NEWS RELEASE

Abbotsford Airport Sets New Passenger Record in 2007

Abbotsford, January 17, 2008 – 2007 was another record breaking year for Abbotsford International Airport with 508,464 passengers flying out of YXX. The previous record was set in 2006 at 502,633 passengers. Passenger traffic is expected to grow in 2008 as more regional travelers continue to discover the ease and convenience of traveling from Abbotsford.

"The Fraser Valley is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada and we are very excited about the new record numbers," says Dave Kandal, Chair of the Abbotsford Airport Authority. "These statistics help tell our story, and with the numbers rising each year setting new records, we anticipate 2008 to be another very successful year."

2008 does promise to be a banner year for Abbotsford International with renovations to the airport terminal, a new restaurant, improvement to terminal services and new international and intra BC flights. Just weeks into the New Year, Abbotsford Airport added a new direct, daily service to Toronto from WestJet.

Kandal notes that the Toronto service was requested over and over again by regional travelers.

"This is the type of service a regional airport like Abbotsford needs to offer. We've heard from our local chambers of commerce leaders, neighbouring mayors and council members supporting this flight and our airport. From Surrey to Hope, flights that accommodate the business traveler are wanted here. I know Fraser Valley business travelers will fill these planes."

BCWest Air, the Nanaimo-based commuter airline, is the newest operator to arrive at the airport. BC West Air began operating in October, but recently added daily direct service to Victoria as well as daily service between Nanaimo and Abbotsford.

BCWest Air President Shanon Maurer has been "very pleased" with the response from Abbotsford Airport.

"We looked at Abbotsford as a destination for over a year and watched the expansion in the airport facility, now we can say that we are happy to be part of the future growth," says Maurer.

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Abbotsford International Airport is the Lower Mainland's regional airport serving over 508,000 passengers annually from Surrey to Hope. Conveniently located off the trans-Canada highway, Abbotsford International offers daily service to Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver Island, and starting in May, daily direct service to Toronto! Abbotsford Airport also offers a seasonal weekly charter service to Mexico. With close, affordable parking, on-site wi-fi service, and self-serve check in kiosks, Abbotsford is the preferred choice for travelers wanting a friendly, easy and stress-free travel experience.

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