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YVR's sustainability goals and how you can help

'Oscar' is a self-sorting waste bin that uses artificial intelligence (AI) to ensure that waste is disposed of in the most eco-friendly and sustainable way possible at YVR.

Vancouver International Airport (YVR) is marking notable milestones in its commitment to sustainability, highlighting recent award-winning initiatives while inviting travellers to create a cleaner airport experience this summer.

Earlier this year, YVR's inno-

vative Waste Wars program earned top honours at the 2025 FAB Awards, winning Airport Sustainability & Environmental Initiative of the Year for the Americas. The competition, which engaged hundreds of airport employees across the terminal, transformed how teams think about waste. Through hands-on challenges, training sessions, and friendly rivalry, employees learned how to sort waste more accurately, helping to improve diversion rates and reduce contamination in recycling streams significantly.

The win is not just a recognition of the program itself, but of YVR's broader efforts to embed sustainability into daily airport operations and foster a culture where every action—no matter how small—contributes to a larger environmental impact.

Travellers can participate in YVR's zero-waste journey by taking proactive steps to reduce waste and help keep the airport clean and sustainable in the following ways:

See **SUSTAINABILITY GOALS** page 2



A busy summer: Travel progress at YVR

experience through the airport during the busy season.

Biometric boarding is available through Air Canada's Digital Identification program, allowing enrolled passengers to clear security and board without a boarding pass. Travellers flying on most Air Canada domestic routes can use the optional Digital Identification program that uses facial recognition to streamline boarding. Enrolled passengers can verify their identity in seconds—no boarding pass or ID required—step up to the camera and head to your seat.

YVR teams partnered closely with Air Canada to support the launch, updating gate layouts and tech systems to ensure a seamless experience. Participation is consent-based, and traditional boarding options remain available for those who prefer them.

On average, 85,000 passengers are expected through the terminal each day, with Fridays emerging as the busiest days of the week.

The season also marks a significant period for air cargo at YVR.

Working at 19 storeys high, air traffic controllers in the YVR Air Traffic Control Tower have the best view of the airport. From this tower, NAV CANADA oversees the safe movement of aircraft on the ground and in the air.

Roughly 80,000 tonnes of goods—approximately a quarter of the airport's annual volume—will be shipped through the airport.

B.C. cherries lead the pack of exports, bound for markets in Japan, China, and South Korea, alongside high-value products like seafood and critical minerals.

The top travel destinations reflect strong domestic travel demand, with Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton, and Montreal topping the list for departures from YVR.

San Francisco is the most popular U.S. destination, while Hong Kong leads international travel.

Travel Tips to ensure a seamless and inclusive experience at YVR:

Plan ahead

- Check that your passport and travel documents are valid



- Confirm your flight status and check in online
- Pre-book parking at yvr.ca/parking to save time

See **BUSY SUMMER** page 3

CONSTRUCTION

North Runway Update

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Air North's Vancouver-Yellowknife route returns

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Vancouver International Airport (YVR) is experiencing its busiest travel season ever, with the travel count from June 15 to September 2 expected to top more than 6.7 million passengers. This total represents a four per cent increase over 2024, surpassing the airport's previous record set in 2019.

Leveraging technology, ensuring accessibility for travellers of all abilities, and providing new in-terminal commercial offerings are expected to create a seamless

Pulling together with purpose: A summer of social impact



YVR Fire & Rescue team's annual pancake breakfast supports the BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund, which assists burn survivors throughout their recovery.

Vancouver International Airport (YVR) brought community impact to life this summer through inspiring events focused on inclusion, health, and collective action—from flipping pancakes to support the B.C. Professional Firefighters Burn Fund, raising funds for vision and healthcare access, and celebrating Two-Spirit voices—YVR employees once again demonstrated the power of coming together for good.

Orbis Plane Pull for Sight

On June 22, a team of YVR employees stepped up for the Plane Pull for Sight, hosted by FedEx in support of Orbis Canada. The event occurred on the FedEx

ramp at YVR, where teams were challenged to pull a 60-tonne FedEx 757 cargo plane 20 feet across the tarmac to help end avoidable blindness in low- and middle-income countries.

See **PULLING TOGETHER** page 3

SkyTalk is walking a path of reconciliation together with our friends at Musqueam and YVR.

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Accessibility milestones highlighted in YVR’s ‘Year Two Progress Report’



Vancouver International Airport (YVR) continues to lead the way in creating an inclusive travel experience for all, with the release of its Year Two Progress Report on Beyond Accessibility, providing a comprehensive look at advancements made in the second year of its three-year Accessibility Plan.

Recognized globally as one of the most accessible airports, YVR has made significant strides across eight key focus areas, aligning with the Canadian Transportation Agency’s Accessible Transportation for Persons with Disabilities Regulations.

“Serving our community is at

the heart of what we do,” said Tamara Vrooman, President & CEO at YVR. “We are committed to listening and learning from those with lived experiences to invest in services that prioritize accessibility at every touchpoint, remove barriers and create more opportunities for everyone to take part fully in all aspects of the YVR experience. We continue to make progress toward becoming a truly inclusive and accessible airport that reflects the diversity of our community. This report highlights those efforts.”

Major achievements from June 2024 to May 2025:

- Built environment:**
- Three new in-terminal quiet spaces, designed with sound-dampening materials to support guests with sensory sensitivities, anxiety, or other neurodiverse needs
 - Added two designated indoor relief areas for service animals and pets
 - Curbside improvements that include new intercom buttons and benches to support travellers needing assistance
- Information and communication technologies:**
- The airport integrated its mobility assistance program into its Digital Twin system, helping staff track and manage wheelchair availability across terminals, improving service delivery and response times
- Communication:**
- Twenty-seven assistive-listening devices installed at check-in counters to support deaf and hard-of-hearing travellers. These devices transmit sound directly to compatible hearing aids or cochlear implants, reducing background noise and improving clarity
- Procurement of goods, services and facilities:**
- YVR purchased a weather-protected passenger boarding

- ramp for the South Terminal, offering passengers a more comfortable and efficient boarding process
- Design and delivery of programs and services:**
- Launched a Travel Rehearsal Program, allowing passengers who have booked travel to explore airport procedures in advance, to help reduce stress and build confidence among guests facing accessibility barriers
 - Piloted autonomous pod technology through A&K Robotics, enhancing mobility independence for travellers navigating the terminal
- Transportation:**
- Curbside signage for courtesy shuttles, taxis, and ride app pick-up zones updated with braille and tactile

- Consultations:**
- YVR continues to work closely with the accessibility community, holding regular meetings with accessibility consultants and community partners to ensure ongoing alignment with inclusive design practices
- Employment:**
- A workplace refresh emphasized inclusive design with wheelchair-accessible workstations, enhanced ergonomics, tactile signage, and improved noise management, reinforcing YVR’s long-term accessibility goals for its employees
- The complete Year Two Progress Report on Beyond Accessibility, and more information about accessibility at the airport, is available online at yvr.ca under Accessibility at YVR.



Sustainability goals

from page 1

Use Osar: YVR’s smart waste-sorting stations throughout the airport use sensors and visual prompts to place items in the correct bin, making recycling and composting easier.

Consider before tossing: check the signs before throwing items

away to ensure they are in the correct bin.

Skip single-use plastics: when ordering food or drinks, choose items without plastic lids or cutlery when possible, or ask for reusable options offered by some vendors.

Bring a reusable water bottle: water stations throughout the terminal provide a cost-free alternative to bottled water.

Since 2017, YVR has partnered with Vancouver-based compa-

ny ChopValue to turn discarded chopsticks from the airport’s food courts into high-performance products. This circular partnership has already saved more than 77,000 kilograms of CO2e emissions. More than 456,000 chopsticks transformed into tabletops, handcrafted awards, and custom items throughout the terminal—including the new tables at Purebread—are examples of how YVR gives materials a second life, while moving closer

to its zero-waste goal.

In another sustainability milestone, YVR recently celebrated airlines helping reduce the airport’s environmental footprint through the 20th annual Fly Quiet Awards. These awards recognize carriers with the lowest noise levels measured annually by YVR’s Aircraft Noise & Operations Monitoring System, while maintaining compliance with the airport’s noise abatement procedures. Jazz Aviation (Propeller

Aircraft category), Porter Airlines (Narrow-body Jet category), and All Nippon Airways (Wide-body Jet category) earned top honours this year, demonstrating leadership in adopting quieter procedures and investing in newer, lower-noise aircraft technology.

By spotlighting airlines prioritizing noise reduction, YVR encourages practices that protect the surrounding community while supporting safe, efficient air travel.

North Runway Update: First paving layer fully completed



A key milestone in the North Runway Program at Vancouver International Airport (YVR) has been reached, with the first complete layer of asphalt laid across the runway’s entire length. This

paving pass marks the first of three to enhance the runway’s long-term durability and performance.

Stretching more than 3,000 metres (9,941 feet) and as wide

Built in the 1990s, YVR’s North Runway upgrades are taking place to ensure its longevity and resilience. Upgrade work occurs during the nightly closure period to ensure the runway is fully operational during the day.

as an 18-lane highway, the North Runway is critical to YVR’s infrastructure. Completing the initial levelling and paving pass required more than 20,000 cubic metres of asphalt—enough to fill more than eight Olympic-sized swimming pools.

In addition to asphalt work, crews are undertaking key drainage and electrical upgrades to improve the operational resilience of YVR’s dual-runway system.

These include replacing run-

way lighting, installing new signage, and upgrading utility access and drainage systems—all designed to ensure safe, efficient airfield operations in all weather conditions.

Work is carried out exclusively at night, during the North Runway’s daily closure from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., to minimize impacts on flight operations.

That schedule was recently tested in May, when an unexpected issue with the asphalt supplier halted overnight paving. Thanks to a robust contingency plan and strong contractor coordination, the team secured a secondary supplier and reopened the runway on time the following morning.

Travellers at YVR can see the progress for themselves—those

flying internationally or to the U.S. can catch a glimpse of the newly paved runway through any north-facing window after passing through security screening.

In parallel with construction, YVR continues to work in partnership with Musqueam. Under protocols safeguarding Musqueam cultural heritage, archaeological spot checks are conducted before ground-disturbing activities.

Each night, construction concludes with a full runway inspection. Crews walk the entire runway length to remove any foreign object debris before reopening for aircraft operations—underscoring the airport’s commitment to safety.

To follow along with the project or learn more, visit yvr.ca/northrunway.

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Game on: Gearing up for the FIFA World Cup 2026



Excitement is building across the region as Vancouver gets ready to host matches for the FIFA World Cup in June 2026, and YVR is already preparing to play a central role in the celebration. As a global gateway and one of the country's busiest airports, YVR is committed to delivering an exceptional travel experience to the thousands of worldwide fans, athletes, and visitors expected to arrive for the tournament. On a typical day, YVR welcomes

approximately 80,000 travellers. During major events, the airport has seen passenger volumes rise by five to 15 per cent, a trend anticipated again with the arrival of the World Cup. The airport's team experience managing increased passenger traffic, such as the Grey Cup, Taylor Swift concerts, and the Invictus Games Vancouver Whistler 2025, has built a strong foundation for the airport to deliver smooth, efficient service



during global occasions. Preparations for the FIFA World Cup are already in motion, and a dedicated cross-functional working group focused on tournament readiness has already been established. The team includes facilitation, emergency management, baggage, maintenance, communications, and more specialists. They are working closely with federal agencies and external partners, including the Vancouver Host Committee, to coordinate

operations across the airport. Together with its airport community, YVR is working to ensure a safe and seamless experience for everyone passing through its terminals during the tournament period. There will be updates in the months ahead, including details on terminal activations, operational plans, and how YVR will welcome the world to Vancouver for what is sure to be an unforgettable summer of sport and unity in 2026.

Pulling together

from page 1

Funds raised went to support the Orbis Flying Eye Hospital, a fully equipped teaching and training hospital on board an MD-10 aircraft that travels the world restoring sight and building local eye care capacity. The YVR team raised an impressive \$5,015, with participation and support from the airport community. A special shout-out goes to Shravan Poreddy, YVR's QA Analyst, who became the top individual fundraiser in B.C. and ranked among the top six nationwide. Poreddy's original fundraising goal of \$200 was quickly surpassed, with \$2,225 raised through 59 generous donations. This event highlighted not only the strength of the team but also the strength of purpose behind it—helping bring dignity, independence, and opportunity to those facing preventable blindness around the globe. After the strong showing at the Plane Pull for Sight, YVR employees are gearing up for the next tarmac challenge—Haul for Hope, on September 16. This high-energy plane-pull event supports Hope Air, a national charity providing free medi-

cal travel and accommodations for Canadians in need. Teams of 10–12 people will compete to pull a 67,500-pound WestJet Q400 over 100 metres. Each participant is asked to raise a minimum of \$350 through Benevity, and YVR will match all eligible donations. In 2024, Hope Air arranged more than 45,000 travel supports for patients nationwide. With demand continuing to rise, this year's Haul for Hope aims to help even more Canadians access the healthcare they need—no matter where they live.

Summer of Pride: visibility, allyship, and celebration
YVR's Summer of Pride campaign featured events celebrating diversity, promoting learning, and building allyship across the airport community. The season began with a Lunch & Learn in June featuring Musqueam artist (Manny) Strain, who shared powerful reflections on identity, culture, and history. In July, employees and allies joined the Richmond Pride Walk in Steveston Village—a vibrant community gathering emphasizing love, visibility, and support. Additional Pride activi-

ties included themed activations across the terminal and at YVR's offices on July 31, encouraging reflection and celebration throughout the workplace. On July 29, YVR also sponsored Fitness is Such a Drag—a high-energy fundraiser at the Vancouver Art Gallery in support of QMUNITY, B.C.'s queer, trans, and Two-Spirit resource centre. The event featured performances by Canada's Drag Race stars and invited attendees to participate in beginner-friendly cardio classes for a cause. Queer-owned business Pop Queen Cardio produced the event.

Pancakes with purpose: Fire & Rescue breakfast
On July 18, YVR's Fire and Rescue team fired up the griddle for a community pancake breakfast in support of the BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund. The event, which took place at Templeton Station, welcomed employees, families, contractors, and partner agencies to enjoy a morning of food and connections while raising funds for burn survivor support and prevention programs across the province. More than \$15,000 was raised by cash, card, and through Benevity, with YVR matching all eligible contributions.

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Busy summer

from page 1

- Pack smart**
- Carry-on liquids must be in 100mL containers inside a clear 1L bag
 - Label your bags clearly in case they're misplaced
 - Check what food or souvenirs you're allowed to bring
- Arrive early:**
- 2 hours before domestic flights;
 - 3 hours before U.S. or international flights
- Use travel tools:**
- If available, use Air Canada's

- Digital ID for fast domestic boarding
- Use Mobile Passport Control for quicker U.S. customs
 - Submit declarations in advance via ArriveCAN for international arrivals
- Picking someone up?**
- Use the Cellphone Waiting Area or enjoy 30 minutes of free parking in the parkade
- Need help?**
- Look for YVR's Green Coat volunteers or Guest Experience team, or call 604-207-7077 for accessibility support.
- More travel tips are available at yvr.ca.

World’s largest pilot union now represents more than 95% of Canada’s professional airline pilots

The Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) has certified the Air Line Pilots Association, Int’l (ALPA) as the bargaining agent for more than 800 pilots at Porter Airlines. Prior to the certification, Porter was the largest non-

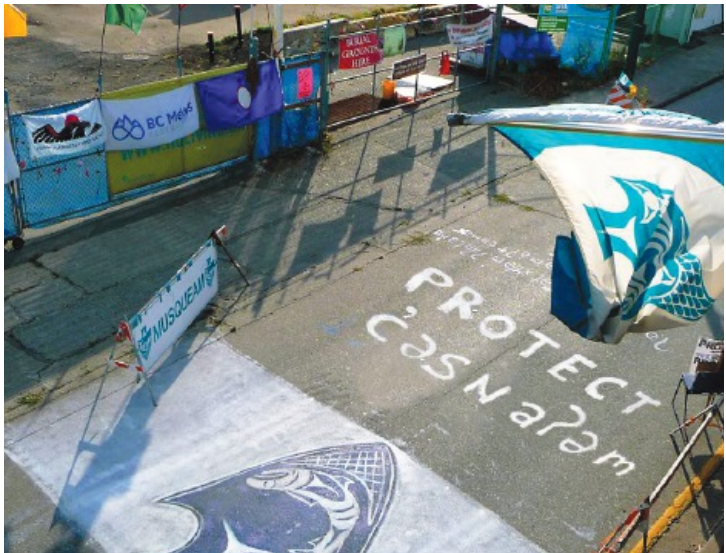
unionized carrier in Canada. Operating the Embraer E195-E2 and Havilland Dash 8-400 aircraft, the airline’s pilot group has grown significantly in the last five years. In recent years, ALPA has welcomed thousands of pilots from

numerous other Canadian carriers, including Air Borealis, Air Canada, Air Inuit, Cargojet, Flair, Keewatin Air, Morningstar Air Express, PAL Airlines, PAL Aerospace, Pascan Aviation, and Perimeter Aviation. With the cer-

tification, Porter’s pilots become the 43rd pilot group to join ALPA, and the 22nd in Canada. ALPA is the largest airline pilot union in the world and represents more than 79,000 pilots at 43 U.S. and Canadian airlines.



Celebrating Indigenous culture, learning and partnership at YVR



C̓əsnaʔəm: the city before the city documentary highlights Musqueam, the first people of Vancouver, and their 9,000-year history before the current-day city was built.

