# NEWS RELEASE

## 500 Aircraft in Three Weeks - YXX

**Abbotsford, March 4, 2010 –** Abbotsford International Airport processed more than 500 aircraft during the timeframe of the 2010 Winter Olympics, announced Dave Kandal, Chair of the Abbotsford Airport Authority today.

"Aircraft related to the 2010 Olympics started arriving on February 10th," said Kandal. "By the time the dust settled on March 3rd, we had seen more than 500 corporate jets come through Abbotsford International Airport, which is a record we won't break anytime soon."

Passengers included heads of state, corporate executives, athletes, Hollywood celebrities and members of the 2010 International Organizing Committee. All of the aircraft were processed by the new Abbotsford Shell Aerocentre, Fixed Base Operation which opened its doors on January 29, 2010. The Aerocentre is a joint venture between Shell Canada and Abbotsford's Carsonair, and includes an 11,000 square foot hangar and 2000 square feet of office space and offers aircraft services such as parking, fuel, aircraft grooming, and a pilot's lounge.

"This was a great opportunity for us to showcase our airport to travelers from across the globe," said Kandal. "We were able to demonstrate to corporate aircraft owners that YXX is a good alternative to YVR when flying into the lower mainland."

The busiest day was February 28, 2010 when approximately 70 aircraft flew into the airport. Most of the aircraft were business jets, ranging in size from small Cessna Citations and Lear jets to the 19 seat Bombardier Global Express.

"We had 51 aircraft parked on the airport's apron at one time," said Kandal. "The airport also accommodated several large charter aircraft during this period including Boeing 737, Boeing 757, Airbus 310, Airbus 320, and Airbus 330's, many of which were used to transport the more than 1,000 RCMP officers and thousands of military personnel who were temporarily assigned to security duties for the games."

YXX was designated a portal airport and provided Canada Border Service Agency and Canadian Air Transport Security Agency services for passenger screening to fulfill the security requirements for itinerant aircraft wishing to fly into YVR.

Abbotsford International Airport serves approximately 500,000 passengers annually and has connecting flights to destinations worldwide.

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