

July 6, 2016

To Jan De Silva and the Toronto Region Board of Trade,

Re: Report - Collaboration, Connectivity and Competitiveness

As airports serving Southern Ontario, we applaud the Toronto Region Board of Trade for its recently published report, ***Collaboration, Connectivity and Competitiveness***. We strongly support the report's recommendations, which aim to ensure Southern Ontario airports continue to serve as valuable economic drivers for the region through the creation of a coordinated, regional system of airports.

As more and more people choose to visit, do business and settle in Southern Ontario, the demand for air services increases, and the need to make sure that our region's airports can accommodate this growth is paramount. It is estimated that by the mid-2040s, Southern Ontario will be home to 15.5 million people, with a GDP greater than \$1 trillion. This growth provides immense opportunities for the region; however, it also brings new challenges, some specifically to the aviation industry.

Within the next three decades, air travel in Southern Ontario is expected to grow by more than 50 per cent to 90 million passengers annually. The region is fortunate to have a network of well-run local airports, including Toronto Pearson, the largest airport in Canada which is increasingly becoming one of the world's more important international hubs. Even with currently planned expansion, the region's airport system approaches capacity at about 70 million passengers annually, leaving a gap of about 20 million passengers a year. This projected capacity gap means that airports could potentially act as a barrier to long-term growth in Southern Ontario, unable to provide adequate movement of people and goods at pace with demand.

Together, we have taken up the Board's challenge and have begun to take steps to develop a proactive plan to accommodate the forecasted growth. We are pleased to share that since the Aviation Summit in February, 10 airports from Kingston to Windsor have come together to discuss how we can maximize the efficiency of the region's airport infrastructure and allow for increased capacity. Right now, we're working together to determine the unique role each airport can play in a regional airport system while continuing to bring benefits to its local community. A coordinated plan will allow our airports and communities to win individually, which means as a system of airports we win, and overall, Southern Ontario wins. We look forward to sharing more updates as we reach milestones of this collaborative effort.

We are encouraged by Toronto Region Board of Trade's active leadership in advancing this important initiative, and we look forward to working together to support the future economic prosperity of Southern Ontario.

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TORONTO CITY
AIRPORT

John C. Hesse
HAMILTON
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Kingston
Airport

LakeSimcoe
Regional Airport

London
International
start here. go anywhere.

NIAGARA DISTRICT
AIRPORT
gateway to the peninsula

Oshawa
Executive Airport

Peterborough Airport

Toronto Pearson

Region of Waterloo
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT