

Media Release

For Immediate Release



Airport Experiences Record Traffic in July

August 16, 2006, Deer Lake, NL. The Deer Lake Regional Airport Authority experienced its highest ever monthly passenger traffic level with a record 29,007 passengers arriving or departing the airport during the month of July. The previous monthly record was established in August, 2005 when 27,706 passengers traveled through the airport facilities.

Last years traffic levels reached an unprecedented 225,094 passengers and represented the busiest year in the history of the airport. However, year to date traffic at the airport is up 7.3% over the same period last year and the airport facility is on pace for another record setting year.

The Airport Manager, Jamie Schwartz, was delighted with the figures. "We recognized it was a busy month simply by the number of people using the facilities and services at the airport but we were pleasantly surprised to experience such strong numbers", said Schwartz. "We have recorded a 70% increase in passenger traffic growth in the past 5 years and it appears this trend may continue a while longer", added Schwartz.

The increase in passenger traffic during the past number of years has prompted the Airport Authority to expand and enlarge its facilities to meet the demands of the traveling public. A \$10 million Air Terminal Building expansion and renovation project is currently underway with a scheduled completion slated for early 2007. The new renovated and expanded facility will include a new enlarged departure lounge, a new international arrivals area with customs facilities, a new domestic arrivals area with two baggage conveyors, new car-rental counters, gift shop, television lounge, information kiosk and an enlarged meeter/greeter area for the general public.

The Deer Lake Regional Airport Authority now offers daily direct non-stop service to Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, St. John's and Goose Bay with connections worldwide. The Airport also provides a seasonal charter service direct to and from Gatwick, United Kingdom.

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