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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL

GREATER TORONTO AIRPORTS AUTHORITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES

GTAA-2010-1

The Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) Liaison Committee met on February 4, 2010, at 8:15 a.m. in the Chair's Boardroom, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton.

Members Present: E. Kolb, Regional Chair; H. McCallion, Mayor, City of Mississauga, J. Sanderson, Regional Councillor as designate for S. Fennell, Mayor, City of Brampton

Members Absent: S. Fennell, Mayor, City of Brampton, due to vacation; M. Morrison, Mayor, Town of Caledon, due to other municipal business

Also Present: Councillor E. Adams, D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer; T. Lennox, Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Communications, Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA); A. Kanji, Manager, Public Affairs, Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA); H. West, Committee Clerk

Chaired by Regional Chair Kolb

1. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil**

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RECOMMENDATION GTAA-1-2010:

That the agenda for the February 11, 2010 GTAA Liaison Committee meeting be approved.

3. **DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

- a) **Toby Lennox, Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Communications and Aleem Kanji, Manager, Public Affairs, Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA),** Providing a 2010 Update on the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) and Toronto Pearson International Airport

Received

Toby Lennox, Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Communications discussed road network issues which will make travel in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) difficult during the G20 Summit scheduled to be held at the end of June, 2010. Toby Lennox indicated that all costs associated with the G20 Summit security will be reimbursed by the Federal Government.

Toby Lennox raised concern that air traffic to the United States has decreased from 2008 because business travel has diminished. He explained that border security is currently a significant problem and a cause for less travel to the United States. International traffic is still healthy. There is a modest recovery anticipated from the recession during 2010. The Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) is developing a strategy to develop Pearson International Airport (Pearson) as a Gateway to receive connecting traffic through Toronto. The GTAA undertook a study to review the capability of directing American passengers from the eastern seaboard through Toronto. It was determined that there is a great aviation capacity at Pearson to accommodate American travelers.

Toby Lennox indicated that goods movement and the Gateway will stimulate local Regional economic finance. He noted that Lloyd McCoomb, Chief Executive Officer, GTAA, sits on the steering committee for the Ontario Quebec Continental Gateway and that there is opportunity for the Trade Corridor to be developed. Toby Lennox stated that Helena Borges, Assistant Deputy Minister, Federal Ministry of Transportation, will be meeting with members of the GTAA to discuss goods movement, the Trade Corridor and suggested that the Region of Peel participate in the meeting. Regional Chair Kolb asked David Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer, to enquire if Regional staff have been in contact with Helena Borges.

Regional Chair Kolb stated that he has invited members of the Federal government to sit on the Peel Region Goods Movement Task Force and although no official response has been received to date, Federal senior staff have expressed interest in participating.

Mayor McCallion enquired if Metrolinx is involved in the Region Goods Movement Task Force. Regional Chair Kolb responded that they were invited to join the Task Force. Toby Lennox responded that the GTAA will be meeting with Metrolinx and the Toronto Marketing Alliance (TMA) to form a working group.

Toby Lennox stated that the Federal Government has a Pacific Gateway project (stopping at the Manitoba/Ontario border) and an Atlantic Gateway project (stopping at the New Brunswick/Quebec border). The Federal government hosted a press conference two years ago to launch the Trade Corridor for Montreal, Quebec. The project has not proceeded and the GTAA has been asked by Helena Borges to assist in getting the project back on track.

Mayor McCallion enquired what the purpose of the Southern Ontario Development Agency (SODA) is. Aleem Kanji, Manager Public Affairs, GTAA, responded that SODA will focus on economic development. Mayor McCallion suggested that information be provided on the roles of the different agencies/organizations to ensure that there is no overlap and that one message is provided from the GTA.

Regional Chair Kolb noted that the Provincial and Federal governments need to support the Trade Corridor through the 400 series highways to the Ontario borders.

Toby Lennox announced that the GTAA has implemented landing fee reductions at Pearson. Aleem Kanji stated that the GTAA has produced a series of incentive programs to keep Pearson competitive as a result of the recession. He noted that the GTAA is one of three airports in the world that reduced their landing fees and terminal charges by double digits. Aleem Kanji explained that the reduction in fees for Airline carriers is often passed down to consumers.

Mayor McCallion noted that she has not seen the savings being passed on to consumers. She raised concern that many Canadians are flying out of Buffalo to save money and she noted that the rates and customer service provided by Air Canada is lacking. Toby Lennox responded that there is currently a security issue which is influencing people to fly from the Buffalo airport. He explained that there is increased security delay for passengers departing Pearson International Airport to travel to the United States (US) however, there is no security delay while traveling within the US. Mayor McCallion enquired about the recent Fifth Estate program regarding airport security. Toby Lennox indicated that he will follow up with Committee members to provide more information with respect to the Fifth Estate program.

