



**Airport Management
Council of Ontario**



Nov/Dec 2023

Volume 12, Issue 6

The Airport Environment and You

Representing Ontario's Airports



Subscribe today at amco.on.ca/e-zines/



The Airport Environment and You

From the Desk of the CEO

Next Up at AMCO

I've been trying to write this letter for a little while now. At first, I thought it would be about the gifts of the season, and then it was going to be about lights and magic, sparkly things. I realize now this letter is about joyful anticipation.

This year, my son Scotty has been the most excited for Christmas as I have ever seen him. He has LOVED the preparations for the holiday and is joyfully anticipating what's to come. For him, that means Santa arriving and leaving a beautifully wrapped Bowser toy under the tree. In the meantime, he is pulling out decorations, helping to chop down a tree and gleefully attending the parades. He is making the most of his time as he anticipates what's to come.

Through this season of reflection, we can be grateful for all 2023 had to offer – both the excitement and the proven resilience of this industry. We can also encompass joyful and active anticipation. At AMCO, we are looking forward to strengthening the association and ensuring we are offering what you are looking for. We want to make sure that, as we plan for this year and the next five years, we are providing value and helping you to stay engaged with the industry, the association, and with each other.

At AMCO, we are sitting in joyful anticipation that this will be the year that strides are made towards the public and government understanding the value of Ontario's airports. We remain active in sharing this message through advocacy at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels. We anticipate the day when our efforts will bear fruit and airports will be valued as essential infrastructure and funded appropriately.

We anticipate that in 2024 there will be enhanced comradery and collaboration amongst members, colleagues, and all industry partners. As the industry continually faces new challenges we need to pull together and use one voice to be heard. We are excited to see what the future holds, and in the meantime, we will be actively anticipating what's to come.

At the end of 2023, AMCO would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all of the sponsors, members and supporters this year. Without each and every one of you we could not do what we do. We look forward to continuing to work and grow with you in 2024.

Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Laura McNeice
CEO, AMCO

Features

Kincardine Airport has busy year assisting medical flights and hosting community events..... 3

Thunder Bay Airport CEO announces retirement date.....4

International flight school will soon call Lindsay home.....5

Funding will allow city to replace snowplow at airport.....5

A rare and unusual lockdown at the Sault airport.....6

Business at Lake Simcoe Airport continues to elevate.....7

Pilots flock to Buttonville to say goodbye to the airport where they learned to fly.....8

Windsor Airport preparing large swath of airport land for economic development.....8

Pearson Airport ready for winter holidays with new measures, including more staff, officials say9

Success: Airport CEO Giovanna Verrilli has a plan..... 10

Flair announces new flights from Waterloo.....10

Kincardine Airport has busy year with assisting medical flights and hosting community events

Original Article by Jill Charlebois, Bayshore Broadcasting, Nov.10, 2023
For full article click here

Kincardine Council received an update from the operations at Kincardine airport during their meeting this week.

Stephen Rouse, who is the Airport Manager, says that over the past year, they've had 29 ORNGE flights use the airport, or use its new GPS system.

"We did put in a GPS approach, which has assisted with the medical teams that fly in and out of Kincardine." The airport also hosts events to help get local visitors to use the facility, including Walk the Runway, and for those who fly, they also host the Trillium Fly-In.

The Fly-In was started during COVID when one man wanted to meet with a friend while still practicing social distancing. Since then, it's expanded to 40 planes flying in for a meet-up. The general public can also stop by. Events like the Fly-In are also good for the local economy, as small-craft pilots and other visitors come back to the community for vacation.

Rouse says that the airport has also been involved in several discussions with various companies to potentially host a ground school in the future. "We have had discussions with three different companies that operate a ground school. And at various stages, they've fallen apart... one was pre-COVID," he says. "We're presently talking to another company now, and it's an ongoing conversation."



COLVOY
EQUIPMENT

www.colvoy.ca
email: sales@colvoy.ca
1.855.449.5858

1240 Colborne St. W., R.R. 4
Brantford, ON

Industrial Mowers, Boom Mowers & Parts
Snow Blowers & Snow Blades



Airport Vegetation Management

Colvoy specializes in vegetation management and has the expertise and equipment to make airfield maintenance as efficient and effective as possible.

