



Airport Advisory Committee

Minutes

Date:	Wednesday, May 29, 2024
Time:	9:00 am
Location:	Airport Administration Boardroom Kelowna International Airport 1-5533 Airport Way Kelowna, BC
Members Present	Chair, Mayor Tom Dyas, City of Kelowna Chief Robert Louie, Westbank First Nation Lesley Cormack, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, UBCO Paula Quinn, Kelowna Chamber of Commerce Councillor Mohini Singh, City of Kelowna Blair Ireland, Mayor, District of Lake Country Gord Milsom, Mayor, City of West Kelowna Terry Condon, Councillor, District of Peachland Kelly Watt, Chair, Tourism Kelowna Kevin Kraft, Director, Regional District of Central Okanagan Akbal Mund, Councillor, City of Vernon Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond, City of Salmon Arm Amber Hall, Greater Westside Board of Trade Julius Bloomfield, Mayor, City of Penticton
Members Absent	Grant Stevens, KF Aerospace, Aviation Industry Representative Corie Griffiths, Regional District of Central Okanagan Krista Mallory, Economic Development Commission Roch Fortin, Summerland Chamber of Commerce
Members Participating Remotely	Martin Von Holst, Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce
Staff Present	City Manager, Doug Gilchrist, City of Kelowna, Chief Executive Officer, Sam Samaddar, City of Kelowna, YLW, Director, Finance & Corporate Services, Shayne Dyrdal, City of Kelowna, YLW Director, Commercial & Air Service, Geoff Ritchie, City of Kelowna, YLW Director, Operations & Innovation, Phillip Elchitz, City of Kelowna, YLW
Staff Participating Remotely	Legislative Coordinator (Confidential), Clint McKenzie

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions - Chair, Mayor Tom Dyas

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and led roundtable introductions.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved By Julius Bloomfield/Seconded By Louise Wallace Richmond

THAT the Minutes of the November 15, 2023 Airport Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Carried

3. Reports

3.1 Opening Remarks - Sam Samaddar, Airport Chief Executive Officer

Chief Executive Officer:

- Provided a history of the airport and facilities needing to be developed.
- Reached the 2M mark for passengers in 2023.
- Spoke to international travel and recently visiting Saudia Arabia where they are launching their own airline with over \$30B in investment.
- Facial recognition will be used for checking in and to make it seamless for the traveler via biometrics. There will be no need to produce documents to various authorities.
- Spoke to the current lack of a national air travel strategy in Canada and broken connectivity.
- Spoke to targets being set that need to be achieved with greenhouse gas emissions and achieving net zero.
- Spoke to airfare costs in Canada and a user pay model.
- Spoke to airport fees and YLW being one of the lowest cost airports in Canada even with the impacts of inflation and recovering from the pandemic.

3.2 Operational Review - Phillip Elchitz, Director, Operations & Innovation

- Provided an operating overview including 2.17 M passengers being forecasted this year with strong passenger growth.
- Compared 2015 with 2024 passenger statistics.
- Aircraft Movements in total are down 6% compared to YTD in 2023.
- Reviewed the new aircraft approach to allow the runway to be optimized.
- Spoke to the Official Community Plan and the protection of building heights and noise contours around the airport. Ongoing integration is required to protect the airport and at the same time allow more density and growth.
- Aircraft gate optimization and check-in counter optimization were reviewed.
- Pre-board screening was reviewed to maximize and optimize efficiency of the existing facility.
- Baggage Belt Optimization was reviewed
- ReserTrac - Ground transportation virtual cueing was reviewed to make taxi movements more effective via a virtual cueing system
- Gate Turn technology was reviewed to increase the efficiency of each airplane so aircrafts can be turned quicker and allow more airplanes
- Automated runway reporting to optimize automated runway capacity and reallocate resources to other areas.
- CUSS Common Use Upgrades to enhance passenger experience and reduce travel anxiety is expected to be awarded to supplier in the third quarter of 2024.
- Spoke to purchase of new aircraft rescue firefighting truck.
- Responded to questions from the Committee.
- Spoke to Uber being close to launching at the airport.

3.3 Commercial, Capital Projects & Air Service Overview - Geoff Ritchie, Director, Commercial & Air Service

- Spoke to YLW project and their investment at various stages. Significant amount of activity currently in progress at the airport.
- The childcare facility is fully open and full. Third airport in North America to have an onsite childcare facility.
- Spoke to Airfield Lighting Control System upgrades.
- Spoke to airfield lighting replacement with high intensity and the most advanced systems available.
- Spoke to the combined operations building, the air terminal building expansion, air terminal expansion, airside pavement rehabilitation, airport development lots, Hyatt Hotel, Velocity Truck Centre, YLW Hotel (Kelowna's first five star hotel), YLW parkade and parking lot reconfiguration.
- Responded to questions from the Committee.
- Spoke to the planning cycles of airlines. Overall seat capacity is lagging demand with room for growth being demand driven.
- Spoke to the transborder market and the ongoing reluctance of U.S. airlines coming north.
- Provide a YLW air service overview for 2024 YTD. Carriers have enough staff to meet operations currently. Available aircraft is a restriction in the system currently.
- Updates provided for Air Canada, West Jet and Alaska service.

3.4 Financial Overview - Shayne Dyrdal, Director, Finance & Corporate Services

- Spoke to the Statement of Financial Position, 2023 with key theme being recovery.
- Spoke to the Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus, 2023 with key theme being recovery.
- Responded to questions from the Committee.

Moved By Councillor Singh/Seconded By Director Kevin Kraft

THAT the AAC receive the report for information, from the Kelowna International Airport, presented on May 29th, 2024.

Carried

4. Questions & Wrap Up

Staff:

- Responded to questions from the Committee.

5. Termination of Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting terminated at 10:38 a.m.

6. Tour - Airport Campus Tour - Geoff Ritchie

The Committee departed to tour the different construction projects currently underway at YLW.

Chair

