



VANCOUVER AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
 Mail: PO Box 23750, Airport Postal Outlet  
 Richmond, BC V7B 1Y7 CANADA

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**Aeronautical Noise Management Committee**  
 Wednesday 15 September 2010 1:00 p.m.  
 Vancouver International Airport, Link Boardroom 1

**Those in attendance were:**

- |                      |                       |   |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Chairperson:</b>  | Anne Murray           | VP Community & Environmental Affairs, YVRAA   |
| <b>Secretariat:</b>  | Becky Henwood         | Administrative Assistant, YVRAA               |
| <b>Participants:</b> | Margot Spronk         | Citizen Representative, Richmond              |
|                      | Meg Brown             | Citizen Representative, Vancouver             |
|                      | Jonathan Parker       | Citizen Representative, Vancouver             |
|                      | Rick Hedley           | Citizen Representative, Corporation of Delta  |
|                      | Craig MacFarlane      | City of Surrey (staff)                        |
|                      | Victor Wei            | City of Richmond (staff)                      |
|                      | Mark MacEachern       | WestJet                                       |
|                      | Sean Lee              | Airline Operators Committee (US Airways)      |
|                      | Kim Carswell          | Helijet International                         |
|                      | Brent Bell            | NAV CANADA                                    |
|                      | Claudio Bulfone       | Transport Canada                              |
|                      | Brett Patterson       | Director Airside Operations, YVRAA            |
|                      | Toni Frisby (A/Chair) | Manager, Environment, YVRAA                   |
|                      | Mark Cheng            | Superintendent, Noise & Air Quality, YVRAA    |
| <b>Guests:</b>       | Monty Cook            | NAV CANADA                                    |
| <b>Regrets:</b>      | Jim Bailey            | City of Vancouver (staff)                     |
|                      | Haydn Acheson         | Citizen Representative, Richmond              |
|                      | Paula Kolisnek        | Corporation of Delta (staff)                  |
|                      | Marlene Keefe         | Air Canada Pilot's Association (ACPA)         |
|                      | Leona Sparrow         | Musqueam                                      |
|                      | Scott Macpherson      | Canadian Business Aviation Association (CBAA) |

Date/Time/Place of next **REGULAR** Committee meeting:  
**1 December 2010 – 1 pm Link Boardroom 1**

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<i>Becky Henwood</i>	16 September 2010
_____ Secretariat's Signature	_____ Date

## 1.0 INTRODUCTIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Anne welcomed members of the Committee and called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. The meeting agenda was reviewed and adopted.

Sean Lee, of US Airways, was introduced as the new representative from the Airline Operating Committee.

Anne advised that she would be leaving the meeting early and that Toni would assume the responsibility of chair for the remainder of the meeting.

## 2.0 REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 5 May 2010 Committee meeting were reviewed and approved.

### *Actions:*

- *Post 5 May 2010 meeting minutes on the YVR website.*

## 3.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Anne reported that senior staff from the Airport Authority, NAV CANADA, and Transport Canada recently met to discuss issues of roles and responsibilities related to noise management.

The meeting was productive and a number of issues were discussed, including the need for Transport Canada to follow up on suspected violations of noise abatement procedures reported by the Airport Authority, and appropriate ways to handle community concerns arising outside of the Airport Authority's area of responsibility (outside a 10 nautical mile radius from the airport).

## 4.0 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Anne reported that during the meeting with Transport Canada and NAV CANADA referenced above, the request from the City of Surrey for a citizen representative on the Committee was discussed. It was agreed that a citizen representative from Surrey would be invited to join the Committee in the absence of a more appropriate forum to discuss concerns from communities located further from the airport.

Anne reminded the Committee that the City of Surrey was invited to participate on the Committee in 2008, and they subsequently appointed a staff representative, in order for them to learn about noise management issues following the changes to the airspace that occurred in May 2007.

Anne emphasized that the invitation to the City of Surrey to participate on the Committee does not mean that the Airport Authority has assumed or increased its responsibility for noise management outside of the 10 nautical mile radius around the airport.

*Actions:*

- *Letter to be sent to City of Surrey with offer to appoint a citizen representative to the Committee.*

## 5.0 CITY OF RICHMOND TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Anne briefly discussed the recommendations that were received from the City of Richmond's Task Force in July 2010. The Task Force report included 22 recommendations. The recommendations were broad and were directed to a number of agencies including the Airport Authority, Transport Canada, and NAV CANADA.

