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2023 Business Plan Anahim Lake Airport (1111)

Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services

Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.

Department/Function Services

The Anahim Lake Airport function was established in 1975 through Bylaw No. 394 and merged with the Nimpo Lake Airstrip Service area through Bylaw No. 1195 in 1981. The taxation boundary was amended in 2013 through Bylaw No. 4840 to more accurately reflect the residents benefiting from the service. Requisition is by means of a tax applied to the assessed value of land and improvements within the specified area. The maximum requisition is the greater of \$55,000 or an amount raised by applying a tax rate of \$0.7322/\$1,000.

The airport achieved Transport Canada certification in 2010, which is necessary to maintain service by a scheduled carrier. A five-year contract to manage the airport was signed with Snooka Aircraft Services (2019-2024).

The role of the airport is significant to the community. It connects this remote area to the provincial, national and international air transportation network. This connection allows the rural location to become more attractive to industrial and commercial interests, improving its potential for economic development, and is generally the mainstay of the many tourism operators in the area.

The airport is vital for RCMP and medevac flights and during emergency events, such as forest fires and floods. The airport became the command post for the Ministry of Forests in the effort to control large interface wildfires near Hotnarko and Big Stick Lake in 2021, the Precipice Valley in 2017, and the Heckman Pass of Tweedsmuir Park in 2018.

The airport is served by scheduled service to Vancouver by Pacific Coastal Airlines under an Air Carrier Airport Use Agreement (October 2022-2025), which also uses Anahim Lake

as the alternate landing site when conditions limit visibility at the Bella Coola Airport. Other regular traffic includes numerous charters and recreational traffic.

The annual budget covers basic operational costs such as insurance and minor maintenance items. Because of its limited tax base, the airport relies on provincial or federal funding for any major improvements. In 2013, the Anahim Lake Airport Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 4833 was adopted to allow the charging of landing fees at the airport to further diversify revenue streams. The fees were updated through Bylaw No. 5402 in 2022.

The Anahim Lake Airport Commission (Bylaw No. 4739) provides local guidance to development at the airport. The commission has membership from the local community associations, cattlemen's association and the Ulkatcho First Nation.

As Electoral Area J is the only stakeholder, and the *Local Government Act* requires more than one vote, the entire Board is responsible for the governance of this service.

Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

2023 Goals

- 1. Goal:** Acquire grant funding to construct an apron expansion.
Rationale: The existing apron is not able to accommodate the growing numbers of aircraft that are landing and parking at the airport, particularly fire-fighting aircraft and backcountry recreation charter flights.
Strategy: The concept design and cost estimate for the expansion was completed in 2018 and will serve as the basis for grant applications in 2023. If grant funding is obtained, the project may be completed in fall 2024.
- 2. Goal:** Install photovoltaic solar panels on the terminal building.
Rationale: The metal roof of the terminal building has an excellent aspect for installation and current solar panel technology provides a good return for the capital investment. It is expected a solar panel system will generate approximately 20,000 kwh of electricity annually.
Strategy: Regional District staff will work with the airport manager and a qualified contractor on the project. Funding for the installation is included in the financial plan with an allocation of Regional District Community Works Funds.
- 3. Goal:** Improve water drainage around the taxiway and apron.
Rationale: Higher ground water levels combined with loss of vegetation have increased pooling water around the apron and taxiway. The water represents a potential hazard to aircraft and could cause erosion of the runway or taxiway base.

Strategy: Regional District staff will work with the airport manager to determine viable options to effectively deal with the issue. Funding is allocated in the financial plan to implement the appropriate solution.

- 4. Goal:** Construct a picnic spot with a gazebo and BBQ on the west side of the terminal.

Rationale: A picnic spot will increase the appeal and use of the airport property.

Strategy: Regional District staff will work with the airport manager to construct the picnic spot.

- 5. Goal:** Apply for grant funding for the terminal building expansion project.

Rationale: A design and cost estimate for an expansion of the terminal building was completed in 2022. The existing terminal building lacks space for a proper airport manager's office and office space for potential tenants such as Pacific Coastal Airlines or the BC Wildfire Service.

Strategy: Grant applications will be submitted to appropriate programs; however, the apron expansion project remains the top priority if that project option is available within the funding criteria.

2024 Goals

- 1. Goal:** Apply for grant funding for a runway rehabilitation project.