Long reach boom mowers, wide area flail mowers, radio controlled mowers, sweepers, multi purpose tool carriers from the best manufactures in the business.

Contact us today at 1.855.449.5858 or sales@colvoy.com



Energreen Robo Remote Controlled Steep Slope Mower



Tiger Tractor Mounted Triple Flail Mowers



Eddynet REVV Airport Sweeper



Energreen Alpha Professional Vegetation Management



Spearhead Rear Mount Mowers Available up to 30' Reach



BUILDING CONNECTIONS MAKING MEMORIES

Airport Planning and Engineering
for Today and Beyond



www.AviaNG.ca

AVIA • NG
AIRPORT CONSULTANTS

Thunder Bay Airport CEO announces retirement date

Original Article by Gary Rinne, Northern Ontario Business, Nov. 7, 2023

[For full article click here](#)

Ed Schmidtke's 35-year-long career at Thunder Bay International Airport is coming to a close.

The airport's president and CEO will step into retirement on March 1, 2024.

"Aviation has always played a critical role in the lives of the people of Northwestern Ontario. It has been an honour and privilege to have been a part of its growth and development," Schmidtke said in a statement that was included in a news release announcing his intent to retire.

After serving as manager of business development, Schmidtke took on the top job at Thunder Bay Airport following Scott McFadden's departure in 2014.

During his tenure, he was part of the team that built the new air terminal building, reconstructed both runways, opened new commercial subdivisions on airport property, and managed the transfer of the airport out of government operations.

In a statement, the board of directors expressed gratitude to Schmidtke "for his innovative, creative and inclusive leadership," and said it believes the airport is well-positioned for the future. Board chair Gary Woodbeck said the board will conduct a thorough search for a new president and CEO over the coming months.



SOLAR POWERED WINDSOCKS

- Transport Canada specifications
- Autonomous, Programmable Operation
- Minimal Infrastructure
- Complete system solutions including tilttable poles and frangible towers

Online Orders enter AMCO10 for 10% off



millardtowers.com



International flight school will soon call Lindsay home

Original Article by Catherine Whitnall,
Kawartha Lakes This Week
Nov. 27, 2023

For full article click here

A new flight school will soon begin operating out of the Kawartha Lakes Municipal Airport.

Canadian Flyers International College is in the process of moving its operations from the Buttonville Airport — which fully closes at the end of November — to the Lindsay airport on Highway 35. [...]

As Kawartha Lakes airport manager Craig Logan sees it, Markham's loss is Lindsay's gain. "We've operated a small flight school here (Lindsay) for many years. When Canadian Flyers contacted me, it was the perfect opportunity to expand," said Logan.

"It's a pretty good fit. They have a good clientele, including international students, who will not just fly and leave, but shop and eat ... it's a great way to showcase what we have (in Kawartha Lakes)."

Airport Parking Solutions

Manage with technology. Elevate your experiences.

PreciseParkLink.com
sales@preciseparklink.com

URBAN MOBILITY

Funding will allow city to replace snowplow at airport

Original Article by Thomas Perry,
Timmins Daily Press
Nov. 15, 2023
For full article click here

It took a while, but the City of Timmins has secured funding to replace a 1990 Volvo snowplow at the Victor M. Power Municipal Airport.

Airport Manager Dave Dayment was the bearer of the good news during a Nov. 14 night's council meeting. He indicated an application had been submitted under the Airports Capital Assistance Program two years ago for \$402,750 for the purchase of a 4x2 snowplow consisting of a truck, box and two-way reversible blade.

Your Broom Source for Municipal Airport Contractor



(800) 851-5108
www.united-rotary.com
urbsales@united-rotary.com

Straightforward Management of Your Airport Operations and SMS



Registered aerodromes



Certified airports



Air carriers

BOOK A DEMO

AKILA.CA | 1-833-673-2668



A rare and unusual lockdown of the Sault airport

Original Article by Cory Nordstrom, CTV News Northern Ontario, Nov. 23, 2023

[For full article click here](#)

An unusual situation led to a lockdown at the Sault Ste. Marie Airport Wednesday evening.