Anne mentioned that the main issues cited in the report – float plane operations, engine run-ups, night operations, and over flights of the City – have already been identified in the Airport Authority's 2009-2013 Noise Management Plan. The Airport Authority has met with Transport Canada and NAV CANADA to review the recommendations and each agency will provide a response to the City on matters under their responsibility.

Anne mentioned that one of the recommendations was to invite a representative from a float plane operator to join the Committee. This will be pursued.

Anne noted that the recommendations are very detailed and that the Airport Authority may agree to the objective but not necessarily to the methodology or approach recommended.

Victor Wei commented that although the Task Force made 22 recommendations, the intent was to bring awareness to issues and provide examples of how these issues may be solved.

*Actions:*

- *Invitation to join the Committee will be sent to the YVR float plane operators.*

## 6.0 SOCIAL SURVEY NOISE RESULTS

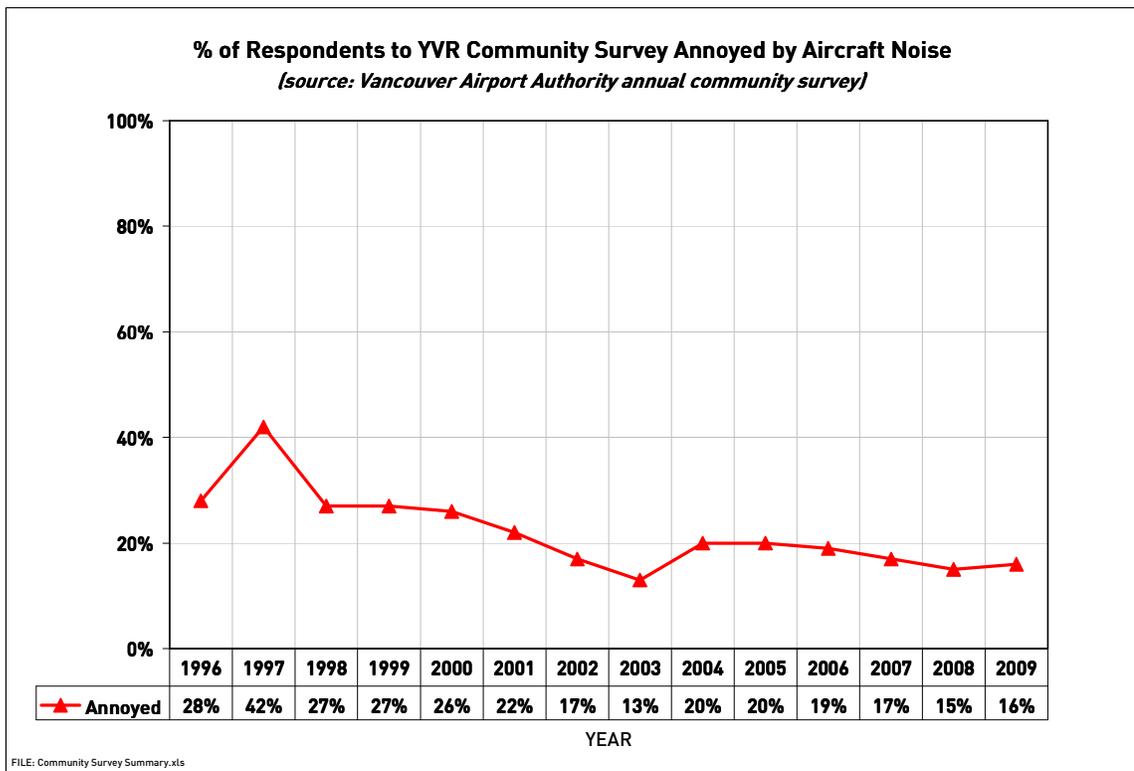
Anne provided a summary of the 2009 YVR social survey results related to noise annoyance. Since 1996, the Airport Authority has commissioned a third party survey to track public attitudes and opinions about the airport on a number of topics including impact of aircraft noise. Surveys are an important tool and provide useful information as complaints about aircraft noise registered by individuals are often not a good indicator of overall community annoyance.

The survey represents the opinions of approximately 1,000 residents randomly selected across the communities of the Lower Mainland and provides another means to gauge the level of community annoyance triggered by aircraft noise.

At least 200 people in each of Vancouver and Richmond, the most noise affected communities, were included in the survey.