Rationale: An application will be submitted to the federal Airport Capital Assistance Program for this major project. The lead time on this program is 18 months to two years so the application will go in well in advance of project delivery. The runway has been well maintained, but was last paved in 2000 so will be requiring an overlay by 2025-26.

Strategy: Consultant engineering resources will be required and retained to prepare the design and cost estimates for the ACAP application.

- 2. Goal:** Review the Airport Management and Operations contract.

Rationale: The current five-year contract expires in June 2024 and renewal, extension or posting is required to maintain airport operations.

Strategy: Options for the process will be discussed with the airport commission in spring 2024 and a preferred direction determined.

2025 Goals

- 1. Goal:** Undertake an updated Obstacle Limitation Surface survey for the airport and surrounding terrain.

Rationale: An updated OLS survey is required every five years by Transport Canada to maintain airport certification.

Strategy: A qualified consultant will be retained to conduct the survey to the necessary standards.

2. **Goal:** Conduct the required external audit of the Safety Management System.
Rationale: Periodic SMS external audits are required by Transport Canada to maintain certification of the airport.
Strategy: Consulting services will be retained to conduct the required audit. Shared consultant travel costs with airports in Williams Lake and Quesnel will be sought to provide savings for the airport.

Overall Financial Impact

The 2023 requisition is the same as the 2022 requisition. This amount is increased by 2% per year from 2024-2027 through the five-year plan and is required to deal with increasing maintenance costs at the airport, such as filling runway cracks and brushing. This minor inflationary increase is made possible due to other additional revenue streams, such as grants, landing fees and fuel sales.

The 2022 requisition was the same as the 2021 requisition.

The five-year capital and major maintenance plan for the service identifies a consistent average annual expenditure of about \$30,000 which includes facility and runway improvements. This figure may vary from year to year as new projects are approved.

The service has projected capital reserve funds of \$372,000 at the end of 2022, including a contribution of \$10,000 in 2022. A significant transfer of \$100,000 was possible in 2021 due to high-volume fuel sales from the wildfire response and will facilitate major capital projects included in the business plan goals.

Fuel sales provide significant revenue for the airport; however, they are highly unpredictable based on commercial and local forest fire fighting activity. The Regional District includes a mark-up of at least \$0.30 per litre to support airport operations and improvements. Preliminary net revenue for 2023 is estimated at \$15,000 based on a long-term average for sales. Net revenues amounting to approximately \$30,000 were generated in 2022 due in part to supplying fuel to the fire suppression efforts in the Chilcotin.

Landing fees of \$30 for fixed wing aircraft and \$15 for helicopters on commercial, non-scheduled flights were implemented at the airport in 2022. Preliminary net revenue from landing fees for 2022 is estimated at \$2,500. Based on the long-term average, net revenue in 2023 is expected to be \$4,500, based on the new fees and charges bylaw.

Significant Issues & Trends

The airport experienced a return to normal operations for aviation services and medevac flights in 2022 following the challenging times of the global COVID-19 pandemic, through which many other local government and private airports were not able to maintain service.

As of August 31, airport movements in 2022 were 804, down 50% from 2021. Included in these figures are 10 medevac flights, down from 13 in 2021 for the same period, but still illustrating the ongoing importance of the airport to the well-being of local residents. In 2021, the airport had an annual total of 1722 movements due to regular use as a base for the Ministry of Forests during large interface wildfires as well as 17 total medevacs.

Activity at the airport during wildfire fighting operations has been overwhelming in recent years and, while the benefit of increased fuel sales has allowed larger contributions to capital reserves, the situation also highlighted the need for more apron and terminal building space at the airport. Consideration is also being given to establishing a permanent base of operations for the BC Wildfire Service at the airport.

The first private hangar is expected to be constructed at the airport in 2023 and this has the potential to lead to further development. A basic airport master plan has been created to help guide hangar construction locations. Depending on preferred lot size, approximately eight hangar locations could be made available and this would also require construction of a taxi way to allow airside access.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

Measuring Previous Years Performance

Goal: Review the Airport Use Agreement with Pacific Coastal Airlines.

- Completed. A new three-year agreement was signed in November 2022.

Goal: Conduct the required external audit of the Safety Management System.

- Completed. EBA Tetrattech provided the audit in May 2022.

Goal: Review the airport fees and charges bylaw.

- Completed. A new bylaw with appropriate increased landing fees was adopted.

