



ACAA Members Meeting

Wednesday, November 6th & 7th 2024 | 2:05–3:35pm AST

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Minutes

Attendees:

Rex Goudie, Goose Bay Regional Airport
Doug Newson, Charlottetown Airport Authority
Joyce Carter, Halifax International Airport Authority
Johanne Gallant, Fredericton International Airport
Dennis Hogan, St. John's International Airport
Reg Wright, Gander International Airport
Lew Short, Stephenville Dymond International Airport
Courtney Burns, Greater Moncton Romeo LeBlanc Airport
Tammy Priddle, Deer Lake Regional Airport
Greg Heirlihy, Bathurst Regional Airport & Saint John Airport
Myles Tuttle, J Douglas McCurdy Sydney Airport
Nadia MacDonald, Atlantic Canada Airports Association
Dan Kumpf, Transport Canada
Jen McKinley, Transport Canada
Bonnie Rankin, Government of Nova Scotia
Marianne Etter, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Paul Godfrey, Government of Prince Edward Island
Carol-Ann Gillard, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Marie Manning, Halifax International Airport Authority
Jacques Fournier, Fredericton International Airport

Regrets:

Monia Cyr, Charlo Regional Airport
Sandy Ross, Saint John Airport
Jamie Degrace, Saint John Airport
Greg Shay, Yarmouth Regional Airport
Jim Doyle, Government of New Brunswick
Peter Belding, Government of New Brunswick

Guests

Andrew Pierce, Vice President, Network Planning and Reporting, Porter Airlines
Monette Pasher, President, Canadian Airport Council

1. Adoption of the November 6th & 7th 2024 Board Agenda

- It was moved by Courtney Burns and seconded by Joyce Carter that the November 6th & 7th, 2024 board agenda be approved as presented... motion carried.

2. Approval of the June 19th, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

- It was moved by Dennis Hogan and seconded by Rex Goudie that the June 19th, 2024 board meeting minutes be approved as presented... motion carried.

3. ACAA Marketing & Advocacy Update

- Nadia provided an update on recent advocacy efforts, including participation in Airports on the Hill, contributions to the regional economic impact study, and representation of ACAA at the Aviation Day in Canada conference. She also shared outcomes from meetings held in Ottawa with Conservative MPs and the federal Minister of Tourism.
- Additionally, she briefed the members on the association's recent CTA submission and ongoing engagement with the Council of Atlantic Premiers.
- Nadia outlined marketing and air service development activities, including recent and upcoming participation in Routes World, Routes Americas, and Routes Europe. Planning is now underway for Altitude East 2025, to be held in Charlottetown, PEI.

4. Canadian Airports Council Update

- Monette Pasher provided an update on several key national advocacy files, including updates on ARFF requirements, progress on accessibility initiatives, regional connectivity priorities, and the recent Competition Bureau submission.

5. Porter Airlines

- Andrew shared Porter Airlines' growth strategy for Atlantic Canada, including updates on the transition from Q400 aircraft to jets and the resulting impact on regional connectivity. He discussed strategic partnerships such as Pascan Airlines and provided updates on St. Hubert Airport and Ottawa Airport, outlining the role each plays in Porter's expansion plans in the region.

6. Round Table Discussion- Government Partners and Stakeholders

- The group discussed the opportunities and challenges with air access in Atlantic Canada and each shared an update from their respective departments.
- The CEOs shared updates from their respective airports as well as how their summer traffic compared to 2019 and the outlook for the coming year.

7. AI in Aviation: Evolution of Data & Analytics and the role of AI

- Craig Paul, Vice President of Technology & Innovation, and Ryan Garnet, Senior Manager of Business Solutions at Halifax International Airport Authority (HIAA), shared insights on how AI is transforming the aviation industry and highlighted current initiatives at HIAA. They discussed the evolution of data and analytics in airport operations, demonstrated how AI is enhancing efficiency and the passenger experience, and explored future applications aimed at further elevating customer service.

8. CAP Update

- Doug updated the group on where we are in the process with the Council of Atlantic Premiers, the current landscape, and next steps.

9. Open Discussion

- Members engaged in an open discussion on a few key operational priorities, including current cybersecurity measures in place at their airports and the status of planned tabletop exercises to enhance preparedness and response capabilities.

Next Meeting- June 17th, 2025-Altitude East, Charlottetown, PE