

The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Transport
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6

April 15, 2019

Dear Minister Garneau:

The last three months have been a busy time at PortsToronto and we wanted to provide you with an update on some of the key files and projects that we have been working on. In addition, we are pleased to share some of our recent successes with you as they relate to Billy Bishop Airport and the Port of Toronto. As always, we would like to acknowledge the guidance provided by the Transport Canada team in supporting us on many of these important initiatives.

Further, with the Airport Master Plan set to be released in the next few months, we would appreciate the opportunity to brief you and your staff on the document at some point over the coming weeks. My office will be in touch soon to make arrangements.

Below are some of our organization's key updates:

First Nations Engagement

Since 2014 PortsToronto has worked to cultivate a relationship with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations community. This has included working with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations on such projects as an archaeological examination of airport lands in preparation of the commencement of work on the Ground Run-up Enclosure.

In recent months this relationship has developed even further. On April 5, PortsToronto's senior management team and Board of Directors travelled to Hagersville, Ontario, to meet with Chief Stacey Laforme and the Council. Coming out of this meeting we have agreed to draft a Memo of Understanding (MOU) to formalize a working partnership and identify projects of mutual interest.

Mark Laforme, who heads the Department of Consultation and Accommodation on behalf of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations, and PortsToronto's Manager of Infrastructure and the Environment, Angela Homewood, travelled to Ottawa on April 9, to present to the Association of Canadian Port Authorities (ACPA) on best practices for engagement with First Nations communities and to share the positive experiences we have shared to date. We are immensely proud of this relationship and are excited about the opportunity to enter into an MOU and expand upon our positive relationship.

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Plans to Convert the Airport Ferry to Electric-Power

In the coming weeks, we will announce plans to convert the *Marilyn Bell I*, Billy Bishop Airport's passenger and car ferry, to electric power. This innovative retrofit represents a unique technological advancement in the airport's fleet as the new vessel will be the first 100 per cent electric lithium-ion powered ferry in service in Canada. The vessel's propulsion system will be entirely powered by battery and fueled by 100 per cent Bullfrog Power® renewable electricity, enabling the electric-ferry to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the airport's ferry operation by 100 per cent. In addition, the electric-ferry will further complement the airport's award-winning Noise Management Program as the vessel will cross the Western Gap on electric power, dramatically reducing noise from ferry operations. This leading-edge transportation infrastructure initiative will reduce PortsToronto's overall emissions by 30 per cent – which is a significant contribution toward our organization's environmental objectives and in support of the Canadian Government's 2030 emission reduction target.

Three Canadian companies who share PortsToronto's vision for sustainable operations have been selected to collaborate on completing the ferry retrofit: Canal Marine (St. Catharines, Ontario), Concept Naval (Quebec) and E.Y.E Marine Consultants (Bedford, Nova Scotia) have been selected for the project.

Second Annual Airport Sustainability Report

Following the publication of PortsToronto's annual Sustainability Report in March, we have now released our second-annual Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport Sustainability Report which highlights our environmental efforts, responsible operations and community engagement. The report is available in both official languages and is available for your reference [here](#).

Billy Bishop Airport Recognized with Environmental and Global Awards

Earlier this month, Billy Bishop Airport won the Airports Council International (ACI-NA) **Environmental Achievement Award for Best Innovative Project** in North America for the airport's successful implementation of the three-year Airfield Rehabilitation Program. This is the second time in three years we have won an Environmental Award from ACI-NA.

In addition, the airport won two passenger awards last month including being named one of the world's best airports by **Skytrax World Airport Awards** in the under 5 million passenger category. This is the sixth time that Billy Bishop Airport has been recognized in the prestigious Skytrax global survey voted on by more than 14 million passengers around the world. Billy Bishop Airport also made PrivateFly's top ten list for **Most Scenic Airport Approaches** in the world for the fifth consecutive year.

Community Engagement & Master Plan for Billy Bishop Airport

The 2018 Master Plan for Billy Bishop Airport is set to be released in the next few months with plans to begin agency and community stakeholder briefings in May. As you are aware, the planning process for the Billy Bishop Airport Master Plan began in January 2018 with a comprehensive public consultation process. To date, meetings with more than 600 people and 70 groups have been held, including elected officials from all levels of government, agencies and First Nations, neighbourhood and community associations, airport stakeholders and the general public. In addition, two public meetings have been held with the third and final meeting scheduled for late May.

Another Record Year for the Port of Toronto

The Port of Toronto moved approximately 2.2 million metric tonnes of cargo in 2018, representing another strong year in marine imports for the port. Last year, 178 ships visited the Port of Toronto, bringing sugar, road salt, cement, aggregate and steel directly into the heart of the city. Overall the port moved 2,179,795 metric tonnes of cargo, surpassing the record-breaking year the port experienced in 2017. This represents the third year in the last five years that the Port of Toronto has moved in excess of 2 million metric tonnes of cargo.

The port also welcomed 17 passenger cruise ships carrying approximately 6,000 passengers in 2018, highlighting the importance of the ever-growing Great Lakes cruise ship business and the role it plays in contributing to Toronto's booming tourism industry. The port is expecting this number to more than double this year with 35 cruise ships coming to Toronto in the summer and fall of 2019.

Looking Forward

Looking forward, we are excited to hold our Annual General Meeting on June 21, and anticipate a busy summer related to the Master Plan and our transportation operations.

Finally, and of critical importance to Toronto and Canada, we are also hoping to finalize US Pre-Clearance facilities at Billy Bishop Airport this spring and look forward to making a strong public and media announcement with your participation and guidance.

We will contact your office to schedule a briefing on the Master Plan as indicated above.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Wilson
Chief Executive Officer



Robert Poirier
Chair of the Board

Cc: Marc Roy, Chief of Staff, Transport
Christopher Berzins, Director of Policy and Parliamentary Affairs, Transport
Emilie Simard, Director of Communications, Transport
Miled Hill, Air Policy & Public Appointments, Transport
Jean Proulx, Policy Advisor, Transport