Vancouver International Airport (YVR) deepened its commitment to reconciliation this summer through a series of meaningful initiatives. From art markets and youth tours to hands-on workshops and film screenings, activities honoured Indigenous History Month in June, reinforcing YVR’s role as a place of gathering, learning, and respect for Indigenous knowledge. In partnership with the Vancouver School Board Indigenous Education team, YVR welcomed groups of elementary and high school students for behind-the-scenes airport tours. Students explored a wide range of careers—from emergency response to tech innovation—while engaging in hands-on activities and connecting directly with employees. Now in their

tenth edition, these tours reflect YVR’s ongoing commitment to youth empowerment and future Indigenous leadership. On June 12, airport staff and travellers were invited to experience a Musqueam Indigenous Art Market at the airport. Featuring local carvers, beaders, jewellers, and more, the market celebrated the vibrant creativity of Musqueam and other Indigenous communities. Live performances by Musqueam musical artists added to the energy of the day. As part of YVR’s Indigenous History Month programming, Musqueam artist Sandra Guerin led a workshop teaching participants to weave roses out of cedar bark—an art form rooted in millennia-old practices. Attendees learned about the cultural pro-

ocols that guide cedar harvesting and the intergenerational knowledge passed down through Musqueam families. To close the month of June, YVR employees gathered for a screening of *C̓əsnaʔəm: the city before the city*, followed by a conversation facilitated by Morgan Guerin, a Musqueam member and YVR’s Indigenous Relations Manager. The documentary explored Musqueam’s enduring connection to the land, the desecration of ancestral sites, and the strength of community activism. The event took place at YVR’s Marine Gateway office—located near the *C̓əsnaʔəm* site—and served as a powerful reminder of the histories and futures rooted in the land on which YVR operates.

Know the signs of STROKE

F

Face

is it drooping?

A

Arms

can you raise both?

S

Speech

is it slurred or jumbled?

T

Time

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Beat stroke

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YVR Art Foundation scholarships champion Indigenous artistic excellence



The airport also celebrated the newest recipients of the YVR Art Foundation scholarships. Each year, the YVR Art Foundation scholarships support Indigenous artists across B.C. and Yukon, uplifting emerging talent and supporting cultural resurgence through the arts.

This summer, 11 Indigenous

artists were awarded \$5,000 each to support their art practice, mentorship, or education:

Emerging Artist Scholarship recipients

- NoraJane Edenshaw (Haida)
- Christina GreenSpeck (Kwakwaka'wakw, Tahltan, Tsimshian)

The YVR Art Foundation awards \$5,000 scholarships annually for emerging BC and Yukon First Nations artists.

- Nang kaajuus (Ts'msyen)
- Savannah Medeiros (Ts'msyen, Nisga'a)
- Elijah Morberg (Tahltan, Tlingit)
- Ary Pullano (Gitksan)
- Derek White Jr. (Haida)
- Zoe Kompst (Musqueam Nation)—selected through the Musqueam Mentorship Scholarship

Mid-Career Artist Scholarship recipients

- Joshua Conrad (Stó:lō, Chawathil First Nation)—whose project includes creating a Halq'eméylem-language neon welcome sign for YVR
- Kolten Khasalus Grant (Squamish, Kwakwaka'wakw)
- Raven Thorpeirson (Haida)

Each artist selected brings a unique voice and vision to their work, enriching their communities and preserving cultural knowledge through creative expression.

YVR wins 2024 Uber Airport Sustainability Award



Airport leaders and YVR ground transportation team members pose with the 2024 Sustainability award trophies alongside representatives from Uber.

Uber has awarded its 2024 Airport Sustainability Award to YVR for the airport’s efforts to reduce emissions from rideshare transportation. As demand for ride-hailing services grows, YVR is taking action by encouraging hybrid and zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs). A new fee structure now offers lower per-trip fees for greener rides, making sustainable travel options more affordable for passengers. The recognition from Uber highlights YVR’s ongoing work to reduce carbon emissions and support partners in building a cleaner transportation network.

Marking World Environment Day with bold sustainability steps



On June 5, recognizing World Environment Day, Vancouver International Airport (YVR) reaffirmed its commitment to environmental leadership with significant initiatives.

Sustainability is deeply embedded in the airport's policies and shapes the way the airport operates, plans, and partners for a cleaner future. From accelerating the use of low-carbon fuels to upgrading infrastructure to withstand climate change, YVR is making steady progress in supporting greener air travel and building a more resilient community.

Here are four key ways the airport is leading the charge:

Advancing low-carbon aviation

YVR actively contributes to the global shift toward cleaner air travel by helping develop and promote Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). In 2024, the airport launched the B.C. Low Carbon Jet Fuel Incentive Program to boost early SAF adoption and partnered with the Province of B.C. on a SAF Opportunity Study to promote local production opportunities.

YVR has expanded its use of ground power units at ground

The building wrap on the CUB (Central Utilities Building) at YVR showcases the airport's commitment to becoming carbon net-zero by 2030.

level, allowing aircraft to plug into B.C.'s clean electricity at the gate rather than jet fuel. Additional investments in electric vehicle charging for ground support vehicles further reduce on-site emissions.

To guide future efforts, YVR established the Energy Advisory Council, a panel of independent experts providing strategic direction on achieving net-zero emissions across aviation and infrastructure by 2050.

Cutting carbon across the terminal

YVR is one of only three airports in North America certified at Level 4+ of the Airport Carbon Accreditation Program and has already achieved carbon neutrality for its operations.

In 2024 alone, the airport reduced its emissions by 19 per cent compared to the previous year. Upgrades to heating, lighting, and ventilation systems reduced emissions by more than 500 tonnes, comparable to taking

120 cars off the road.

The airport also increased its use of renewable fuels, purchasing 62 per cent of renewable diesel for its airside fleet, and powering 36 per cent of terminal heating by renewable natural gas.

A major geoexchange system now under development will reduce carbon emissions by more than 4,800 tonnes per year at YVR. Additionally, air source heat pumps, expected to cut an additional 855 tonnes of emissions annually, will be installed in the Main Terminal.

Fostering a culture of sustainability

The airport's Green Commuter Program rewards employees who choose low-carbon travel options, such as walking, biking, transit, or carpooling. As a recognized Transit Friendly Employer, YVR supports climate-friendly commuting options that are both accessible and cost-effective. YVR also works closely with the Sea Island business community to reduce emissions collectively through initiatives such as YVR's Green Excellence Award, which encourages collaboration and shared responsibility across the community. These initiatives are just a snapshot of the ongoing work outlined in YVR's

new Environmental Sustainability Plan, a comprehensive roadmap designed to reduce emissions, adapt to climate change, and drive innovation across the airport.

Building climate-resilient infrastructure

Preparing for the impacts of climate change is central to YVR's long-term planning, including investment in major infrastructure upgrades on Sea Island to guard against rising sea levels and severe weather.

Between 2025 and 2026, \$60 million will be invested to raise dikes and replace floodboxes, with an additional \$12 million used to upgrade pump stations.

Beyond 2026, YVR plans to invest \$12.5 million annually to enhance flood protection and strengthen long-term resilience. Sustainability considerations will be integrated into all new infrastructure planning, ensuring that the airport is ready to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

As the global aviation industry evolves, YVR is taking proactive steps to ensure its future is efficient, inclusive, and sustainable. To learn more about the airport's climate and environmental initiatives, visit yvr.ca/en/about-yvr/environment.

Airfairness debuts AI platform to tackle flight disruption claims



Left to Right: John Marzo, CEO & Co-founder of Airfairness; Máuhan Zonoozy, Flight or Fight Ai Founder; David Linardi, CTO & Co-founder of Airfairness.

Following a splash at the 2024 Collision tech conference and selection as the #1 startup to watch in 2025, Canadian-based travel tech company Airfairness is launching the public-facing component of its next-generation, first-of-its-kind platform, the Flight Navigator.

This AI-powered tool offers air travellers a faster, more innovative method to determine whether they are eligible for flight compensation in less than two minutes.

The Flight Navigator makes it simple for passengers to build their trip and determine which part of their itinerary disrupted their travel plans.

With more than \$350 million in potential compensation daily, the tool helps travellers claim compensation. It checks the fine print against international passenger rights legislation, such as Canada and Europe, informing passengers immediately if they might be eligible to claim up to \$1,000 each in compensation.

"When a flight has been delayed or cancelled, it's bad enough," said Jon Marzo, CEO and Co-founder of Airfairness. "The last thing you want to do is to become a lawyer to see if you are owed compensation. The Flight Navigator changes that. It puts clarity and confidence in the hands of the traveller."

The launch represents the first milestone in the company's rollout of an end-to-end AI platform to remove the stress,

paperwork, and uncertainty from flight delay claims. Subsequent AI-driven features will be rolled out later this year and designed to equip travellers with greater tools to clarify their rights and compensation. Airfairness has acquired FlightorFight.ai, a New York-based travel tech AI startup founded by Máuhan M. Zonoozy, the former Head of Innovation at Spotify, to aid this next growth stage.

Zonoozy and his protégé, Chloe Meuse, were inspired by the massive impact of the CrowdStrike outage in July 2024, which stranded millions of airline passengers. They built and launched a tool to help passengers over one week-end. The site quickly caught fire after Zonoozy mentioned it on LinkedIn. The post caught Marzo's eye, and within 11 LinkedIn comments, he realized its value and closed the acquisition.

This deal strengthens Airfairness's ability to navigate aviation data and real-time analytics and decipher complex flight information. Its intelligent tools work together to reveal the reasons behind flight delays.

