



New study highlights Kamloops Airport's economic benefits to region

Ongoing operations generate more than \$27 million in annual wages

Kamloops, B.C. (April 11, 2014): Today, Kamloops Airport released results of an Economic Impact Study, highlighting how ongoing operations at the airport financially benefit the region.

In 2013, Kamloops Airport provided 610 direct, indirect and induced jobs, generating \$27.8 million in annual wages. A further 250 jobs in the local accommodation and food services sectors were created by visitors arriving by air.

"This study clearly demonstrates the importance of Kamloops Airport to this city and region," said B.C. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone. "It also indicates how investment in the airport over the years by all levels of government, has created jobs for B.C. families and helped the airport become a significant contributor to our provincial economy."

Also revealed in the study is that the airport contributed more than \$38 million to Canada's gross domestic product and paid more than \$8 million in taxes to the municipal, provincial and federal governments collectively.

"This economic impact study confirms the expansion of the runway and terminal at Kamloops Airport were necessary and worthwhile investments," said Kamloops – North Thompson MLA Terry Lake. "The airport is one of the most important economic drivers for our city providing a direct link for people and business in Kamloops to international markets."

Rounding out the study is the growth of the airport in recent years—traffic has increased by 80 per cent since 2004, helping facilitate the growth of tourism and international education in Kamloops.

"More people are travelling through the airport than ever before," said Fred Legace, Kamloops Airport Managing Director. "We're celebrating 75 years of operations this year and we're extremely proud that we continue to play a key role in connecting residents to their destinations, international students to Thompson Rivers University and visitors to our world-class resorts such as Sun Peaks."

Kamloops Airport supports jobs across a variety of sectors including aviation, transportation, hotel, retail and public safety. The study highlights that full time jobs directly associated with ongoing operations—baggage handlers, airline employees and maintenance crews, to name a few—increased 34 per cent over the same 10-year period.

“It’s not just about the numbers, of course,” said Legace. “There’s a real commitment on the part of the city, province and country to this airport. In recognition of that support over the last 75 years, we invite the community to come celebrate at the airport with a free Community Day on Sunday, April 13 from noon to 4 p.m.”

For more information on the 2013 Kamloops Airport Economic Impact Study, including a video of the airport’s benefits to the region, visit KamloopsAirport.com.

About Kamloops Airport

Kamloops Airport served more than 290,000 passengers in 2013, offering commercial flights with Air Canada, Central Mountain Air and WestJet. Kamloops Airport is operated by Kamloops Airport Limited (KAL) under contract to the City of Kamloops. KAL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vantage Airport Group, an industry-leading investor, operator and developer of airports around the world, providing opportunity for Kamloops Airport to take part in and benefit from global airport best practices.

-end-

For more information, or to request an interview, contact:

Media Relations

Vantage Airport Group

Phone: +1 778 239 1473

media_relations@vantageairportgroup.com