Goal: Develop a concept design and costs for a terminal building expansion.

- Completed. The design and cost estimate will provide the necessary background for infrastructure grant applications.

Goal: Attend runway condition reporting and airport operations training.

- Completed.

Goal: Construct a picnic spot with a gazebo and BBQ on the west side of the terminal.

- Not completed. Project was deferred in favour of other priorities including the purchase and installation of a freight scale.

Goal: Increase participation by all Anahim Lake Airport Commission members.

- Completed. Two new members were appointed to the airport commission in 2022 and meetings were well attended.

Goal: Perform runway crack filling, seal coating and painting as necessary.

- Completed.

Other Accomplishments

Wildfire response activity at the airport was greatly reduced in 2022 following the unprecedented wildfire season in the Cariboo Chilcotin for 2021, which resulted in intense activity at the airport, with fuels sales exceeding even the large volumes sold in 2017. In-aircraft fueling was again requested by the BC Wildfire Service, which required long hours from the airport manager for several days in August and early September.

The majority of effort in 2020 was spent dealing with Transport Canada and the results from an extensive audit performed in April 2019. The audit identified minor issues with runway condition compliance, but resulted in severe restrictions imposed by Transport Canada, which in turn limited service from scheduled flights, both to Anahim Lake and Bella Coola.

A long-term hangar construction and use agreement was completed with Bella Coola Heli Sports. Construction is expected in Spring 2023 and this will be the first private hangar built on airport lands.

To guide future hangar development, an airport master plan was created to identify feasible locations for construction while also allowing taxi way access and airside security for certification.



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2023 Business Plan Likely and Area Community Services (1112)

Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services

Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.

Department/Function Services

The Likely and Area Community Services function was established in 2003 through Bylaw No. 3782. This establishment was done in tandem with the repeal of the Likely Airstrip Specified Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1033 (1981) and all assets were transferred into the new service.

The service was established with a mandate to maintain the Likely airstrip, acquire, develop, operate or maintain local public assets and facilities, and support community events of a cultural or heritage nature.

In conjunction with the creation of the function, the Likely Community Services Commission was appointed by the Regional District Board to ensure the community has input into recommendations regarding service delivery.

A three-year contribution agreement (2023-25) is in place between the Regional District and the Likely Chamber of Commerce to maintain public privies at the Bullion Pit, Quesnel Forks and downtown Likely.

Casual labour is retained by the Likely Chamber of Commerce, on an as required basis, to maintain public spaces, including improvements to local trails, as well as landscaping and minor repairs at the Bullion Pit, Quesnel Forks, and Goat Island Park. The Chamber is reimbursed for these costs from the function budget.

Requisition is by means of tax applied to the assessed value of land and improvements within the local service area. The maximum taxation rate for this service is the greater of \$15,000 or \$0.42126/\$1,000.

As Electoral Area F is the only stakeholder, and the *Local Government Act* requires more than one vote, the entire Board is responsible for the governance of this service. Local guidance for the service is provided via the Likely Community Services Commission.

Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

2023 Goals

- 1. Goal:** Review the airport service to determine if it is beneficial to the community to continue.
Rationale: The airport service utilizes approximately one third of the function budget; possibly, these funds could be used more effectively in the maintenance of other Likely public assets and facilities, or to support community events of a cultural or heritage nature.
Strategy: Regional District will work with the Chamber of Commerce to determine if the airport service should continue or be discontinued.
- 2. Goal:** Maintain public spaces including improvements to local trails as well as landscaping and minor repairs at the Bullion Pit, Quesnel Forks, Goat Island Park and downtown Likely.
Rationale: These local public spaces are key tourism attractions and a source of community pride and investment.
Strategy: Local contractors will be hired to perform the work on an as needed basis under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce.
- 3. Goal:** Undertake community beautification activities.
Rationale: Numerous infrastructure and aesthetic improvement projects have been completed in downtown Likely and some final finishing of flowers and other items is appropriate.
Strategy: The project will be managed through the Chamber of Commerce with support from Regional District staff.
- 4. Goal:** Install information signs along the Gold Rush Trail Backroad to Barkerville and other community signage.
Rationale: The backroad signs have been vandalized in recent years and many are missing, potentially leading to lost travelers. The route is an important tourism promotion for the community hoping to attract visitors looking for a different route to popular Barkerville. Other community signs in public areas explain local points of interest. Improving signage at locations such as downtown Likely, Goat Island Park, Cedar Point Park, and Quesnel Forks Historic Site, will add value to the area as a tourism destination.