"This acquisition fast-tracks our vision to make Airfairness the world's smartest passenger rights platform," said David Linardi, CTO and Co-founder. "We're all about fairness, efficiency, and building something passengers can rely on—without needing a law degree."

The Flight Navigator is now live at airfairness.com.

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Pajo’s celebrates 40 years of fish, chips, and community—including at YVR

It was a sunny day filled with nostalgia, music, and the unmistakable aroma of freshly fried fish as more than 100 guests gathered at the Steveston wharf to celebrate the 40th anniversary of a beloved local institution: Pajo’s Fish and Chips.

The event marked not just a business milestone, but a celebration of community, local roots, and the spirit of adventure—values that Pajo’s carries into every one of its locations, including its popular outpost at YVR.

Founded in 1985 by Patricia Branch, Pajo’s began as a small, family-owned stand on the Steveston waterfront. It quickly grew into a local favourite, known for its iconic fish and chips in paper cones and signature West Coast flair.

Over the decades, Pajo’s has expanded to multiple locations, including Port Moody in 1987 and YVR in 2017. At the anniversary celebration, Patricia Branch and Cindy Plumb, now CEO and President, reflected on Pajo’s journey and the community’s role in its success.

“The only reason we made it through COVID is because of our

local customers coming and supporting us,” said Plumb. “It’s a matter of pride to say we use all local products, and we’ve stayed true to who we are.”

The YVR location, which opened in 2017, has helped introduce Pajo’s to a broader audience—from first-time visitors to returning locals.

“Travel is about experiences,” said Plumb. “If we can be part of someone’s adventure and provide great food, that’s something they’ll remember and talk about when they go home.”

The fit with YVR is intentional. As their slogan says, “We’re part of your adventure”—a message that resonates with airport travellers, either beginning or ending their journeys.

“It used to be people said, ‘I’ve been to the Pajo’s in Steveston,’” added Branch. “Now it’s, ‘I’ve been to the one at YVR, and it’s great.’”

Pajo’s commitment to sustainability and community was front and centre at the event. All seafood served is 100 per cent Ocean Wise certified, with ingredients sourced from B.C. and Alaskan waters and potatoes grown in Delta, delivered straight

from the farm.

“We need to stay local and shop local,” said Plumb. “It creates that cycle of life that makes us a vibrant community.”

The business continues to be guided by a philosophy they call CHIPS: Continuous Improvement Having Fun Integrity People First Sustainability.

A celebration of community attendees at the anniversary included a wide range of local leaders and elected officials, including Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie, MLAs Steve Kooner, Teresa Wat, and Hon. George Chow, and Richmond City Councillors. They praised Pajo’s for its quality, consistency, and role in attracting visitors and strengthening the local economy.

The celebration featured live music, speeches, a photo table of Pajo’s history, and generous servings of fish and chips and fish tacos for everyone.

A champagne toast and cake-cutting ceremony capped off the festive atmosphere.

Pajo’s is located post-security, International Departures at YVR. Open 8am to 9pm daily.

Artistry takes flight with Cathay’s Aria suite

Cathay Pacific is setting a new benchmark for premium air travel with its all-new Aria Suite Business class, now available on selected daily flights between Vancouver and Hong Kong.

Vancouver-Hong Kong is the third long-haul route for the airline’s Aria Suite, which was unveiled in Hong Kong in October 2024 onboard its retrofitted Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, which also features a new Premium Economy and refreshed Economy cabin.

The cutting-edge Aria Suite delivers a reimagined cabin experience showcasing unrivalled comfort, style and functionality with a human-centric design that places the customer experience

at the heart of the conception.

Artistry and craftsmanship have gone into every design detail. The suite offers a more personalized and immersive travel experience, featuring a more spacious cabin, intuitive seat designs and refined finishes reflecting Cathay Pacific’s dedication to quality.

The new cabin design is a key element of Cathay Pacific’s long-term vision to become one of the world’s best service brands by enhancing its global offering and providing customers with exceptional in-flight comfort. It is part of the HK\$100 billion the Cathay Group invests in its fleet, cabin products, airport lounges, and digital innovation.

“We are proud to continue

our commitment to offering an unparalleled level of comfort and convenience by bringing our highly anticipated Aria Suite to our North American customers,” said Chris Vanden Hooven, Cathay Pacific Senior Vice President, Americas. “Just over 40 years ago, Vancouver was our first long-haul passenger route between North America and Hong Kong. We are thrilled to introduce the Aria Suite to the Americas via Vancouver, further demonstrating the importance of the region to Cathay Pacific.”

From now to October 2025, Cathay Pacific will operate 17 nonstop return flights per week between Vancouver and Hong Kong. With the flight frequency



throughout the day, connectivity to Hong Kong and beyond is seamless via Cathay Pacific’s

expanding global network. For more information on flights, visit cathaypacific.com.

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Jet-set your taste buds: Romer’s Fresh Kitchen & Bar opens at YVR

After serving guests award-winning, West Coast-inspired cuisine around Vancouver for more than 15 years, Romer's Fresh Kitchen & Bar is now open at YVR.

Located post-security, near Gate E74 in the U.S. Departures terminal, Romer's is a noteworthy addition to a traveller's journey, whether it's a quick grab-and-go meal for the plane or a full-service experience in the restaurant.

On the menu, guests will find hand-pressed, natural beef burgers, nutritious salads and bowls, and hearty breakfasts, all made fresh on order.

Romer's offerings strengthen YVR's commitment to bringing local businesses to international audiences through sourcing certified natural beef from Semlin Valley Ranch in Cache Creek, B.C. and partnering with Cioffi's Meat Market & Deli in Burnaby.

As part of YVR's continued efforts to curate best-in-class dining options, Romer's reflects the airport's mission to support local businesses and showcase the region's rich culinary identity.

Through partnerships with beloved B.C. brands, YVR offers travellers an authentic taste of the region while contributing to the local economy and enhancing the overall passenger experience.

Inspired by the West Coast lifestyle of keeping things fresh, local and fun, visit Romer's before your next flight for notable favourites including the Magic Mushroom Burger, Truffle Fries and Drunken Donuts.

Romer's at YVR is operated by



SSP Canada, making it their 13th restaurant location at the airport.

The Romer's Fresh Kitchen & Bar team looks forward to wel-

coming guests from 5:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily for great food, an honest drink, all with a smile and an added dose of fun. ✈️



Northern Lights, northern flights: Air North’s Vancouver-Yellowknife route returns

Air North, Yukon's Airline, seasonal non-stop service between Vancouver and Yellowknife, will return on Monday, November 24, 2025, departing twice weekly until March 27, 2026.

This reinstated route enhances direct air travel between British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. Excitingly, it also enables near year-round air service between Whitehorse and Yellowknife: via Vancouver in the

winter and Air North's eastern gateway in Ontario during the summer. The service will enhance northern transportation links and foster regional economic and cultural connections.

"This route aligns with our mission to deliver Canada's best regional air network," said Benjamin Ryan, Chief Commercial Officer at Air North. "As a Yukon-owned and operated airline, we are deeply committed to support-

ing the prosperity of Canada's Arctic. We see this route as a meaningful step toward strengthening connections between the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. Our track record of delivering safe, reliable, and affordable air access in the North continues to contribute to community well-being and long-term economic development."

The service reflects Air North's northern-first strategy, marking a significant milestone in connecting the Yukon and Northwest Territories by prioritizing community needs, fostering economic integration, and strengthening long-term regional resilience. It enhances tourism and travel

trade by increasing two-way visitor flows between Yellowknife and Vancouver, with seamless connections for international travellers eager to experience the Aurora season.

"We are pleased that Air North, which has been serving northern communities out of YVR for over 20 years, is reintroducing service to Yellowknife," said Mike McNaney, Vice President and Chief External Affairs Officer at Vancouver International Airport (YVR). "Those travelling from British Columbia now have more choice and opportunity to experience all that a Northwest Territories winter has to offer, while flights from Yellowknife are

timed for seamless onwards connections through YVR."

Air North's flights also support cargo transport, business travel, scientific collaboration, and ongoing investment in northern innovation and Indigenous partnerships.

The inaugural flight, operated by Air North's Boeing 737 aircraft, departs YVR at 1:25 p.m. PT on Monday, November 24, and arrives at Yellowknife Airport (YZF) at 4:55 p.m. MT.

Flights are available currently for purchase, with one-way fares from \$139, including complimentary meals, checked and carry-on baggage, and Air North's famous warm, chocolate chip cookies. ✈️



Air North, Yukon's Airline, utilizes a fleet of Boeing 737 jets and ATR 42 turboprop aircraft for its passenger and cargo operations.



The best time to see the aurora borealis in Canada is generally between August and April, with peak activity often in October, November, and April.

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Air Canada revamps its loyalty card program



Effective January 1, 2026, members of Aeroplan, the frequent-flyer program owned by Air Canada, will earn points on eligible Air Canada flights based on dollars spent rather than the distance they travel.

