



MEDIA RELEASE

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Board congratulates federal and provincial governments in partnership with airport

St. John's is poised for big economic and reputational gains with airport improvements coming to our province's aviation gateway. The St. John's Board of Trade commends the federal and provincial governments for their cooperation with the St. John's International Airport Authority to move forward with the CAT 3 Instrument Landing System project.

"This is the kind of day where you can see what partnership will accomplish," said Board Chair Jo Mark Zurel. "We are going to have less delays and fewer cancellations. We are going to have the ability to attract businesses and conferences and people who were scared off by delays and cancellations. We have a reputation as a place to be, and now we'll have a new reputation of a place you can get into and out of easily."

The Board of Trade has been consistently and strongly advocating for the tri-partite partnership announced today since the Airport Authority put forward a proposal in the fall of 2009 to increase the airport's availability from approximately 93 per cent to near 99 per cent. The benefits of hundreds of thousands of passengers who have easier travel in and out of St. John's is welcomed by the business community.

"The cooperation that this shows between the Government of Canada, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Airport Authority is excellent," said Mr. Zurel. "This is exactly the tangible, substantial benefit that cooperation brings and we look forward to a lot more of it to benefit this city and this province for a long time to come."

The St. John's Board of Trade is a non-partisan, business advocacy organization that is the principal voice of business for over 800 members and their 30,000+ employees in the St. John's area. Its mission is to improve the local business climate, enhancing its members' ability to do business through advocacy and member services.

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