Strategy: The project will be managed through the Chamber of Commerce with support from Regional District staff.

5. **Goal:** Advertise local events in several tourism publications and distribute community information.

Rationale: Promotion of local events will draw more tourism traffic and increase community participation.

Strategy: Ads will be arranged through the Chamber of Commerce with support from Regional District staff.

Overall Financial Impact

The 2023 requisition is increased by 2% from the 2022 requisition amounting to \$544 for a total of \$27,766. A 2% increase is also included throughout the financial plan to accommodate ongoing inflationary increases to operating costs.

The function has projected capital reserve funds for the airstrip in the amount of \$22,121 at the end of 2022, with an annual increase of \$1,000 in years 2023-2027 of the financial plan.

Significant Issues & Trends

Operations and activities under the community services function have recovered from the COVID-19 situation and are expected to stabilize to pre-pandemic levels in 2023.

The unprecedented wildfire events during the summer of 2017 had a major impact on rural communities throughout the region and although the Likely area was not evacuated or put on alert the highway roads to the community were cut off for extended periods of time. This severely limited visitation to the areas for tourism and was a challenge for locals to acquire food and medical supplies.

The breach on August 4, 2014, of the tailings pond at the Mount Polley Mine and subsequent release of material into Quesnel Lake, drew national attention to the small community of Likely. Recovery from the event through 2015 and forward presented many challenges - social, economic, and environmental - for area residents and resulted in opportunities for local projects and community improvements. Numerous projects were undertaken in 2016 and 2017 such as installation of a shower house and boat launch at Cedar Point Park as well as construction of a commercial kitchen at the community hall. Capacity of the local residents to implement the worthwhile plans will remain an ongoing issue; however, a community coordinator position has been created and has made a significant positive impact. The position is not funded through the Regional District, but primarily through the community forest and other local sources.

The establishment of the Area F Community Halls Support Service in 2008 has augmented the financial resources available to the community services commission by allowing the community services function to shift its focus away from maintenance and operation of the community hall.

The commission also works closely with the Likely and District Chamber of Commerce and regularly receives project support from the Central Cariboo and Chilcotin Economic Development function.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

Measuring Previous Years Performance

Goal: Review the contribution agreement with the Likely Chamber of Commerce to maintain public privies at the Bullion Pit, Quesnel Forks and downtown Likely.

- Completed. The agreement was renewed for another three-year term with no material changes.

Goal: Maintain public spaces including improvements to local trails as well as landscaping and minor repairs at the Bullion Pit, Quesnel Forks, Goat Island Park and downtown Likely.

- Completed.

Goal: Undertake community beautification activities.

- Completed.

Goal: Install information signs along the Gold Rush Trail Backroad to Barkerville and other community signage.

- Planned for completion in 2022. If not completed, goal will be carried forward to 2023.

Goal: Advertise local events in several tourism publications as well as produce and distribute the community information newsletter.

- Completed.



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2023 Business Plan South Cariboo Regional Airport (1113)

Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services

Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.

Department/Function Services

The South Cariboo Regional Airport service was established by Supplementary Letters Patent No. 56 and became a function of the Cariboo Regional District in 1981 following successful negotiations with Block Bros Realty who originally constructed the airport to facilitate access to its subdivision development at the 108 Mile Ranch.

The airport has the longest runway (4877 feet) in the South Cariboo and is the main access point to the area for large commercial aircraft as well as medevac, RCMP and forest fire surveillance and suppression flights. A five-year contract (June 2018-2023) to manage the airport was signed with Dennis (Nick) Christianson of Nick's Rag and Tube. This contract was transferred in November 2020 for the remainder of the term to Donahue Airfield Services.

The airport offers both avgas and jet fuel for sale year-round. Currently six private hangars and four aircraft shelters are occupied by local pilots and companies on the property.

In 2013, a new self-serve fueling system was installed and accepts Visa and MasterCard. Since 2010, the airport offers GPS-based approach and departure procedures, which are published in the Restricted Canadian Air Pilot manual due to higher clearance standards imposed by Transport Canada in 2021, which the runway is unable to comply with due to off site obstacles.

