

Minutes

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE AND NOISE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date and Time: June 24, 2021 at 11:30am
Location: Virtual Meeting – via Zoom
Panelists/Presenters: Bernard LeBlanc (YQM), Courtney Burns (YQM), Vincent Martin (YQM), Belinda Curran (YQM)
Committee attendees: Jean-Marc Brideau (Councillor, City of Dieppe), Jim Doyle (Province of NB), Ted Davis (NAV Canada), Tyla Finlay (Town of Riverview), Daniel Boljkovac (Transport Canada)
Guests: Danika Leger (Transport Canada), Charline Ouellet (YQM), Marty Gullison (YQM) Blair Rowbotham (NAV Canada), Bob Bowser (Moncton), Nancy Whipp (GMIAA Board Chair), Stefan Neagoe (Transport Canada), Allan Dearing (91.9 The Bend), Marc Lanteigne (Councillor City of Dieppe), Greg Turner (MLA Moncton South), Camden Sutherland (PAL Airlines), Alban Melanson (YQM Volunteer), Linda Scofield (GMIAA board member), David Williams (Cargojet), Mike Montgomery (Northeastern Protection Services), Heather McCarley (Vantage Airport Group)
Regrets: Louis Godbout (Expansion Dieppe), Greg Maclean (Board Chair CCGM), John Belliveau (CAA Travel), Susy Campos (3+ Corporation), Bill Budd (City of Moncton)

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	CONCLUSION
Opening Remarks and approval of meeting agenda	The Managing Director opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.	Moved by Ted Davis and seconded by Tyla Finlay, all in favor, motion carried to approve the agenda for the June 24, 2021 meeting.
Review and approval of last committee meeting minutes	Reviewed December 16, 2021 meeting minutes and no changes suggested.	There were no changes to the minutes as circulated.
YQM updates regarding community feedback since last session	<p>The Managing Director provided an update on 2020 Business Results and the 2021 Business Plan, which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2020 was a killer year for airports. COVID measures at the airport have included masks, enhanced cleaning protocols, and plexiglass. - Pre-COVID YQM had 20 flights daily and 12 flights weekly during winter months to sun destinations and as a result of COVID some airlines have left and not yet returned including Porter and WestJet (with WestJet returning next week). Air Canada has continued to fly but with a greatly reduced schedule - YQM launched a new air service with PAL Airlines during the pandemic in September with flights to Newfoundland - Bluebird, a cargo operator, also launched in November - Cargo volume has been good with international lobster flights almost weekly - GMIAA completed a \$7.5M glycol fluid management project in 2020 working with TransAqua and the City of Dieppe on the initiative - The 2021 business plan focuses on stabilize-recover-position for growth. The recovery hasn't started yet with passengers only at 10% of pre-pandemic levels - Objectives for the year include some recruitments, renewal of our collective agreement, and updating the emergency manual. 	

	<p>Recovery will need passengers which is tied to vaccine roll out and easing of travel restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International borders and travel restrictions remain uncertain and could impact YQM’s ability to see the return of charter flights for the winter of 2022. - Financial relief and support included a reduction by the province of NB in GMIAA’s property tax assessment which generated savings of \$255k. Federally the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and Airport Relief Fund, eligibility and funding for the Airports Capital Assistance Program (ACAP), and waiving of airport rent from March 2020 to December 2023 have been extremely helpful. GMIAA is still waiting to hear about the potential Regional Air Transportation Initiative (RATI) from ACOA. <p>The Director of Finance and Administration provided a financial update which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2021 business plan anticipated a loss of \$7.9M. Passengers are trailing 46% below expectations which impacts concession-based revenue like parking and car rentals as well as the Airport Improvement Fee (AIF) which is reinvested in infrastructure. - The Canada Emergency Wage subsidy has been a huge help on the revenue side, as will the Airport Relief Funds that are expected soon for just under \$1.9 million. - The availability of ACAP funding to rehabilitate the runway reduced the need to spend \$950 thousand on a repair but increases the capital spend by \$8.9 million vs business plan. The full rehabilitation was planned for 2022 and would have required borrowing for the full value. - YQM is expecting passengers of 115k in 2021 vs original plan of 184k. - The Airport Relief Fund will allow GMIAA to avoid needing to borrow on its line of credit in 2021 to finance losses. <p>The Director of Operations provided a capital projects update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2021 plan included minimal capital for roll up doors, signs on the airfield, and pre-payment for an Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) vehicle. The significant change is the rehabilitation of runway 11-29 for \$8.9M with ACAP funding 50%. This will eliminate a large repair that would have otherwise been required. - The runway rehabilitation will see runway 11-29 closed for 10 weeks with runway 06-24 being the sole available runway. This will result flight patterns that will change during construction. - The pre-COVID 5-year capital plan was upwards of \$40 million. GMIAA is updating its 5-year capital plan this summer. <p>The Manager of Regulatory Affairs reviewed noise complaints received since the last meeting. There were 2 complaints, one from a Dieppe resident regarding a 747 Cargo aircraft at unusual hours. Upon follow up, the aircraft has been delayed. The other complaint was from a resident in Hampton regarding a low flying helicopter which GMIAA referred to Transport Canada’s civil aviation group.</p>	
<p>Committee Feedback and Discussion</p>	<p>It was raised that a Dieppe City Councillor has spoken to a resident who issued a noise complaint to the airport and has not heard back. Complaints seemed to stem from May about loud aircraft noise at 2am and 3:15am. The Managing Director encouraged residents to submit complaints directly to the airport for us to follow up on as the airport has no record of this specific complaint accordingly, noting that large international cargo freighters tend to have flights on</p>	

	<p>Wednesday evenings at approximately 6:15pm arrival with departure 2 hours later and that domestic cargo flights also fly overnight.</p> <p>The representative from the province's Department of Transportation and Infrastructure reiterated that the air sector was decimated by COVID 19 and congratulated the airport for making the best of a bad situation with Moncton being the only airport in the province currently with passenger service. The province has been working closely with airports as part of a provincial task force chaired by ONB to look at impacts of COVID with Public Health and Public Safety.</p> <p>Additionally, NB is co-chair on a fed/prov task force with representatives from the Federal, provincial, and territorial governments to look at air service recovery, especially in regional areas. It was noted that recovery is only expected in 3-5 years and this group as well as the province will be looking at what they can do to fill gaps in the recovery. The province is considering continued and possible additional reductions to property taxes.</p> <p>There was discussion regarding Nav Canada's future plans for a new tower in Moncton. The representative from Nav Canada noted they are looking at the impacts of technology in considering what the future of new tower buildings will be and that there aren't currently funds available or plans specific to Moncton that are in place.</p> <p>The GMIAA board chair commended the team for their efforts in responding to COVID 19 to keep the airport friendly and operational.</p>	
<p>Public attendees' questions and feedback</p>	<p>There were no additional comments or questions.</p>	
<p>Termination of Meeting</p>	<p>Meeting closed and all attendees were thanked for their participation.</p>	