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<u>PITT MEADOWS REGIONAL AIRPORT AWARDED 520,000 DOLLARS GRANT FROM B.C. AIR</u> <u>ACCESS PROGRAM FOR THE REPLACEMENT AND UPGRADE OF THE BAYNES ROAD CULVERT</u> <u>AND PERIMETER FENCING.</u>



Pitt Meadows Regional Airport – April 2, 2024

A request for grant funding from the Pitt Meadows Regional Airport to the province for financial contribution under the British Columbia Air Access Program (BCAAP) to assist with the replacement and upgrade costs of the Baynes Road culvert and perimeter fencing, has been awarded by the province to the airport for a sum of 520,000 dollars.

"I commend the YPK Administration team for their pivotal role in obtaining this significant funding from the BC Air Access Program," says Mark Roberts, President of the Pitt Meadows Airport Society Board and CAO of the City of Pitt Meadows. "This considerable investment helps maintain important airport infrastructure, continues to enhance the quality of our airport, and ensures its economic contribution to the region."

BCAAP is a cost sharing partnership between the province and community airports which allows for much needed safety and infrastructure upgrades and rehabilitation. Without a newly constructed entrance / culvert crossing over the large ditch to east side lands, the airport is unable to maintain current ODAL and lighting infrastructure which is extremely important for ongoing flight safety. Also, emergency first responders will not have appropriate access should an aircraft / pilot require emergency services resulting from an accident / incident. In addition, PMAS also requires the rehabilitation and completion of the perimeter airside safety fencing that surrounds the airfield separating groundside from airside. A significant portion of the current airside safety fencing is dilapidated, and time worn. The rehabilitation and completion of this fencing project is much needed and will help to achieve the foremost airport safety objective of maintaining a safe daytime and nighttime ground maneuvering environment for all operating aircraft.

The Pitt Meadows Airport Society is making significant investment into the rehabilitation and upgrade of current infrastructure at the Pitt Meadows Regional Airport. The Airport is an emerging "centre of aviation excellence" within the provincial landscape. Pitt Meadows Regional Airport is dynamically working towards strengthening its reputation as a business-friendly community airport. It is a major contributor to the growing strength and diversification of the aviation and aerospace industry in British Columbia, providing significant economic benefits and employment opportunities to the community at large. The airport benefits from several unique business advantages and is well positioned to take advantage of the anticipated growth within the aerospace industry on a regional, national, and global front.

"Previous investment from BC Air Access has allowed for significant runway and taxiway upgrades and rehabilitation which has enabled YPK to maintain its business advantage and attract new aviation development opportunities," says Scott Hartman, YPK board member and CAO at the City of Maple Ridge. "I'm pleased to see that YPK has received this new grant to support safety upgrades to the airport's perimeter."

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