Electoral Areas G, H, and L and the District of 100 Mile House participate in this service, which is funded by means of a tax applied to the assessed value of land and improvements within the sub-regional service area. The maximum requisition is \$0.312/\$1,000.

Directors for Electoral Areas G, H, and L and District of 100 Mile House are responsible for the governance of this service and act, along with up to four appointed members, as the South Cariboo Regional Airport Commission, which was established to guide airport development and operations.

Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

2023 Goals

- 1. Goal:** Initiate a runway overlay and remarking project.
Rationale: Design for the overlay was completed in 2018. To preserve the long-term viability of the runway and the airport, a full runway overlay is required.
Strategy: A Request for Proposals for the project will be issued based on the design plans developed by an engineering firm. Because the airport financial plan will not have enough capital reserves to cover the full project cost, the issuance of the RFP will be subject to obtaining a major infrastructure grant and/or borrowing funds for the project.
- 2. Goal:** Replace the airside electrical system including all runway and navigational lighting.
Rationale: The electrical system has exceeded its functional lifespan and repair and replacement of parts is becoming difficult. Undertaking this project concurrently with the runway overlay provides good cost efficiency.
Strategy: The electrical system will be part of the runway overlay design scope and the entire system will be upgraded to LED lighting resulting in significant energy savings. Regional District Community Works Funding has been identified to support this project.
- 3. Goal:** Fuel system redesign and cost estimate.
Rationale: The fuel system is a key piece of airport infrastructure and the underground tanks are now more than 30 years old, having been installed in 1990. The tanks are inspected regularly; however, planning for their eventual replacement is appropriate.
Strategy: Design consulting services will be retained to develop a replacement plan and potential new location.
- 4. Goal:** Review the airport management and operation contract.
Rationale: The existing agreement with Donahue Airfield Services expires in June 2023 and a process for continuing ongoing contract services is required.
Strategy: Options including an extension, renewal or posting the contract will be brought forward to the airport commission for consideration in March 2023.

5. **Goal:** Determine the feasibility of installing solar panels on the roof of the Regional District hangar and airport office building.
Rationale: Solar panel technology has matured and is demonstrating good return on the capital investment in addition to the energy savings received. These savings in electrical costs would reduce the operating expenses of the airport buildings.
Strategy: Qualified solar contractors will be requested to review the site and provide a system design and cost estimate. It is expected Community Works Funding will be allocated in the financial plan in 2024 for completion of the project.
6. **Goal:** Review the Obstacle Limitation Surface for the runway.
Rationale: Changes by Transport Canada to the minimum standards for the OLS resulted in the airport approach procedures being moved from the Canadian Airport Pilot (CAP) to the Restricted CAP. This is detrimental to private aircraft that use GPS procedures and can't access the RCAP.
Strategy: The critical issue with the OLS is the height of power poles across Highway 97 and options for relocation may be limited. If the power poles are relocated, numerous trees will also require removal to allow the runway to meet the minimum standard.
7. **Goal:** Prepare locations and access for future private hangars.
Rationale: Only one location remains readily available for hangar construction and initial enquiries have been received for this final spot. Any additional locations will need site works to be prepared for future private hangars.
Strategy: Project will be supervised by the airport manager with support from Regional District staff. Initial discussions with the 108 Greenbelt Commission will be required to determine if additional space can be included in the airside development. This work may be done in conjunction with the runway overlay planned for 2021 or take place ahead of the overlay if major grant funding is not received.

2024 Goals

1. **Goal:** Complete a master plan for airport development east of the runway.
Rationale: Development of the west side of the airport along Telqua Drive is limited by the amount of land available as well as road access. If the airport property had a direct connection to Highway 97 and utility services available on the east side of the runway, it would enable the Regional District to enter long term land agreements with major users like the Cariboo Fire Centre, and other private hangar developments.
Strategy: Design and engineering consulting services will be retained as necessary to analyze the potential options and confirm a concept plan to guide future development.

2. **Goal:** Install solar panels on the roof of the Regional District hangar and airport office building.

Rationale: Solar panel technology has matured and is demonstrating good return on the capital investment in addition to the energy savings received. These savings in electrical costs would reduce the operating expenses of the airport buildings.

Strategy: The project will be supervised by the airport manager with support from Regional District staff. Community Works Funding will be allocated in the financial plan for completion of the project.

