcome news to many.

"It's been going wonderful," said Mark Seibutis with event-organizing Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA) Flight 7 about the show of support from pilots Saturday. "They believe in keeping airports open and general aviation involved in it."

One of the visiting pilots was Tom Moore from Peterborough.

It was his first time at Sarnia's airport, he said, adding he made the decision to come to try to persuade city council to not sell the airport.

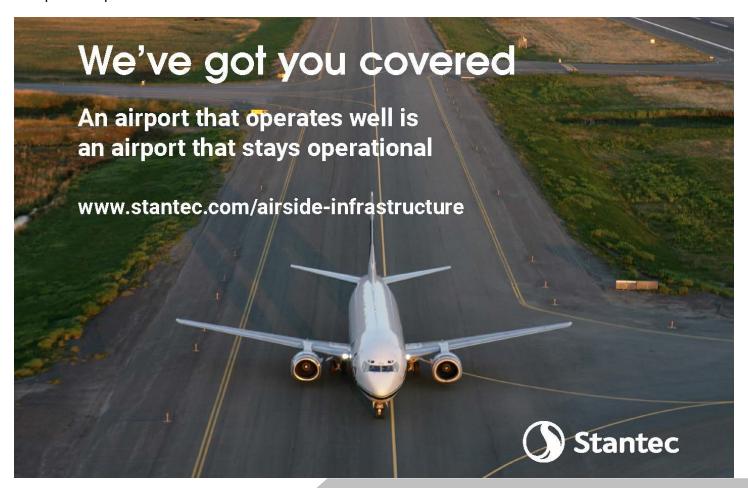
"They (COPA) were hoping a good showing would convince them," he said.

Council approved \$360,000 this year to continue operations at the airport that lost Air Canada commercial service in 2020 and saw about an 80 percent drop in revenue.

That revenue drop prompted an economic development report last September recommending the asset be sold.

A working group of community members was formed instead to come up with ideas to make the operation more viable and is trying to find replacement air service, city economic development director Kelly Provost has said.

A report is expected this fall.





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# Georgian Bluffs Accepting Purchase Offers For Wiarton Keppel International Airport Until October 14

Original Article by Matt Hermiz, bayshore broadcasting, Oct. 8, 2021 For full article click here

Georgian Bluffs will be accepting offers to purchase the Wiarton Keppel International Airport and its lands until Oct. 14.

Township council accepted a report on the airport sale for information at its meeting on Wednesday and officially approved a bylaw to allow the sale process to move ahead. The airport will continue to operate normally during the sale period.

Georgian Bluffs council declared the airport surplus in September, just over six years after it purchased the property and its facilities from South Bruce Peninsula for \$600,000.

Georgian Bluffs clerk and interim Chief Administrative Officer Brittany Drury says council has not established parameters for the sale of the airport, therefore any and all offers to purchase it are being accepted until Oct. 14.

# Commercial service at Billy Bishop airport back up and running after 18-month shutdown

Original Article by CBCNews, Sept. 8, 2021
For full article click here

Commercial service at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is back after an 18-month pause due to the pandemic.

"To say that this is a momentous day is probably an understatement," said Geoffrey Wilson, the CEO for PortsToronto, the agency that owns and operates Billy Bishop.

Toronto Mayor John Tory was also on hand for the occasion, calling the reopening a sign of hope and a reason for optimism.

"We are making progress along that path towards a more normal life," Tory said.

Wilson also said the restart date of Sept. 8 was particularly significant because it's the 82nd anniversary of the first commercial flight ever to arrive at Toronto's island airport.

# Mission Aviation Fellowship crew, plane makes stop at Gore Bay Manitoulin Airport

Original Article by Tom Sasvari, The Manitoulin Expositor, Oct. 13, 2021

For full article click here

Members of the Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) made a stop on a trip around British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario to fuel up a brand-new Cessna 208EX Grand Caravan plane at the Gore Bay Manitoulin Airport on Thursday of last week.

"The Mission Aviation Fellowship has been around for over 80 years" Alex Henderson, vice-president development of MAF told The Expositor. He was on the flight along with Lowell Deering, MAF vice president of operations and pilot of the plane, Ray Snaith, second pilot and manager of recruiting, as well as Michelle Menard, event coordinator for MAF. "MAF is the

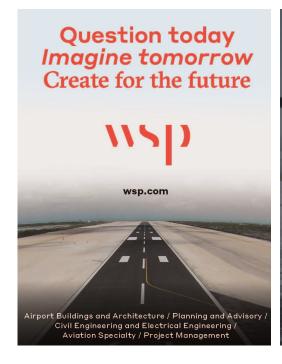
largest private fleet aircraft in the world, having about 140 planes. We operate in 30 countries worldwide and have flown to more destinations than the top three airlines in the world (2,500)."

