

Submission to Canadian Transportation Agency

YQG – Windsor International Airport

Regional airports are the lifeblood of the air sector. In a country as vast geographically as Canada, connectivity is of paramount importance to connect Canadians to one another and to the world. Regulations that operate to limit the connectivity from regional airports is contrary to the goal of facilitating mobility for all Canadians. Regulations should be vetted, with not only the primary impact understood, but also a thorough examination of the secondary and tertiary impacts that the 'ripple effect' would have on the air sector and regional airports. These impacts must be understood or an element of chaos could be introduced to the ecosystem. In an industry that thrives on certainty, chaos is the adversary. A balanced approach, with continuous assessment of the impact of new regulation, is necessary to ensure that regional markets, and the passengers they serve, are not only maintained, but also enhanced. No one will argue that safety is paramount. However, there must be an understanding that financial viability is sensitive in this sector, and increased regulation that operates to make it more difficult for carriers to serve regional markets will have an adverse impact on regional connectivity limiting the mobility of Canadians to travel. If this leads to increased financial constraints in regional areas, the ability for connectivity is diminished, limiting options for the regional community. We all want to improve the passenger experience and it takes input from all parties to achieve that purpose.

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