Approximately 16% of respondents indicated they were annoyed by aircraft noise, and 84% of the respondents reported not being annoyed by aircraft noise. Of the 16% of residents indicating that they were annoyed by aircraft noise, approximately 22% stated that they were extremely annoyed.

The figure below illustrates the trend of community annoyance since 1996. The highest level of annoyance was reported in 1997, just after the north runway was opened in 1996.



Aside from the noise questions asked in the survey, other questions probe the overall perception of YVR, the importance of the airport to the economy, and the importance of 24-hour operations. Very few changes have been made to the questions to provide a relevant comparison over the years.

A few Committee members had concerns that the data did not represent the views of noise impacted neighbourhoods and suggested that areas of the Lower Mainland significantly affected by aircraft noise should be targeted for the survey rather than a random distribution. Anne commented that the benefit of the existing survey design was that it provided a general impression of noise

annoyance throughout the Lower Mainland and allowed the analysis of year over year trends.

**Actions:**

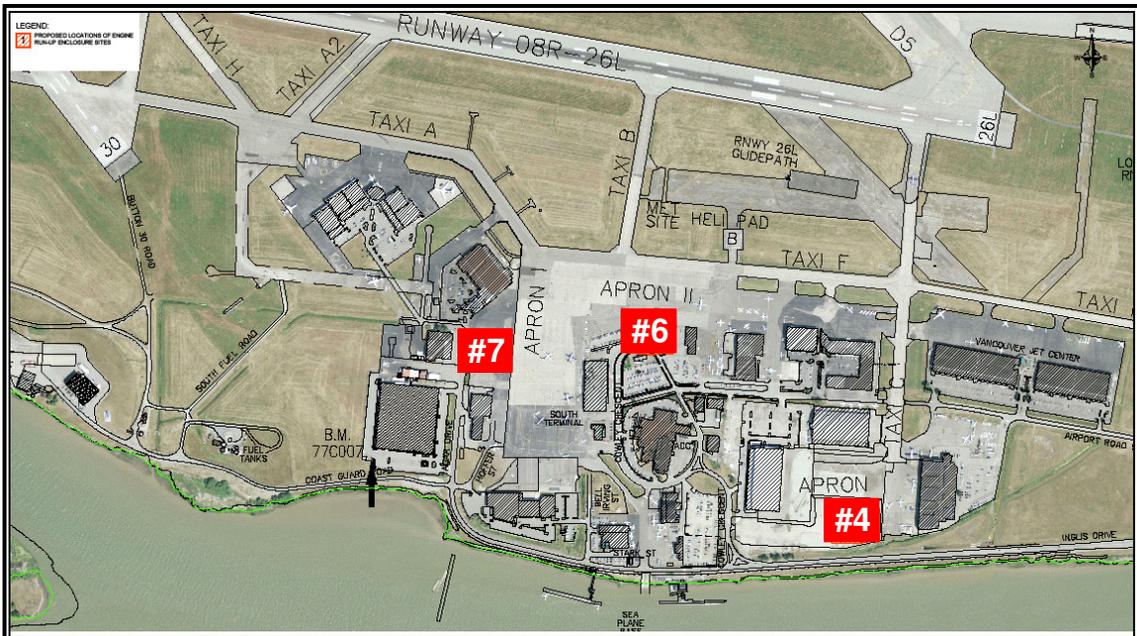
- *Distribute the presentation on the social survey with the meeting minutes.*

**7.0 UPDATE OF GROUND RUN-UP ENCLOSURE PROJECT**

Mark provided an update on the Ground Run Up Enclosure (GRE) project. The project has received concept approval from the Airport Authority's executives and the Project Team is currently in the final stages of site evaluation.

As background, there are approximately 3,600 run-ups conducted at YVR each year. These are of varying power settings and duration. Approximately 60% of the run-ups are performed by operators on the south side of the airport and the majority of run-ups currently performed are on propeller aircraft.

Based on this information, a GRE sized for a Dash-8-400 was designed and noise evaluations were performed for various facility design and location options. The Project Team had originally identified seven possible locations; however, this has been reduced to three candidates after further assessments. These three locations are illustrated in the figure below.



Mark advised that a detailed project briefing had been provided to City of Vancouver and Richmond citizen and staff representatives on Monday 13 September 2010. In attendance at the briefing were Haydn, Margot, Jonathan, Meg, and Victor. The briefing included a tour of the three potential locations.