The airport's CEO Terry Bos told CTV News that police responded to a weapons call – except the call was made by the actual threat.

"We had a gentleman get off of an Air Canada flight and he proceeded into the parking lot. At that point he determined that he would call the police and advise that he was going to do damage inside the airport with a hammer and a hatchet," said Bos.

"So the police called us, we locked the building for safety reasons, warned all of our tenants and kept everybody inside." Bos said that the individual did not attempt to re-enter the building, he waited until police arrived at which point he turned himself in.

Airport officials said the officers detained the individual under the Mental Health Act and he was then transported to hospital. During a search, police located a hatchet, hammer and knives in the person's checked baggage. No charges were laid in the incident.

Officials with the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority said "passengers are permitted to bring tools in their checked baggage."

Business at Lake Simcoe Airport continues to elevate

Original Publication by Wayne Doyle, Barrie Today, Oct. 29, 2023

For more details click [here](#)

As the volume of air traffic continues to grow at Canada's largest airport, local officials say the value of the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport (LSRA) rises with it.

Corporate and leisure travellers, tired of the hassles of getting in and out of Toronto's Pearson International Airport, one of the busiest in North America, are opting to spend a few more minutes in the air and redirect their flights 100 kilometres north to LSRA in Oro-Medonte.

"I think that's a general trend," said Mike Drumm, LSRA's airport manager. "The constraints associated with both ground transportation and the air connectivity into that are continuing to grow. There's a natural inclination that people will want more efficient modes of transportation."

That desire for efficiency has sparked a significant increase in traffic at the regional airport, located about halfway between Barrie and Orillia on Line 7 North.

According to Drumm, jet turbine "movements" — that would be takeoffs and landings — are up 40 per cent, year-over-year.

While the increase in air traffic can't be attributed to any one thing, Nancy Huether, director of economic development and airport services for Simcoe County, thinks it's a result of a number of factors, including the county's location and growing population. "We're currently concentrating on corporate and commercial aviation and related services," Huether said. "There are growth restraints at Pearson. We're positioned to capitalize on the growth in Simcoe County."

POWER YOUR GSE WITH KUBOTA RELIABILITY.



Keep your terminal running like clockwork with durable Kubota engines. Whether it's a spark-ignited or diesel model, Kubota engines stand up to harsh weather and heavy loads with minimal downtime and maintenance. Contact M-K Power to source the toughest engine for GSE.



Kubota
AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR
ENGINES | GENERATORS | PARTS



**CALL US FOR SALES,
PARTS AND SERVICE.**

m-k.com | (800) 263-5011

THE NEXT BIG SHIFT IN AIRFIELD MANAGEMENT TAKES OFF WITH AIRFIELD 4.0



Our **AXON EQ** intelligent inset lights include built-in sensors to capture data essential to making airport operations more streamlined and predictive.

LINC 360 is a high bandwidth bidirectional power line communication system that facilitates two-way data transmission, creating a data-driven future.

LINC Node forms the second leg of the ADB SAFEGATE connectivity strategy. It connects smart airfield assets to the cloud providing real-time monitoring from any place on any device.

These **Airfield 4.0** building blocks harness smart Industry 4.0 technologies to revolutionize airfield operations and enable real-time, data-driven decision making.

adbsafegate.com

AXON EQ

Pinpoints service and maintenance needs
Provides greater control under challenging conditions

LINC 360

Allows upstreaming of data and interconnectivity
Goes beyond existing individual light control and monitoring systems

LINC Node

5G connectivity to the cloud
Alarm and warning notifications pushed from the cloud to mobile devices



Pilots flock to Buttonville to say goodbye to the airport where they learned to fly

Original Publication by Isaac Callan,
Global News, Nov. 30, 2023
[For more details click here](#)

When the sun sets on the two runways in Markham, Ont., on Thursday, it will mark the last day for Buttonville airport. The small municipal airfield north of Toronto has churned out thousands of pilots over several decades and is the place where so many of the country's pilots started their careers.

