

**NATA 33rd Annual General Meeting,
Conference and Trade Show
April 6, 7 and 8, 2009
Explorer Hotel
Yellowknife, NT**

The Northern Air Transport Annual General Meeting, Conference and Trade Show has historically been the premier aviation event for northern aviation. The 33rd edition, held this last April 6, 7, and 8, according to participant feedback certainly upheld the tradition. Members, delegates, panel participants, and trade show exhibitors were unanimous in endorsing the event as one, if not the best, aviation conference in Canada.

Of course this could not be done without the continued support of our sponsors to whom we are deeply grateful. And we must not forget the many volunteers, working hard behind the scenes to make it happen. To all of them a big thank you goes out from all of us.

The Trade Show continues to evolve and everyone certainly felt that the 2009 arrangement was the best to date. Having the coffee breaks and breakfasts held in the actual show area was viewed positively by all. The NATA Board is committed to the Trade Show and will look to ways to make next year's one even better for both the exhibitors and conference participants.

Highlights of the conference include:

- 1.) **The presentation by Jonathon Lee, Regional Manager, Western Region, Transportation Safety Board (TSB)**

Jon provided useful information on incidents and accidents north of 60. He also provided investigation results and updates on some relevant past events. One item of interest is that in several cases the first indication of an event taking place came via a satellite phone from the survivors, not from conventional means such as the ELT.

Flying activity in the north reached record levels during the 2008 summer season. This was fueled in part by the high level of activity in the resource sector. Unfortunately these levels have fallen dramatically along with the general economy and are not expected for 2009. Despite the record flying activity, accident rates in the North have held at their historic low rates. NATA operator members should be proud of their continued excellent safety record.

Let's all keep up the good work.

2.) **Trade Show**

The trade show ran for two full days this year, Monday and Tuesday. The various exhibitors put on a great display with lots of good information. There were many reports of solid business resulting from contacts being made. The coffee breaks, and Tuesday's breakfast in the Trade Show worked well and will be continued in future years.

3.) **Nav Canada Update**

Despite a very tight schedule, including having to be in Toronto on Wednesday for the Nav Canada AGM, Rudy Kellar provided a full update on Nav Canada initiatives relevant to the North. Progress continues on GPS approaches, AWOS upgrades, radar coverage and ADS-B implementation.

4.) **Aviation Safety Seminar - Risk Management**

Ms Kimberly Turner of Aerosafe Risk Management presented a seminar on how to go beyond just compliance with your SMS system. By using Risk Management principals you can take it to the next level and really start to see some results, not only on the safety side, but in the cost and efficiency areas as well. This was an excellent presentation and a suitable end to the formal program for the day.

5.) **President's Reception**

The President's Reception was a great evening with a relaxed attitude, good food, and a great venue. The Department of National Defense Officer's Mess provides a setting for this event that is second to none. It was nice to see old friends getting acquainted again, and new ones being made.

6.) **Opening Luncheon**

The Honorable Michael McLeod, Minister of Transportation, was able to join us for the opening luncheon, and address the conference after the lunch. His knowledgeable comments on northern aviation were well received.

In a departure from the norm, due to a scheduling conflict, a new Honorary Life Member to NATA was inducted at the opening luncheon rather than at the annual banquet. Mr Robert Davis became the 23rd individual to be presented with the honour. Bob has been a long time supporter, board member, and a Past President of NATA.

7.) **Kenn Borek Memorial Scholarship**

At the conclusion of the Annual Banquet Naomi Nind presented the Kenn Borek Scholarship on behalf of the Borek family.

8.) **Guest Speaker**

The guest speaker originally slated for the Annual Banquet, Bill Tweed, unfortunately was unable to make it due to being on flood watch at his home in Winnipeg. Joe Sparling stepped up to the plate at the last minute and gave a very insightful look at aspects of airline economics. Given the state of the economy and the current carrier situation in Yellowknife the topic was very apropos and the source of several lively discussions after the banquet.

9.) **Open Forums**

There were three Open Forums in this year's program. Two of them were of traditional makeup

1/ Transport Canada, Environment Canada & Nav Canada.

2/ Northern Airports

The third forum was on the Edmonton Municipal Airport Medivac Access. This was a special forum this year resulting from renewed activity to close the downtown Edmonton Municipal Airport, or the Muni as it is affectionately called. This airport provides key quick hospital access for northern, and other, originating Medivacs.

Unlike other years there was no Security Forum. This as due to several key pieces of legislation being the final draft stages and unable to be discussed by key officials in government. In its place a update on various security initiatives was provided by Stephen Nourse.

All of the forums were well attended and there was good discussion from the floor.