On the same date, Air Canada will introduce Status Qualifying Credits (SQC), a new single path for achieving Aeroplan Elite status, changing how members qualify based on their activities from January 1, 2026 onward.

Members can get SQC through eligible flight purchases, Aeroplan credit card spending, and activity with the program's travel and everyday partners.

These changes will reward Aeroplan members who spend more, travel more with Air Canada, and actively engage across the program while keeping Aeroplan Elite status truly special.

"Aeroplan has grown into one of the most rewarding and widely used travel loyalty programs,"

said Scott O'Leary, Vice President, Loyalty & Product at Air Canada. "Our most engaged members do more than just fly with us—they earn with our partners, choose flexible fares, and carry Aeroplan credit cards. These changes help us better recognize their loyalty and keep improving the experience."

Aeroplan Elite status qualification is unchanged for the remainder of 2025, including how members achieve status for 2026.

Here's how members will earn Aeroplan points and qualify for Aeroplan Elite Status as of January 1, 2026:

- **Members earn points based on spend:** at least 1 Aeroplan point per \$1 spent on an eligible Air Canada flight (base fare and carrier surcharges, excluding applicable taxes, fees, and third-party charges). For example, if a cardholder spends \$427 on base fare and carrier surcharges (excluding applicable taxes, fees, and third-party

charges), they will receive 427 Aeroplan points.

- **Frequent bonus points offers:** allowing members to reach rewards faster.
- **Aeroplan Elite status Members earn more on Air Canada flights:** dependent on status level at travel, Aeroplan Elite status members will earn 2x to 6x Aeroplan points per dollar spent on eligible Air Canada flights.
- **Qualify for Elite Status with SQC:** receive up to 4 SQC per dollar on eligible Air Canada fares, up to 25,000 SQC through eligible Aeroplan credit card spending and an additional 25,000 SQC via eligible partner activity.

Air Canada says the changes will recognize and reward Aeroplan's most loyal and engaged members. For more information about the changes, visit aircanada.com/acearn2026 and aircanada.com/elite2026 ✈

Porter Airlines takes flight with Digital Winglets for smarter, greener skies

Porter Airlines and APIJET, the developer of Digital Winglets, have announced the deployment of Digital Winglets across Porter Airlines' North American fleet of Embraer E195-E2 aircraft.

APIJET Digital Winglets is a flight path optimization (FPO) solution based on NASA's Traffic Aware Strategic Aircrew Requests (TASAR) technology.

NASA's TASAR, along with APIJET's proprietary algorithms, mapping technologies and live aircraft state data solutions, enable air carriers worldwide to make deconflicted, route-specific flight optimization decisions to save fuel, improve schedule reliability and on-time performance, and reduce carbon emissions.

Porter Airlines operates the world's largest fleet of Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, and the deployment of Digital Winglets will save the airline two to three percent of fuel and one to two minutes per optimized flight while reducing network delays.

"Digital Winglets provides a



The E195-E2 is certified to the strictest international noise standards, with a noise footprint up to 76 percent smaller than previous-generation narrow-body aircraft.

powerful suite of tools that allow us to optimize flights in real-time for the most fuel-efficient routing, which improves on-time performance and helps us deliver the elevated passenger experience that Porter is known for," said Kent Woodside, Executive Vice President and COO at Porter Airlines. "The time and cost of introducing new technology

across a fleet can be challenging. Deploying Digital Winglets was seamless, and APIJET provided a personal level of hands-on support throughout the process. Our continuing fleet expansion means that each new aircraft is seamlessly added to the platform immediately."

Digital Winglets is architected with a unique combination of



online and ground-based technologies, allowing Porter to deploy it quickly and seamlessly into its fleet of 46 Embraer E195-E2 aircraft with no hardware or software to install.

"With Digital Winglets, Porter can optimize to save fuel and reduce en route time, improving schedule performance while achieving emissions reductions. Porter has a bold vision for expansion, and we are excited

to work with them to further achieve their objectives for customer experience and efficiency," said Rob Green, CEO of APIJET.

As Porter continues its planned expansion of up to 100 Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, the benefits of Digital Winglets will be immediately available with no additional work.

For information on Porter Airlines flights from YVR, visit flyporter.com ✈

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Helijet's sky-high tribute to the Canadian Maple Leaf



On the auspicious occasion of Canada Day, July 1, Helijet unveiled a new "Team Canada" livery for one of its Sikorsky S-76 passenger helicopters.

The refreshed look of the helicopter featured a giant Canadian flag splashed across the aircraft's body, accompanied by the phrase "True North Strong and Free."

"We decided to launch this new livery on Canada Day as a bold statement to affirm that Helijet is a proudly Canadian company," said Danny Sitnam, President and CEO of Helijet International. "We think there's no bigger statement we could make than flying the Maple Leaf flag high in the sky

on our routes over the BC coast from this day forward to serve as a constant reminder of our collective Team Canada spirit."

Helijet's scheduled passenger helicopter airline services operate flights from heliports at Vancouver International Airport (YVR), downtown Vancouver, Nanaimo and Victoria, BC. It also operates a charter division (Helijet Charters) that serves film, television, aerial tours, industrial and general helicopter and corporate jet charter markets, and helicopter and jet air ambulance services.

For more information on Helijet's flights, visit helijet.com. ✈

WestJet’s winter schedule connects BC with new sun escape, more domestic options

WestJet’s winter 2025/2026 schedule will include launching non-stop seasonal service between Vancouver and Liberia, Costa Rica and offering additional frequency on seven domestic routes. Victoria International Airport will see an overall seat capacity increase of 10 per cent, while Kelowna International Airport will see an overall increase of 11 per cent.

“WestJet’s 2025/2026 B.C. winter schedule reflects our commitment to making air travel more accessible and affordable for Western Canadians,” said John Weatherill, WestJet Executive Vice-President and Chief Commercial Officer. “By increasing domestic frequencies across British Columbia and introducing new sun service to Costa Rica, we’re giving our

guests more choice and flexibility so they can connect with loved ones, explore new destinations or

escape the cold, all with the convenience and value they expect from WestJet.”

Route	Peak weekly frequency	Start date	Increase over winter 2024
Vancouver – Liberia	1x weekly	December 12	New service
Vancouver – Kelowna*	55x weekly	Year-round	53 per cent
Vancouver – Victoria*	35x weekly	Year-round	25 per cent
Vancouver – Nanaimo*	6x weekly	Year-round	50 per cent
Vancouver – Cranbrook*	5x weekly	Year-round	67 per cent
Kelowna – Puerto Vallarta*	4x weekly	October 26	33 per cent
Kelowna – Calgary*	66x weekly	Year-round	27 per cent
Kelowna – Edmonton*	27x weekly	Year-round	42 per cent
Kelowna – Toronto*	5x weekly	Year-round	67 per cent
Victoria – Kelowna*	5x weekly	Year-round	67 per cent
Victoria – Edmonton*	13x weekly	Year-round	44 per cent

*New frequency

For more details on flights and destinations, visit westjet.com.



WestJet’s winter 2025/206 schedule includes a new sun destination from Vancouver to Liberia, Costa Rica. (Photo courtesy CNW Group/WESTJET, an Alberta Partnership.)

New era of air traffic control launches in Edmonton



NAV CANADA has confirmed that its Edmonton facility will be the first Canadian site selected to develop and implement iTEC SkyNex.

The iTEC SkyNex ATM system is designed to strengthen system integration, reduce costs, improve efficiency, and promote greener, more sustainable air travel.

The ground-breaking system—developed with Indra, a leading supplier of air traffic management and communications, navigation and surveillance solutions—and trusted partners in Europe—represents a generational leap in air traffic management (ATM) technology.

Its implementation will mark a significant breakthrough for air traffic operations in Europe and Canada, a substantial milestone on NAV CANADA’s path to trajectory-based operations, and a critical investment in Canadian aviation infrastructure.

Edmonton’s Area Control Centre, located within the world’s largest non-oceanic Flight Information Region, is

considered an ideal launch point for iTEC SkyNex. The facility is responsible for safe and efficient operations across various operating environments and a diverse traffic mix. It is at the crossroads of domestic and international aircraft routes, offering conditions to scale and test future-ready innovative technologies.

At the heart of the iTEC SkyNex system is the Flight Data Processor (FDP), often described as the system’s “nerve centre.” The FDP calculates flight paths, detects potential conflicts, and updates flight data in real time—supporting safe, coordinated operations across borders.

Through this collaboration, NAV CANADA is accelerating innovation and contributing to a flexible, interoperable ATM system built on shared knowledge to deliver more innovative, scalable solutions that elevate global aviation performance.

NAV CANADA is the first air navigation service provider outside of Europe to join the consortium and participate in developing this advanced technology.