Mayor McCallion enquired who is responsible for enforcing security at Pearson. Toby Lennox outlined the non-GTAA agencies responsible for security at Pearson International Airport including Transport Canada, Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA), U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Peel Regional Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA). Transport Canada is the regulator which sets policies and programs. CATSA is responsible for passenger screening; Peel Regional Police does criminal enforcement and advises on security; RCMP is responsible for federal matters including immigration and drug enforcement. The GTAA maintains integrity of primary security line, perimeter access control (which provides security for the fence line, doors and primary security) at Pearson. The GTAA will be actively advocating both US and Canadian officials to preserve and improve border security. Mayor McCallion raised concern with the delays that travelers are experiencing at Pearson. Toby Lennox indicated that all Canadian international airports maintain the same level of security, however the extra time delay at Pearson is due to the number of passengers traveling through Toronto.

Mayor McCallion raised concern that the economic base is being affected by the delays. Toby Lennox suggested that the Minister of Transport needs to be aware of how the economic base is being impacted. Mayor McCallion requested that the GTAA provide more information to prepare a case which can be delivered to the Minister of Transport. Toby Lennox stated that he will be leading a lobbying effort in Ontario and in Washington, DC to implement a plan for an effective security regime and increased customer service. Representatives from the Montreal and Vancouver Airports and the GTAA have retained a lobbyist who is the former American Ambassador to Canada to start working on a sustained campaign to indicate the financial cost to the US of the 'thickening' border.

Regional Chair Kolb suggested that a meeting be held at the Region of Peel or in Mississauga to discuss security responsibilities and how one jurisdiction affects another jurisdiction.

Mayor McCallion raised concern regarding passenger ticket costs and customer service provided by Air Canada. Toby Lennox undertook to meet with her to discuss the future strategy for Air Canada, the GTA and Peel Region.

Mayor McCallion indicated that the Provincial government needs to get more involved with the goods movement and economic development. She commented that she has been in contact with Rosemarie Graf, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Senior Adviser to the Premier of Ontario, with no response. She enquired who the Provincial member is on the GTAA Board of Directors and Provincial staff could not respond. Toby Lennox responded that Vijay Kanwar is the representative appointed by the Province.

Toby Lennox stated that transportation and a logistics system should be the driver of economic development. Mayor McCallion concurred with Toby Lennox but reiterated the lack of response from the Province to her correspondence. Toby Lennox indicated that Aleem Kanji made a GTAA deputation to the Honourable Dwight Duncan, Minister of Finance during the 2010 Ontario Budget Discussion and he noted that the GTAA also provided a letter to Rosemarie Graf. A copy of the deputation and the letter will be provided to the GTAA committee members.

Toby Lennox summarized that the GTAA will ensure that customer service and security is improved at Pearson by implementing cutting edge strategies. Security operations will include interim operational planning, long range planning, lobbying, and customer service.

Toby Lennox indicated that the GTAA will attend a meeting hosted by the Region of Peel to discuss security and who does what. Mayor McCallion asked that a comparison on the rent paid by each Airport be provided at the meeting. Toby Lennox responded that he will provide a formula which will identify why Toronto pays a disproportional high rent. Toby Lennox indicated that the rent is no longer paid to Transport Canada but is paid to Revenue Canada.

Aleem Kanji stated that there will be a Senate investigation in the US regarding financial subsidies that the US Airports have received during the last 30 years. Aleem Kanji noted that as US Airports grow (such a Buffalo) subsidies may diminish which will increase US costs and ultimately level the playing field for Canadian airports.

Toby Lennox provided statistics on noise complaints for the City of Mississauga noting that there has been a steady decline of complaints since 1998. In 2009 there were 414 complaints while in 1998 there were over 3,000 complaints received. Councillor Adams noted that the complaints were lowest in 2007, however they increased during 2008 and 2009 and enquired why this occurred. Toby Lennox responded that the increase in complaints was due to an 'early turn procedure' to improve operational efficiency for the Airport and airlines. The 'early turn procedure' has been suspended.

David Szwarc summarized the meeting by stating that the goods movement and border security has an impact on economic development and if there are no short term business flights, eventually there will be no goods movement because of lack of business. He stated that members of the Provincial and Federal governments need to be invited to upcoming meetings to discuss goods movement and border security.

Toby Lennox undertook to brief GTAA members on the G20 Summit at a future meeting.

4. REPORTS - Nil

5. **COMMUNICATIONS** - Nil

6. **IN CAMERA MATTERS** - Nil

7. **OTHER BUSINESS** - Nil

8. **NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, April 15, 2010, 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Chair's Boardroom, 5th floor
Regional Administrative Headquarters
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, Ontario

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.