The cost estimate for the project is approximately \$12 million including contingency. The Project Team will finalize its site selection shortly. The facility could be operational by the end of 2011 based on the current schedule for approvals and construction.

Jonathan stated from his perspective Site #7 was the preferable option for Vancouver residents.

*Actions:*

- *Include GRE presentation with the distribution of minutes.*

## **8.0 YVR NIGHT OPERATIONS**

Mark provided a summary of information on night-time operations at YVR requested by Committee members at the last Committee meeting. The information provided included:

- Annual number of night-time operations vs. % of total operations;
- Annual number of night-time operations vs. total cargo tonnage;
- Annual number of night-time operations vs. total passenger;
- Annual number of night-time operations by aircraft type;
- A comparison of night-time operations at YVR, Montreal (YUL), and Toronto (YYZ).

It was noted that the three airports (Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver) each have approximately 3% of their total operations occurring at night.

## **9.0 AIRSPACE WORKING GROUP**

Brett advised the Committee that the Airport Authority and NAV CANADA would be forming a technical airspace working group, which would discuss the issues of safety, efficiency, and noise in the immediate vicinity of YVR. The working group will consult with the Committee at key stages of work.

NAV CANADA has committed their experts, including airspace modelers if required, to assist in the process.

Committee members were interested in learning of the specific issues that will be addressed with the Working Group, and further information would be provided at an upcoming Committee meeting.

Victor stated that the Airspace Working Group should consider consultations with other stakeholders to provide input into their work before final decisions are made.

## 10.0 REVERSE THRUST USAGE ON 26L/08R (SOUTH RUNWAY)

Toni provided a brief update on the status of the proposed wording amendments related to reverse thrust use in the Canada Air Pilot.

Toni reminded the Committee that a proposal to amend the current wording in the Canada Air Pilot was submitted to Transport Canada by the Airport Authority in 2008. Transport Canada indicated recently that the wording amendment would be published in the 11 January 2011 edition of the Canada Air Pilot.

The current wording:

*Consistent with safe operating procedures:  
Rwys 08L & 26R: use minimal reverse thrust  
All other Rwys: use idle reverse thrust 2200-0700*

will be replaced with the following:

*All Rwys: Consistent with safe operating procedures, plan landing using idle reverse thrust*

Mark added that the wording change would be discussed at the upcoming YVR Chief Pilot's meeting in the Fall, and that letters highlighting the change would be sent to the operators once the new publication was issued.

## 11.0 Q-3: SUMMARY REPORT

The 2010 Quarter 3 summary report, which covers the period of 1 May to 30 August 2010, was distributed to the Committee.

Before reviewing the results with the Committee, Mark stated that a large volume of complaints received from one individual in Surrey were excluded from the analysis. This individual has registered 2,454 complaints during the first 8-months of 2010, primarily through the WebTrak system.

Mark advised that the decision to exclude the complaints from the analysis was made as the large volume skewed the data and did not allow for proper analysis. The Committee agreed to this approach.

Year-to-date, the Airport Authority has received 767 noise complaints. This represents a 49% decrease in complaints compared to the same period in 2009. The geographic breakdown of the remaining 767 complaints is: 34% from Surrey; 25% from Delta; 20% from Vancouver; 13% from Richmond; and, 8% from other areas of the Lower Mainland.

*Actions:*

- *Distribute the 2010 Quarter 3 report with the minutes.*

## 12.0 UPDATES

- Mark provided an update on the Portable Noise Monitoring Terminal Program. To date, the monitor has been deployed in Surrey, Delta, and is now currently located in Stanley Park. The location in Stanley Park was selected with the assistance of City of Vancouver staff.

The next placement of the portable noise monitor location will be in Ladner; a specific location would be selected with the assistance of Corporation of Delta staff.

A draft report summarizing the results of the first deployment in Surrey was distributed to the Committee and the results were discussed. Committee members were asked to review the draft report and provide feedback on content and layout. Once comments have been received and incorporated, the final report will be posted on the YVR website.

- Toni provided feedback on the recent YVR Noise Information Seminars. Two sessions have been delivered to date and have been well received by participants. A third session is scheduled for November. The program will be evaluated at year end to determine whether it will be continued in 2011.

## MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Toni thanked Committee members for attending and adjourned the meeting at 3:15PM.

## ATTACHMENTS:

- 2009 Social Survey Noise results presentation
- GRE project update presentation
- YVR night operations summary report
- Q3 Summary report