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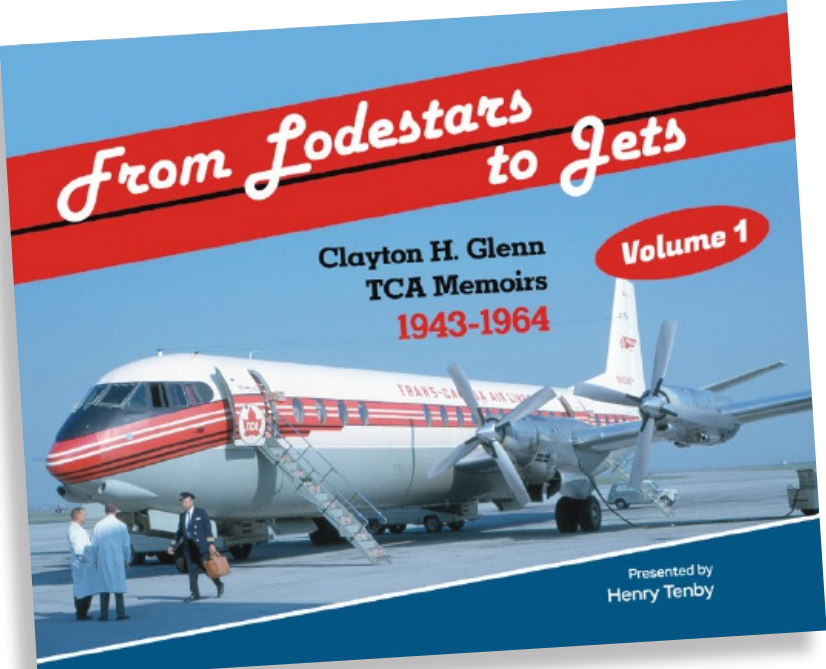


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UPCOMING AVIATION EVENTS

AUGUST 17, 2025

Chilliwack Flight Fest

Chilliwack Airport, 46244 Airport Road, Chilliwack, BC

Organized by The Chilliwack Flight Fest Society, thousands of Chilliwack residents and visitors turn up to stroll among the displays, climb in and out of aircraft, meet and talk with performers, enjoy a summer's day and an old-fashioned barn-storming airshow experience—all for free. Airshow gates open at 11am, flying starts at 1pm. Visit chilliwackairshow.ca.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

RCAF Battle of Britain Parade

Stanley Park, Vancouver, BC
11:45am – 2:40pm

An annual commemorative ceremony and parade to honour Canadian and other allied airmen who sacrificed their lives in the Battle of Britain and other major air campaigns. The event also honours those RCAF personnel who gave their lives in crashes after the war. The ceremony and parade occur in the Air Force Garden of Remembrance in Vancouver's Stanley Park.

OCTOBER 4, 2025

Northern Lights Aero Foundation Gala

Pearson Convention Centre, 2638 Steeles Ave. E., Brampton, ON
5pm – 10pm

The Northern Lights Aero Foundation's Elsie MacGill Awards - The "Elsie" is named after aviation pioneer and human rights advocate Elsie Gregory MacGill, the world's first female aircraft designer. MacGill graduated from the University of Toronto's electrical engineering program in 1927 and later became pivotal in the design and production of the Hawker Hurricane in Canada during the Second World War. During her career, MacGill was appointed to the Canadian Royal Commission on the Status of Women, and was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. For more information email: info@northernlightsaerofoundation.com.

OCTOBER 25-28, 2025

ACI-NA & ACI World Annual General Assembly, Conference & Exhibition

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, ON

Over the years, attendees have counted on this conference to stay ahead of emerging trends, see the latest industry solutions, and connect with friends and colleagues. While so much has changed in the ever-evolving industry, attendees can continue to count on ACI-NA & ACI World to deliver a forward-thinking conference agenda that positions the industry for success in the years to come. For more information, email: meetings@airportscouncil.org.

NOVEMBER 14, 2025

BC Aviation Council Silver Wings Industry & Scholarship Awards Celebration

Vancouver Convention Centre West, 3rd Floor, 1055 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC
5:45pm -10pm

At its annual Silver Wings Industry and Scholarship Awards Celebration, the BCAC recognizes aviation and aerospace industry colleagues for specific achievements. BCAC disburses approximately \$150,000 through its Scholarship Awards Program to hard-working students enrolled in aviation and/or aerospace programs in British Columbia. Attend the annual Awards Celebration at the Vancouver Convention Centre West, for an evening of fine food, live entertainment, an Online Auction, a 50/50 Draw, a vibrant awards ceremony and unparalleled networking opportunities. For more information, dave@bcaviationcouncil.org

NOVEMBER 18-20, 2025

Air Transport Association of Canada

Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, QC

ATAC's Canadian Aviation Conference and Tradeshow is the premier national gathering offering Canada's best networking, learning and sales opportunities for operators, suppliers and government stakeholders involved in commercial aviation and flight training in Canada. Visit atac.ca/conference-2025.

Gregg Evjen announced President of Kelowna's KF Aerospace

KF Aerospace has appointed Gregg Evjen as President of KF Aerospace, effective September 1, 2025.

This appointment is part of KF's long-term succession planning and establishes a leadership structure that pairs Evjen's experienced operational oversight with continued strategic guidance at the



group level. Tracy Medve, KF's current President and CEO, will continue as Chief Executive Officer of KF Capital Ltd., the umbrella organization overseeing KF Aerospace and the company's other business divisions and strategic initiatives.

Evjen has a 35-year career with KF Aerospace, joining as a Junior

Engineer in 1989 after completing his studies in Aeronautical Engineering at SAIT. He has played a central role in the company's evolution—leading hundreds of engineering projects and regulatory approvals, including the Convair CV5800 stretch program, multiple freighter conversions, and modification programs across nearly every primary aircraft type in KF's operations. ✈️

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Low-cost carrier Flair to offer flights from Vancouver & Toronto to Mexico City



Starting October 2025, Canadian low-cost airline Flair will launch nonstop service to Mexico City International Airport Benito Juárez (MEX) from both Vancouver International Airport (YVR) and Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ). Flair plans for three weekly flights on each route, with one-

way fares starting from \$140 from YVR-MEX and \$160 from YYZ-MEX. “For too long, flights to Mexico City have been out of reach for too many,” said Flair Airlines CEO Maciej Wilk. “We’re changing that. Flair is the only value airline in Canada, making it possible for customers to explore the capi-

tal of Mexico, and for Mexicans to discover all that Toronto and Vancouver have to offer.” Flair continues to expand its Mexico network, building on popular service to Cancun, Puerto Vallarta, and Guadalajara. Adding Mexico City, the country’s cultural, political, and culinary hub, opens new opportunities for travel, tourism, business, and connection. “Mexico and Canada have long enjoyed a close and dynamic relationship, connecting families, businesses, and curious travellers who explore each other’s rich cultures,” said Acting Consul General Luis Hernandez. “On behalf of the Consulate General of Mexico in Vancouver, I am delighted to welcome Flair’s new direct flights to Mexico City from Vancouver and Toronto. Expanding reliable and affordable air service strengthens the vital links between our two nations and opens new opportunities for travel, tourism, and economic exchange.”

Vancouver (YVR) to Mexico City (MEX): Starts October 27, 2025, Monday, Friday, Sunday (Departs 07:10, Arrives 23:45), starting at \$140

Mexico City (MEX) to Vancouver (YVR): Starts October 28, 2025, Monday, Tuesday, Saturday (Departs 00:45, Arrives 05:55), starting at \$120

Toronto (YYZ) to Mexico City (MEX): Starts October 28, 2025, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday (Departs 20:15, Arrives 23:45), starting at \$160

Mexico City (MEX) to Toronto (YYZ): Starts October 29, 2025, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday (Departs 00:45, Arrives 07:25), starting at \$120

Flights are subject to government approval. Fares are subject to change. Flair Airlines continues its rapid

expansion with a growing fleet of fuel-efficient Boeing 737-800 and 737 MAX 8 aircraft. For more information, visit flyflair.com

FLAIR PASSENGER GUARANTEE

Despite the busiest skies of the year, Flair still came out on top as Canada’s most reliable airline in June, posting a 99.8% completion rate, the best in Canada. Flair backs its flights with Canada’s only On-Time Guarantee – if the airline is late by more than 60 minutes, travellers on the flight receive a travel credit.

Study reveals Canadian airports generate \$123.5 billion in annual economic output

The Canadian Airports Council (CAC) has released the findings of a new economic impact study showing the significant contribution of Canada’s airports to the national economy. The study highlights that 61 airports across the country supported 435,800 full-time jobs, paid \$32.9 billion in annual wages, contributed \$49.6 billion to GDP and generated a total economic output of \$123.5 billion in 2024. “At a time of global uncertainty and economic change, this report reaffirms what our members and communities have long understood: Airports are not only essential transportation hubs but also powerful economic engines,” said Monette Pasher, President of the CAC. “They are essential to ensuring that Canada remains connected, competitive and ready to meet the challenges of a shifting global environment.”