Three new resolutions were passed unanimously as a result of discussions in the forums, and one on runway length from last year's AGM was reaffirmed. All four resolutions are attached along with the full conference program.

10.) **Formal Business.**

The motion to accept the 2008 Treasurer's Report was made by Joe Sparling and passed unanimously.

A motion to appoint Avery Cooper and Company as auditors for 2009 was made by Hugh Kitchen and seconded by Warren Wright. The motion passed unanimously.

11.) **Thank You**

The conference would not have been possible without the excellent support of our sponsors.

NATA wishes to acknowledge their support and thank each and every one of them for it. The names and logos of those who supported the 33rd conference are attached. We urge you to support them in return in what ever way you can.

We would also like to thank the Explorer Hotel for their excellent facilities, catering and services, the DND for the use of their Officer's mess, and PIDO productions for the audio / visual support.

Look forward to seeing you all next year in Whitehorse, March 29, 30, & 31st.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AT THE 33rd NATA AGM

Resolution #1

WAAS COVERAGE

Whereas the addition of Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) information to aircraft GPS systems provides significant improvement to approach capacity at airports without precision approach systems

AND

The Eastern Arctic has a significant number of airports that lack precision approach systems and would benefit greatly from WAAS coverage.

Therefore be it resolved that NAV Canada undertake in conjunction with NATA a cost benefit analysis of having a WAAS station either located in Greenland or other optimal location in order to provide full GPS WAAS coverage of the Eastern Arctic. This analysis should include information on the steps and the time frame necessary to implement such a station.

Passed unanimously at the 33rd Annual General Meeting in Yellowknife, April 8, 2009.

Resolution #2

IQALUIT/APPROACH LIGHTS

Whereas the non standard approach lights on Runway 35 in Iqaluit are imposing operational and financial hardship on air carrier operations in Iqaluit due to the current 3000 foot decision height imposed during IFR operations

AND

Whereas the existing lighting system has been used safely for decades under much lower limits

AND

Physical constraints prevent the lengthening of the existing approach lighting system to a standard length

Therefore be it resolved that NAV Canada, Iqaluit Airport, NATA, and Transport Canada Engineering collaborate on a review of possible cost effective options to restore normal approach limits with an equivalent level of safety to a standard lighting system.

Passed unanimously at the 33rd Annual General Meeting in Yellowknife, April 8, 2009.

Resolution #3

YELLOWKNIFE AIRPORT COUNTERS

WHEREAS Westjet announced that it will commence once daily Boeing 737 service between Edmonton and Yellowknife on a limited seasonal basis from May through October 2009;

AND WHEREAS Westjet's flight requires they have access to the Yellowknife airport to provide "guest" handling services;

AND WHEREAS all existing counter and office space at the Yellowknife terminal is currently occupied by other carriers, including three NATA member carriers;

AND WHEREAS the current occupant tenant carriers submitted a proposed interim solution (the "Original Plan") for the provision of counter space to the Yellowknife airport management team, which Original Plan was accepted by the airport management as viable but subject to periodic review;

AND WHEREAS the Original Plan avoided any disruption of the incumbent carriers' operations or ongoing access to historical counter locations while adequately accommodating Westjet's seasonal service and adhering to the operating and safety requirements of the Yellowknife airport;

AND WHEREAS despite acceptance of the Original Plan by Yellowknife airport management the incumbent carriers were subsequently advised by the GNWT Department of Transportation that the Original Plan was rejected and would be replaced by an alternate plan (the "Alternate Plan");

AND WHEREAS the incumbent carriers were not consulted on the Alternate Plan but rather informed in a unilateral and uncooperative fashion that the Alternate Plan would be imposed upon them by the GNWT Department of Transportation;

AND WHEREAS the Alternate Plan has yet to be finalized but includes the requirement for the incumbent carriers to, at best share a counter with Westjet and at worst give up a counter to Westjet or physically relocate from the main terminal area to an alternate location without due regard for the operating requirements of the incumbent carriers;

AND WHEREAS other details of the Alternate Plan have yet to be finalized with less than one month remaining to the commencement of Westjet's service but could include the requirement to use a computer switch between the incumbent carriers' and Westjet's reservations systems with no consideration of security and confidentiality issues;

AND WHEREAS the incumbent carriers raised concerns about the Alternate Plan with representatives of the GNWT Department of Transport at a meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee on February 26, 2009;

AND WHEREAS despite repeated requests to revisit the Alternate Plan as untenable to the incumbent carriers and despite the fact that the GNWT Department of Transportation has monopoly control of the Yellowknife airport and is funded by the taxpayers of the NWT and should be required to consider the interests of those who have historically funded the Yellowknife airport, the Department of Transportation has refused to reconsider the Original Plan or enter into any consultative process with the incumbent carriers to find an alternate viable and less disruptive plan;