Stefan Chan began at the airport's flight school in 2019. Since then, he's gained both his private and commercial pilot licenses at Buttonville. He was back at the airfield Thursday to say goodbye. "We're all just sad to see it go, it's a big part of our lives," he told Global News. "This airport has been home to us really, it has been the jumping-off point for so many of our years."

Windsor preparing large swath of airport land for economic development

Original Publication by Taylor Campbell, Windsor Star,
Nov. 9, 2023
[For more details click here](#)

The City of Windsor is easing the way for supply chain companies looking to set up shop near the NextStar battery plant by preparing a large swath of land for future growth.

City council's development committee this week voted to give "employment land" designation to nearly 200 hectares of city-owned property — the equivalent of more than 480 football fields — near the airport, permitting industrial and business development there.

The move, which senior administrators described as a "housekeeping matter," will expedite economic development on the land north of County Road 42 generally between the 8th and 9th Concession Roads. "We are prepping the land that we have available today for development opportunities that are coming our way today," Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens told the Star.

Pearson Airport ready for winter holidays with new measures, including more staff, officials say

Original Publication by CBC News, Nov. 30, 2023

For more details click here

Toronto Pearson International Airport officials expect passenger traffic to increase 10 per cent this holiday season, but they say new measures should ensure operations run more smoothly this year compared to last.

The airport has increased staffing, expanded its capacity to de-ice aircraft, acquired new snowplows and adopted a new artificial intelligence system aimed at improving the efficiency of baggage handling, according to Deborah Flint, president and CEO of the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA).

"At Pearson, we are fully committed to making your trip predictable, reliable and enjoyable," Flint told reporters on Thursday at Terminal 1 at Pearson Airport.

"And we are providing more tools to put information and control in your hands as you plan and as you travel."

Officials realize that there will be "intermittent significant incidents" that will affect air travel, and the global airport industry is still not as resilient as it was before the COVID-19 pandemic, but the airport itself is ready for winter, Flint said.

"I say that if winter airport preparedness was an Olympic sport, then Toronto Pearson would be the venue," she said.



Make us your first call!

APMI AIRLINES PAVEMENT
MARKINGS Inc.

Phone Bill Burke, Jim Gillberry or George Passmore at **(905) 632-4746**
for **10% OFF** Group Discounts to AMCO members in same geographic area

www.AirlinesPavementMarkings.ca

Success: Airport CEO Giovana Verrilli has a plan

Original Article by Vicki Gilhula, Sudbury.com, Nov. 24, 2023.

For full article click here

In the not-so-distant past, a successful executive could look forward to two-hour lunches and a martini or two charged to a cushy expense account.

Fast-forward to 2023. Things have changed. Successful CEOs, such as Greater Sudbury Airport CEO Giovanna Verrilli, have become experts at multi-tasking and are more likely to be eating takeout lunches at their desks. Luckily for her, there is a great little restaurant in her building. The Fly Sudbury Café & Lounge opened last summer. Owned by Ranjodh Singh and Lakhvir Singh Mann, it offers Canadian food as well as Indian and Mexican dishes. The previous restaurant had closed during the pandemic.

Improved food service is just one of the ways Verrilli, who took over as CEO in August 2022, is working with staff and airport partners to improve the "dwell time" experience at Sudbury Airport. Dwell time is the time passengers spend at the airport before their flight departs.

"It is a good news story when we hear the dwell time is short at Sudbury Airport ... that means their flight has taken off on time," says Verrilli. "But there are those days when passengers are spending a bit more time here ... so how can we ensure the environment is as warm, comfortable and welcoming as possible."

She credits the staff at the airport, as well as security and airline agents, for their efforts to be friendly and helpful to passengers. "That is the benefit of a small airport," says Verrilli, who is warm and engaging, practicing what she preaches.

