



OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

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The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez
Minister of Transport
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
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Via: TC.MinisterofTransport-MinistredesTransports.TC@tc.gc.ca

January 31, 2024

Dear Minister Rodriguez,

We write to ask for your ministry's support in helping municipalities understand better how we can contribute to addressing the challenges facing the aviation industry. Prince George is home to YXS, a small international airport, the importance of which cannot be understated to the regional economy. As such we are interested in doing all we can as a good partner, within our means and mandate, to support this critical service.

We understand Transport Canada is working with the Air Transport Association of Canada, the Canadian Council of Aerospace and Aviation, and Employment and Social Development Canada to address barriers for Canadian students related to the general high cost of training. To this end we have written to the British Columbian, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills to ask that their ministry be proactive, and collaborative, in the alignment of its own grant and aid systems to help address the high cost of training, and acute need for professionals in the aviation industry.

Should your Ministry be aware of adjustments needed to help British Columbia align with the federal strategy we would be eager to raise our own awareness and to help share this message with our municipal counter parts and local MLAs for their consideration.

As well, if there are any lessons learned or innovative ways Transport Canada has witnessed municipalities supporting the creation, recruitment, and retention of pilots, and other in demand aviation professionals, we would be most eager to connect to better understand how those innovations may be applied in our region.

Sincerely,

Prince George City Council

CC:

Arun Thangaraj, Deputy Minister, Transport Canada
Bob Zimmer, Member of Parliament
Todd Doherty, Member of Parliament