AND WHEREAS the Alternate Plan will have an anti-competitive impact on the incumbent carriers by restricting their ability to add flights during Westjet flight times;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NATA take all reasonable steps necessary to have the GNWT Department of Transportation adopt the Original Plan as proposed by the incumbent carriers and accepted by the Yellowknife airport management or, in the alternative, acknowledge that the Alternate Plan will have an unreasonable impact on the operations of the incumbent carriers and immediately enter into a consultative process with the incumbent carriers to find a viable and less disruptive way to accommodate Westjet's seasonal service.

Passed unanimously at the 33rd Annual General Meeting in Yellowknife, April 8, 2009

RUNWAY LENGTH REQUIREMENTS

Whereas 2010 Transport Canada requirements will necessitate longer runways to accommodate more modern aircraft;

Therefore be it resolved that 5000 feet be the minimum length for runway serving commercial air carriers north of 60.

Passed unanimously at the 33rd Annual General Meeting in Yellowknife, April 8, 2009

**WELCOME TO THE
NORTHERN AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION
33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE**

**Registration
MONDAY - APRIL 6, 2009
Desk in Main Lobby - 0900 HRS to 1700 HRS**

1000 – 1700 Trade Show – Katamavik Room A

1100 - 1200 North of 60° Accident/Incident Review

Presenter: Mr. Jonathan Lee
Regional Manager, Western Region
Transportation Safety Board

1300 – 1400 NAV Canada Update

Presenter: Mr. Rudy Kellar, Vice President, Operations
NAV Canada

1400 – 1530 Aviation Safety Seminar – Risk Management

Presenter: Ms. Kimberley Turner, Aerosafe Risk Management

1530 – 1600 “Welcome” Coffee Break at the Trade Show

**1800 - 2130 President's Reception
DND Mess, Yellowknife**

Beverages & Light Food will be served

**TUESDAY – APRIL 7, 2009
Registration Desk – Main Lobby – 0900HRS to 1600HRS**

- 0730 -0845** **Continental Breakfast at the Trade Show**
Trade Show closes at 1600 hrs
- 0900 – 0930** **33RD Annual General Meeting**
- Welcoming Address: His Worship, Mayor of Yellowknife**
- Reports: President, Secretary/Treasurer
 - Announcements
 - Announce Vacancies of the Board
 - Open Nominations from the floor
- 0930 – 1130** **Open Forum with Transport Canada, Environment Canada & NAV**
Canada
- Facilitator: Joe Sparling
- Panel: Martin Eley - TC
 David Lewis – Nav Canada
 Kate Fletcher – TC
 Carmen Snyder – Environment Canada
- Coffee Break at the Trade Show**
- 1200 – 1330** **Opening Luncheon**
- Brief Address: The Honourable Michael McLeod
 Minister of Transportation, GNWT
- Honourary Lifetime Membership Presentation**
- 1400 – 1500** **Open Forum with Transport Canada, Environment Canada & NAV**
Canada
- Continues
- 1500 – 1520** **Coffee Break at the Trade Show**
- 1520 – 1700** **Open Forum with Northern Airports**
- Facilitator: David Morris, Canadian North
- Panel: Yukon Airports Mark Ritchie
 GNWT Airports Alex Home
 Nunavut Airports Joh Hawkins
 Iqaluit Airport John Graham
- 1830 – 1930** **Reception – Foyer of Katimavik Rooms**

1930 – 2230

Annual Banquet
Kenn Borek Memorial Scholarship Presentation
Guest Speaker, Joe Sparling, Air North

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 8 , 2009
Registration Desk – Main Lobby - 0900HRS to 1100HRS

0730 - 0900

Bush Pilot's Breakfast

0900 - 1100

Registration of Delegates and Guests

0900 – 0940

AGM Reconvenes

- Election of Board Members
- Discussion of resolutions

0940 – 1010

Edmonton Municipal Airport Medivac Access

Facilitator: Don Douglas

Guest: Councilor Linda Sloan, City of Edmonton

1010 – 1030

Coffee Break

1030 - 1130

Security Update and NATA Initiatives

Facilitator: Stephen Norris

1130 – 1230

Business Working Lunch

- Annual General Meeting Reconvenes
- Announce New Board of Directors
- Approval of Resolutions

1230

Conference Closed – See you next year

34th Annual General Meeting,
Conference & Trade Show
March 29, 30 & 31, 2010 – Whitehorse, YT

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