The advertisement features the OCTANT logo at the top, followed by the text "On-Site Services & Training for your Airport!". Below this, there are four circular icons representing different services: "SMS & Human Factors Training", "SMS & Airside Audit", "Airport Emergency Response", and "TP312". A button below the icons says "And much more ...". At the bottom, there is a photograph of a man in a high-visibility vest standing on an airfield. Below the photo, there is a call to action: "Please check us out on <https://octantaviation.ca/en/> |

Flair announces new flights from Waterloo

Original Article by Chris Thomson, CTV

News Kitchener, Nov. 9, 2023

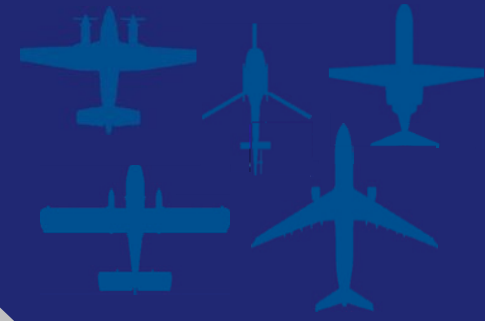
For full article click here

Travellers going through the Region of Waterloo International Airport will soon be able to fly directly to Newfoundland and Labrador. Flair Airlines announced Thursday they will be offering flights to St. John's from May to October of next year.

The flights departing from Kitchener-Waterloo will be offered two to three times a week and have a starting fare of \$39 for a one-way trip. Flair also announced they'll be offering flights to St. John's out of Toronto Pearson International Airport as well as routes to Deer Lake, NL.



Airport Management Council of Ontario



Nov/Dec 2023

Volume 12, Issue 6

Board of Directors

President.....Chris Wood, A.A.E., Waterloo
 Past President.....Duane Riddell, Red Lake
 Vice President.....Terry Bos, A.A.E., Sault Ste. Marie
 Treasurer.....Vacant

NW Director.....Shari Gentes, Kenora
 NE Director.....Giovanna Verrilli, Greater Sudbury
 SW Director.....Marion Smith, C.M., Chatham-Kent
 SE Director.....Chris Drumm, Lake Simcoe
 Business Rep...Rob Shevalier, Falcon Environmental

Business Members

Airfield Inspection, Lighting, Nav Aids and Reporting

Acclivix Inc.
 ADB Safegate Canada
 Akila
 Approach Navigation Systems
 Millard Towers
 Seguin Morris
 Tradewind Scientific
 Vortex Software

Airport Supply and Security

Airside Security Access Inc.
 Alphachem Limited
 Arconas
 Chemco Inc.
 Denso North America
 G-Force Security
 Midwest Industrial Supply
 Securitas (STAS)
 Sel Warwick
United Chemical Services (new)
 United Rotary Brush Corp.

Consultants and Engineers

Aerium Analytics
 Avia NG
 Campbell Scientific
 EnGlobe
 Environics Analytics
 Explorer Solutions
 Falcon Environmental
 Gibbings Consulting
 HM Aero Aviation Consulting
 Octant Aviation Inc.
 Sectus Technologies
 Sound Insurance
 Stantec
 Tetra Tech
 To70 Canada
 The Loomex Group
 WASCO

Contractors and Construction

Airlines Pavement Markings Inc.
 Cornell Construction
 EJ
 EVOQ Architecture
 Graff Company

McAsphalt Industries
 Southwire Canada
 Superior Road Products
 Walker Construction Ltd.

Equipment and Training

Aebi Schmidt
 Colvoy Enterprises
 Commercial Emergency Equip.
 Cubex
 Eddynet Sweepers
 Honeywell
 J.A. Larue Inc.
 Marathon Equipment Inc.
 M-K Power Products Corp.
 Polar Aircraft Deicer
 Snowy Owl Deicers
 Team Eagle
 Tenco

Fuel System and Parking

AGFT
 Avjet Holding
 Kardtech Inc.
 National Energy Equipment
 Petro Value

The Airport Environment and You is distributed to AMCO members and the airport industry at large.

Contributions can be sent to:
amco@amco.on.ca

The opinions and views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Airport Management Council of Ontario, its Board of Directors, or its members, nor are they responsible for such opinions and views or for any inaccuracies in the articles.

Special Thanks to our Sustaining Members for their support:



Writer: Rejeanne Lacroix | Editor: Laura McNeice

Subscribe today at amco.on.ca/e-zines/