The study, developed using an updated economic model based on Statistics Canada data and more than 30 airport economic reports, mirrors a similar CAC study from 2016, directly comparing industry growth over time. **Key national-level findings include:** • Total employment supported by airport activity increased 22.8% • Total annual wages rose by 49.5%, to \$32.9 billion • Total GDP linked to airports reached \$49.6 billion. • Economic yearly output grew 56.3% over 2016 levels. “This growth is a testament to the resilience of the aviation sector and its vital role in connecting Canadians, supporting local businesses and enabling trade,” added Pasher. “As we look ahead, continued invest-

ment in airport infrastructure and policies that support sustainable growth are essential.” While the pandemic disrupted the aviation industry, the latest data shows that Canada’s airports have recovered strongly. Passenger levels are approaching pre-pandemic highs, and air cargo has grown substantially, reflecting renewed confidence in global trade and travel. The study also emphasizes the interconnected nature of airport-driven economic activity, where airport jobs help sustain a broader employment ecosystem in tourism, logistics and manufacturing sectors. “This study gives policymakers a clear view of the outsized economic impact airports deliver every day,” Pasher concluded. “With the right support, airports can do even more to drive job creation, trade, tourism and long-



term prosperity.” According to the report, a single regional flight can support up to 210 jobs and generate \$41.2 million in economic output, making reliable air service to these

areas critical to safeguarding local economies and making the benefits of aviation accessible to all Canadians. The full economic impact study is available at cacairports.ca

Celebrating the heart of YVR on Airport Workers Day



Vivian Chan, Manager, Airport Capacity at YVR, recipient of the 2025 Airport Worker Industry Champion Award. Airport Workers Day, established through the Canadian Airports Council (CAC), is a coordinated national event, held on June 25, where Canadian airports show appreciation for airport employees who go the extra mile every day to connect people, to connect communities, and to connect Canada to the world. This year, the CAC expanded the celebration of airport employees, presenting eight national awards to outstanding airport workers nationwide, recognizing the exceptional contributions of airport workers in various aspects of the aviation industry.

Vivian Chan, Manager, Airport Capacity at YVR, received the Industry Champion Award for being “An individual who inspires the younger generation to consider careers in aviation or airport management by showcasing the exciting and diverse opportunities available within the industry.” Chan received the award during the Airport Workers Day ceremony at YVR, attended by Councillor Alec Guerin from Musqueam, MP Parm Bains, MP Wade Grant, MP Chak Au, and Councillor Andy Hobbs, whose words of appreciation underscored the vital role of airport workers.



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Savour the flavour: Richmond Garlic Fest returns August 16



The Richmond Garlic Fest returns for its 15th year on Saturday, August 16, to celebrate community, flavour and culinary adventure. Photo: courtesy City of Richmond.

Savour the flavour: Richmond Garlic Fest returns August 16

The aromatic fun of the 15th annual Richmond Garlic Fest—a day of community, flavour and culinary adventure at The Sharing Farm in Terra Nova Rural Park—takes place on Saturday, August 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

“The Richmond Garlic Festival is truly a celebration of all things garlic and one of our city’s most unique and popular festivals,” said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. “People can experience garlic in ways far beyond what they might expect, with vendors and workshops showcasing its many culinary uses. The event is always an unforgettable day for all ages.”

This event in the heart of Richmond celebrates everything

and anything garlic—featuring delicious garlicky eats, live entertainment, kids’ activities, and unique attractions like birds-of-prey flying demonstrations. With dozens of local farmers, artisans and food vendors, those attending can explore garlic in all its flavourful forms—from farm-fresh bulbs to the ever-popular garlic ice cream.

“We’re thrilled to welcome the community back for another year of celebrating garlic and local food,” said Leslie Williams, Executive Director of The Sharing Farm, located at 2771 Westminster Highway, Richmond. “The festival is a chance to enjoy amazing food, connect with neighbours, and support our mission of growing fresh, healthy produce for people facing food insecurity.”

To make attending easier, parking is available at the City’s Operations Yard (5599 Lynas Lane) and City Hall (6911 No. 3 Road), with a free shuttle bus running between these locations and the festival site throughout the day. As parking is limited, attendees are encouraged to walk, cycle, take transit or ride an e-scooter. A free bike and e-scooter valet service will be available on-site.

Admission is by donation, with all proceeds supporting The Sharing Farm’s charitable work—including the donation of thousands of pounds of fresh produce each year to the Richmond Food Bank and other community partners.

For more details and updates, visit sharingfarm.ca/garlicfest

New members for Canada’s Aviation Hall of Fame

Founded in 1973, the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame (CAHF) is a not-for-profit organization that recognizes and honours individuals and organizations for making outstanding contributions to Canadian aviation.

Each year, the CAHF solicits nominations from the general public of individuals and Belt of Orion candidates for induction into its Hall of Fame. The Nominations Review Committee looks for candidates with out-

standing abilities in overcoming challenges, management ability, special talents, peer recognition, responsibility and accomplishments that benefit Canada.

The 2025 inductees include:

- Bruce Aubin (for his life-long contributions to the aviation industry, the advancement of more efficient maintenance, and improved aircraft safety).
- Tracy Medve (for her contributions to the development

of the aviation business in Canada, including her leadership at Canadian North and KF Aerospace.

- Calvin Rovinescu (for his many contributions to air transportation in Canada and internationally, including his leadership at Air Canada from 2009 to 2021).
- Max Shapiro (for his contributions spanning a career that began with bush flying in northwest Ontario to the man-



Calvin Rovinescu



Tracy Medve



Max Shapiro



Bruce Aubin

agement and sale of Voyageur Airways).
Formal induction of the new

CAHF members occurs during the organization’s annual gala on September 5, 2025, in Calgary.

ICE Exchange unveils multi-currency ATM at Toronto Pearson

ICE Exchange Corporation Canada has unveiled an innovation in travel convenience: the country’s first Travel Cash vending machine capable of dispensing 24 international currencies, now operational at Toronto Pearson International Airport Terminal 1 (post-security, near Gate E77).

Available 24/7, the self-serve kiosk offers pre-loaded currency bundles in the most commonly used denominations, allowing travellers to purchase foreign cash.

“We’ve spent months listening to travellers’ feedback, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive,” said Lisa Powell, Senior ICE Representative. “Clients call the machine fast, intuitive, and incredibly convenient. It has even become a point of interest near Gate E77.”

Whether heading to Europe, Asia, South America, or the Caribbean, travellers can depart Toronto with their destination’s local currency and ensure a stress-free travel.

Key Features

- Fixed foreign currency bundles from \$100 to CAD 900 equivalents
- Denominations tailored to destination (e.g., EUR 5s, 10s, 20s; USD \$1s to \$50s)
- Real-time exchange rates included on detailed e-receipts
- Multilingual interface (English and French)
- Secure payment options: Visa, Mastercard, debit, Apple Pay, Google Pay 24/7
- Customer support and remote

monitoring for added peace of mind

The ATM has already drawn attention from curious travellers and industry partners alike.


“This machine reflects ICE’s ongoing commitment to innovation and traveller convenience,” said Shamir Desai, President of ICE Currency. “It’s not just a machine, it’s a new chapter in the evolution of airport services.”

As a leading foreign exchange provider in North American airports, ICE continues to redefine

how travellers access cash across borders.


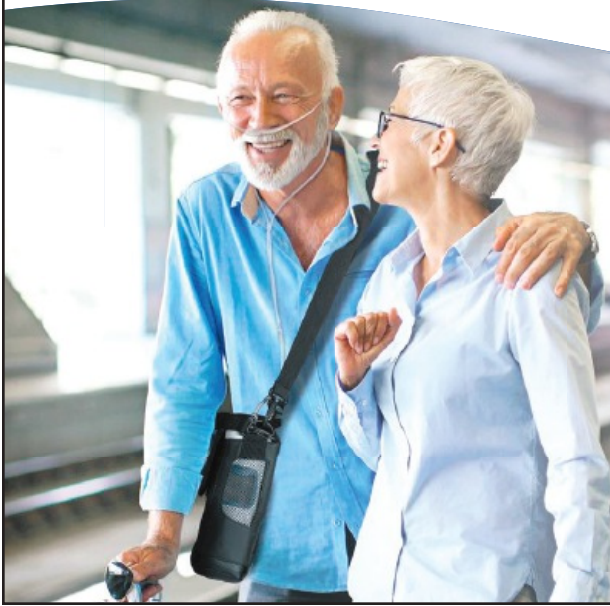
ICE has 11 locations at Vancouver International Airport (YVR). Travellers can order currency online for pick-up using ICE’s convenient Click & Collect service, which offers the best available rates, with payment made at pick-up. For more information, visit ice-canada.ca/en/

The ICE travel cash vending machine provides 24/7 access to foreign cash.



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Art columns on No. 3 Road highlight Richmond’s culture & history



Commuters along No. 3 Road can enjoy a new art exhibition at Aberdeen and Lansdowne Canada Line Stations featuring colourful artworks by local artists.

From now until January 31, 2026, a display of Richmond’s Jani Kiu, Marina Szijarto and Monique Zhang’s Work will be in large, backlit display cases at the base of three concrete support columns at the stations.

- Jani Kiu’s mixed-media digital illustrations at Aberdeen Station are a playful take on

Terrier-Yaki, Jani Kiu, 2025, Aberdeen Canada Line Station. Courtesy City of Richmond.

Richmond’s vibrant food culture. Puns, cute animals and beloved dishes highlight the love of good food and drink.