. . .

"This new plane will be flown to Africa in January or February," said Mr. Henderson. He explained the plane "can hold a medical team, and equipment and supplies like stretchers, plywood and other provisions. It is the truck of planes."

As for the MAF crews stop at the Gore Bay-Manitoulin Airport last week, Mr. Henderson said, "this is the first time we have been on Manitoulin and this airport. It's absolutely beautiful."









## Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory's woodlot won't be cut down

Original Article by Leah Gerber, The Record, Sept. 30, 2021 For full article click here

The woodlot at the Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory will not be cut down to make way for a runway expansion.

This month the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada published a summary of concerns received about the region's proposal to expand Region of Waterloo International Airport's runway 14-32.

The 40-page report laid out 69 concerns and the region's plans to address them. Included in the concerns was that a large portion of a nearby woodlot on the property of the Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory would need to be cut down for the runway's extended flight path.

After hearing the concerns, Region of Waterloo staff worked with their consultant, air carrier partners and airport users to find a solution acceptable to everyone, says Chris Wood, the airport's general manager.

"The impact assessment I believe worked. We heard from folks, we heard from neighbours and we heard from other interested parties about specifically the impact on Kossuth Road to some trees and to some wetlands, so that really prompted us to go back to the drawing board," says Wood.

The preferred solution was to ask Transport Canada for an exemption to the runway's approach slope regulations. The exemption has been granted. This means planes coming into the airport on that runway will have a steeper approach. Wood says there is no safety issue with this exemption.

## Passenger traffic at Sault Ste. Marie Airport is increasing steadily

Original Article by Staff, SooToday.com, Oct. 13, 2021

For full article click here

Airport passenger traffic in September is up from numbers in August.

This means that the last three months have shown the highest levels in the past 18 months.

Though there are fewer flight options for passengers, and passenger numbers are still down 61 per cent from October 2019, Terry Bos, president and CEO of Sault Ste. Marie Airport Development Corporation (SSMADC) is optimistic.

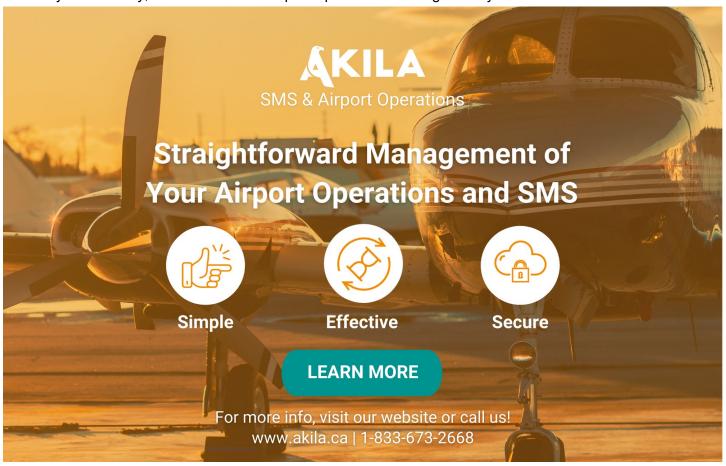
"The airline schedules are nearing a return to normal levels however, passenger levels still have a long way to go to return to those levels."

Bos said in a press release from SSMADC that the market will tell if flight options remain the same or decrease, as passenger levels become clearer.

"If passenger levels take off then there should be enough support to maintain the expanded flight schedule."

Porter returned to service Sault Ste. Marie in October, with two flights Sunday to Friday, and one flight on Saturday.

Bearskin Airlines provides two flights on Sundays, five flights daily Monday and Friday, and six flights Tuesday to Thursday, while Air Canada Express provides three flights daily.





# Airport Management Council of Ontario

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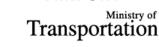
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The Airport Management Council of Ontario was formed to represent the interests of airport owners and operators. The AMCO Newsletter, The Airport Environment and You, is distributed to members and the airport industry at large.

#### Contributions can be sent to: amco@amco.on.ca

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