

**Transport Canada**

Assistant Deputy Minister
Programs

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OCT 14 2014

His Worship Dean Fortin
Mayor of City of Victoria
#1 Centennial Square
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Transports Canada

Sous-ministre adjointe
Programmes

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MAYOR'S OFFICE
OCT 20 2014
VICTORIA, B.C.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

The Government of Canada is committed to an efficient, safe, secure and environmentally responsible transportation system. In 1994, the federal government introduced its National Airports Policy (NAP), which put forward a vision for airports that would ensure a safe, secure, and viable national airports system that would serve Canada well into the future. The introduction of the NAP also initiated a significant shift in the federal government's approach to the management and ownership of airports in Canada. This Policy focused on moving the Government of Canada's role in airports from owner and operator towards landlord and regulator. Although the NAP was established in the early 1990s, the principles outlined in the strategy remain as relevant today as they did when they were first introduced.

Since the NAP was introduced, Transport Canada has successfully transferred ownership and/or operation of 128 sites to local interests. There are 18 airports, located in four provinces that remain under the sole responsibility of the federal government. In the summer 2013 you received a letter inviting you to participate in informal discussions with Transport Canada in order for my department to gain an understanding of the potential interest in these airports. As part of these informal discussions, departmental officials committed to keep stakeholders informed of the progress of these informal discussions as well as next steps.

I am writing to you today to advise that Transport Canada is now moving forward with additional discussions on the future of its remaining regional/local airports. A particular focus will be on those airports where interest has been expressed, including:

Penticton, British Columbia
✱ Victoria Harbour Aerodrome, British Columbia
Port Hardy, British Columbia
Churchill, Manitoba
Sept-Iles, Québec
Schefferville, Québec
Wabush, Newfoundland and Labrador

Over the next few weeks Transport Canada will engage in a dialogue and information sharing on these assets in order to ascertain the level of interest to acquire these airports and to determine the possible parameters of a new program in the future should there be a policy change and a process put in place to transfer these assets. I anticipate that this engagement process will conclude in the fall.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Rascenin', written in a cursive style.

Natasha Rascenin