- Marina Szijarto’s Intertidal Stilt Dance at Lansdowne Station celebrates Richmond’s historic Finn Slough by depicting hand-crafted stilt houses that honour lives shaped by tides, time and resourcefulness.
 - Monique Zhang’s Blue Cocoon paintings, also at Lansdowne Station, capture early morning moments among family members that celebrate love, care and connection in the quiet rhythm of daily life in this diverse City.
- The No. 3 Road Art Columns

Program was launched in 2010 as part of the City’s commitment to enhance the No. 3 Road streetscape, in partnership with the Appia Group of Companies and InTransit BC.

The Program is the second exhibition in 2025, highlighting Richmond’s local culture, history and natural heritage.

The next exhibition will run from February 1 to July 31, 2026, presented in partnership with the Richmond Arts Coalition’s upcoming ARTRich exhibition at the Richmond Art Gallery.

For more information about the No. 3 Road Art Columns and the City’s Public Art Program, visit richmond.ca/PublicArt.

City of Richmond shifts to energy-based EV charging fees

Effective July 24, 2025, the City of Richmond transitioned from time-based to energy-based fees at its public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, aligning with regional standards and improving user fairness.

Since 2020, Richmond has used a time-based pricing model for EV charging, where users were charged based on how long their vehicle connected to a charger—regardless of the amount of electricity consumed.

As EV technology advanced, time-based pricing has become outdated and inequitable. Vehicles with slower charging speeds—such as older EVs or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs)—often pay significantly more per kilowatt-hour (kWh) than faster-charging models, creating cost disparities and potential barriers to broader EV adoption.

In 2023, federal regulations changed to allow EV-charging providers to bill users based on actual electricity consumption—enabling more equitable and accurate pricing.

Benefits of energy-based pricing include:

- Fairness: Users only pay for the energy they consume, eliminating cost disparities between fast- and slow-charging vehicles.
- Transparency: Costs are aligned directly with electricity usage, making fees easier for users to understand and compare.

Efficiency: Supports improved station turnover and discourages unnecessary occupancy.

As part of the changes:

- Level 2 chargers cost \$0.2865 (approximately 29 cents) per

kWh—an energy-based rate aligned with regional providers while supporting cost neutrality across the City’s EV charging network.

- Level 3 fast chargers cost \$0.3479 (approximately 35 cents) per kWh to reflect increased equipment and oper-

ational costs.

- Idle fees to encourage efficient use of charging spots. After a five-minute grace period, vehicles occupying a place but not actively charging incur the following:
 - \$0.05 (five cents) per minute at Level 2 stations (between 7:00

a.m. and 11:00 p.m.). Idle fees at Level 2 stations do not apply overnight (11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) to support longer charging needs.

– \$0.40 (40 cents) per minute at Level 3 stations (all hours)

For more information, visit richmond.ca/EV.



Terrier-Yaki, Jani Kiu, 2025, Aberdeen Canada Line Station. Courtesy City of Richmond.



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Bombardier announces major expansion of U.S. service operations

Canadian aerospace manufacturer Bombardier plans to expand significantly within its services and support network in the United States. The multi-phase, multi-site expansion initiative aims to meet the increasing demand for OEM-backed convenience and care from the company's growing customer base.

Expansion projects are expected to roll out over the coming years, focusing on both regions where Bombardier operates and new ones.

As part of this growth, the company anticipates a need to recruit highly skilled talent, creating new job opportunities in each of the targeted regions.

"Bombardier's fleet in the United States is growing at a rapid pace, and so should our American network of services and support," said Paul Sislian, Executive Vice President, Bombardier Aftermarket Services and Strategy. "[This] announcement demonstrates our full commitment to provide exceptional care and seamless convenience, so that our customers can fly with total confidence. While our team is already delivering on this promise—with our best-in-class services earning the #1 ranking in the AIN Product Support survey for a second consecutive year, as well as in the 2025 Professional Pilot Corporate Aircraft Product Support Survey—this expansion initiative demonstrates the depth of our commitment to offer the ultimate customer experience."

With the entry into service of the Global 8000(1) aircraft later this year and the steady growth of Bombardier's global fleet, the company is keen to bolster its U.S. capabilities in key hubs across the country to meet customers where they are.

As part of this large-scale expansion investment, the company will prioritize talent recruitment and workforce development to flow qualified professionals into its operations steadily. Additionally, to meet demand and ensure convenient care and service, Bombardier will focus on expanding its successful apprenticeship and talent programs with local communities to accelerate the recruitment and onboarding of Airframe and Powerplant Technicians and other skilled workers.

Bombardier's current Services business already has a robust footprint in the United States,



With a top speed of Mach 0.94, Bombardier's Global 8000 aircraft is the world's fastest civilian aircraft since Concorde.

Bombardier's Global 8000 aircraft cabin incorporates unique features and innovations to maximize onboard comfort, productivity, and well-being. Photos courtesy Bombardier.

anchored by service centres in key locations including Dallas, Tucson, Hartford and Wichita, and in Miami, Opa Locka, with a facility inaugurated in 2022. Customers benefit from a comprehensive support ecosystem

with strategically located parts distribution centres in Chicago and Mobile Response Teams deployed across 20 locations nationwide—to ensure rapid, expert assistance wherever needed.



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Draw will be made from all correct entries received by September 30, 2025.

The winner's name will be published in the Oct/Nov 2025 edition of SkyTalk and at skytalkonline.com

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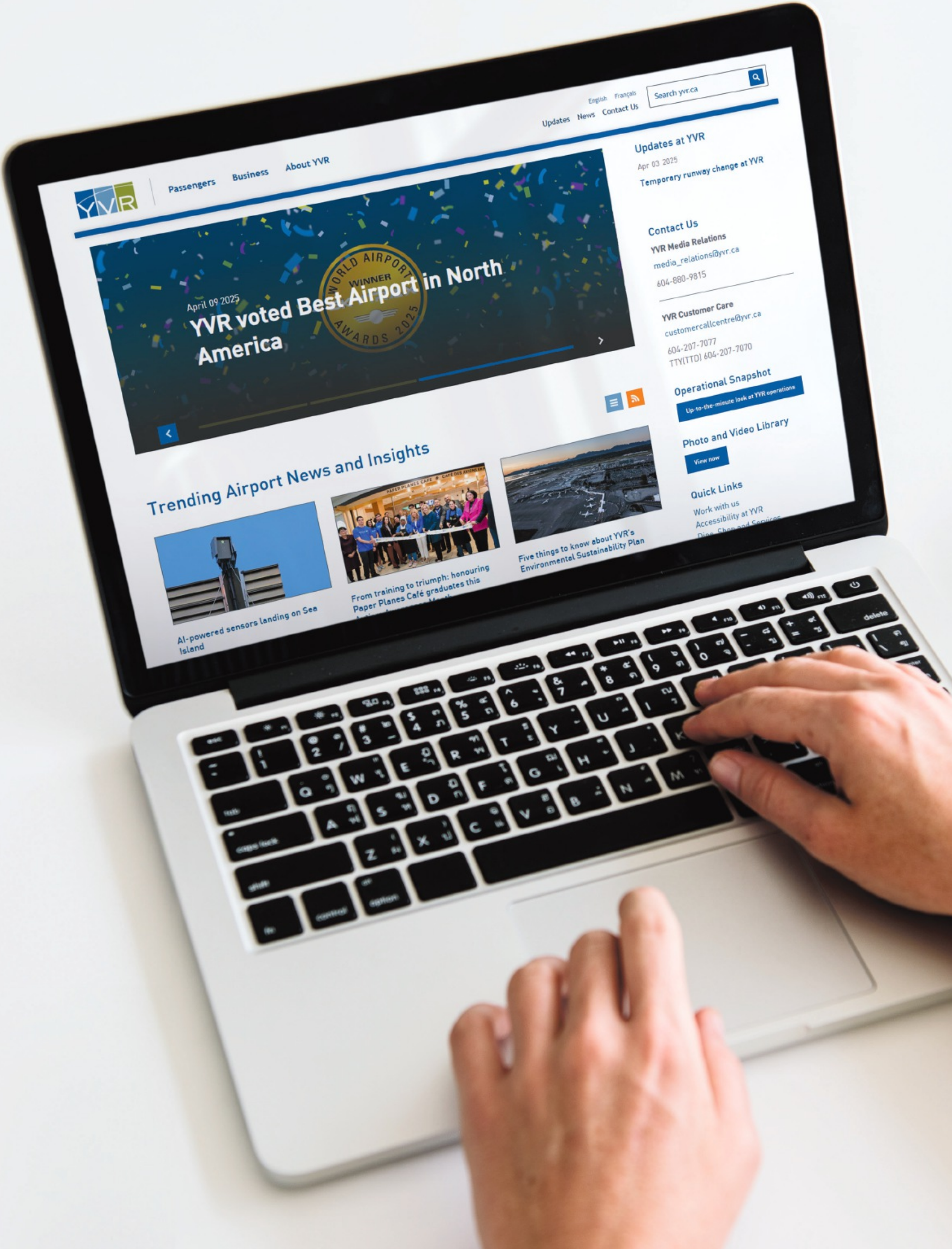


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