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OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES

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September 26, 2017

The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Transport  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), thank you for your productive partnership with local governments on transportation issues in Canada. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you and your officials on the rollout of the new National Trade Corridors Fund and on addressing other transportation issues in our cities and communities, particularly issues impacting Canada's air transportation system.

Each year at FCM's March and September Board meetings, and again at our Annual Conference in June, FCM's Board of Directors considers resolutions submitted by its membership. Resolutions adopted by FCM's Board of Directors help inform FCM's policy and advocacy priorities with the Government of Canada. Adopted resolutions represent municipal issues of national significance that fall within federal jurisdiction and therefore require a strong federal partner to help find a solution. The attached resolution, **Municipal Consultation on Ownership Changes to Canada's Airports**, was adopted by FCM's Board of Directors at its September 2017 meeting in Wood Buffalo Region, AB.

Canada must have a safe, efficient and competitive airline industry that serves all regions at a reasonable cost. Throughout the *Canada Transportation Act* review and our ongoing engagement with your government, FCM has been clear that the Government of Canada must do what is necessary to achieve an efficient and effective air transportation policy in Canada. We continue to advocate for a national transportation policy that ensures adequate and affordable air services and supports economic development in all regions and communities.

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Airports play a critical role in local economies, and any ownership changes to Canada's airports will have important consequences for municipalities. In support of the attached resolution, FCM urges the Government of Canada to consult with local governments and other stakeholders before making any ownership changes to Canada's airports and to develop an air transportation policy that reflects the true needs and aspirations of Canadians and Canadian communities.

FCM looks forward to working with you and your government to improve our air transportation system. If you or your staff have any questions or require further information, please contact Hardave Birk, Government Relations Advisor at 613-907-6331 or [hbirk@fcm.ca](mailto:hbirk@fcm.ca)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J Gerbasi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "J" being large and prominent.

Jenny Gerbasi  
Deputy Mayor, City of Winnipeg  
FCM President

Enclosure

## **MIT-2017-04- Municipal Consultation on Ownership Changes to Canada's Airports**

**WHEREAS,** The recent media reports indicate that the Government of Canada is actively considering the privatization of Canada's airports in order to achieve a one-time financial windfall and this plan may be formalized in the upcoming federal budget; and

**WHEREAS,** The airports are part of the core economies, including the tourism economy in Victoria, and social infrastructure of every community and region and consultation with local governments need to be advanced on this issue; therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Capital Regional District Board urge the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to immediately call on the Government of Canada to consult with Canadian local governments and other stakeholders before making any ownership changes to Canada's airports and to develop an air transport policy that reflects the true needs and aspirations of Canadians and Canadian communities.

*Victoria Capital Regional District (B.C.)*

**SEPTEMBER 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECISION: A – Concurrence.**  
***Resolution adopted***

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