



City of Maple Ridge News Release

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Pitt Meadows Regional Airport Board Changes Announced

Maple Ridge, BC: As the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows recently began a review of the governance of the Pitt Meadows Airport as well as the development of a long term strategic plan for the facility, the current Board of Directors have announced their decision to step down to clear the way for a new Board, effective July 31, 2016.

Directors Dr. Anne McAfee, Wendy Boyes and Dave Walsh are coming to the end of their three year term as of June, and have voluntarily extended their time to July 31. Directors Murray Day and Greg Andrews are leaving the board before their three year terms expire.

“First and foremost, I would like to thank the Board members for their service to the aviation community at the Airport and their work on building this economic asset for the region to where it is today,” said Pitt Meadows Mayor John Becker. “We will be announcing the interim plan for the Airport governance in the upcoming weeks in conjunction with our colleagues in Maple Ridge.”

“I join Mayor Becker in thanking the Board for their service and their patience as we move forward with the development of the vision and strategic planning of this important regional asset. As we look around the region, we see how the airports in Chilliwack, Abbotsford and Langley all play a role as economic drivers of tourism, technology and education. Both Councils will be collaborating on the plan to ensure this facility continues to grow and prosper,” said Maple Ridge Mayor Nicole Read.

In a letter to both Mayors and Councils, the Airport Board noted that since the YPK Master Plan was reaching the end of its life and the Strategic Plan was due to be updated, they felt the time was right for this transition of the Board, and would be willing to stay on while the review and planning process is completed.

Both Councils expressed thanks for the work the Board has done over the past term and recognized the growth of the Airport over the past several years, including the addition of large aviation businesses, daily flights to Victoria, flight schools attracting foreign students, and several safety improvements.

An interim governance plan will be put into place in the coming weeks, and both municipalities will be working together to continue the review and strategic planning that has been in the works.