Overall Financial Impact

The 2023 requisition is the same as the 2022 requisition for a total of \$412,906. This amount is required to account for the costs of short-term borrowing and allocations to capital reserves to serve as matching funding for a major infrastructure grant to rehabilitate the runway. No additional increase is planned for years 2024-2027.

The 2020 requisition increased by 55% from the 2020 requisition in the amount of \$146,500.

The requisition was also increased by 10% per year from 2014 until 2018. The South Cariboo Regional Airport Commission recommended these increases to accommodate a larger transfer to capital reserves to help rebuild the fund following a draw for the purchase of land and in anticipation of major future infrastructure replacement costs.

The long-term capital plan, completed in 2012 by EBA Engineering Consultants, identifies more than \$3.4 million in capital investments over the next 5-15 years for the airport.

Currently, the average annual capital and major repair expenditure planned for the airport is \$30,000-\$45,000 plus \$15,000-\$20,000 for runway maintenance.

The service has projected capital reserve funds of about \$1.085 million at the end of 2022 with a planned transfer of \$200,000, which is possible due to adequate fuel sales and operational support through grant funding. Major transfers out of reserves are planned for 2023-2024 to facilitate the runway rehabilitation project, which is dependent on receiving significant infrastructure grant funding. In years three to five of the financial plan \$1 million is allocated back into reserves to assist with future major capital projects.

Fuel sales provide significant revenue for the airport; however, they are highly unpredictable based on commercial and local forest fire fighting activity. The Regional District includes a mark-up of \$0.30 per litre to support airport operations and improvements. Preliminary net revenue for 2023 is estimated at \$22,500 based on a long-term average of 75,000 litres for annual sales. This additional revenue will support capital works at the airport and help manage short-term requisition increases.

A major increase in net fuel sale revenues occurred in 2021 amounting to an estimated \$160,000 due to supplying the wildfire suppression efforts in the South Cariboo.

Revenue from landing and tie-down fees is retained by the airport manager under the renewed management and operations contract signed in 2018.

Private hangar development at the airport, through Use and Occupancy agreements, generates revenues of \$12,489, but there is only limited potential to increase significantly beyond the current level unless new property is made available at the site.

Significant Issues & Trends

The airport experienced a return to normal operations for aviation services and medevac flights in 2022 following the challenging times of the global COVID-19 pandemic, through which many other local government and private airports were not able to maintain service.

The critical business plan goal for the airport and the Regional District continues to be undertaking a runway overlay project. The scope of the asphalt overlay will also include a replacement of the airside electrical system, upgrades to the runway lighting and replacing the VASI navigational lighting with a PAPI system. All lighting will be upgraded to LED resulting in significant energy savings. These capital projects, along with the AWOS replacement, which occurred in 2018, were identified in a long-term capital plan completed in 2012 by EBA Engineering Consultants. Completing these works addresses the majority of priority capital projects identified by EBA and ensures the long-term viability of airport infrastructure.

These major capital expenditures are not fully accounted for in the financial plan and will challenge operation of the airport in the future. Projects will require grant funding and potentially short-term borrowing; but access to capital reserves will also be beneficial.

Demand for private hangar space has returned following several low-interest years, probably due to broad economic issues at all levels. As such, there is the potential for a renewed emphasis on preparing space for hangars. Hail damage to aircraft led to construction of a four-bay private sunshade structure and it is expected that interest in this approach to protecting aircraft will expand.

As of August 31st, airport movements in 2022 totaled 1,124, a decrease of approximately 75% from 2021, when the airport served as a base for the Ministry of Forests during large interface wildfires. Included in these figures for 2022 are 30 medevac flights, an increase of 10 medevacs for the same period in 2021, illustrating the ongoing importance of the airport to the well-being of local residents. In 2021, the airport had a total of 4,917 movements; 41 of these were medevacs.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

Measuring Previous Years Performance

Goal: Initiate a runway overlay and remarking project.

- Not completed. Construction-ready designs are complete; however, infrastructure grant funding applications are still awaiting approval.

Goal: Replace the airside electrical system including all runway and navigational lighting.

- Not completed. Construction-ready designs are complete; however, grant funding applications are still awaiting approval for the overlay project which must be completed concurrently.

Goal: Review the airport fees and charges bylaw.

- Completed. An updated bylaw with increased landing fees was adopted in June 2022.

Goal: Renovate the airport office and reception space.

- Completed.

Goal: Upgrade runway web cameras.

- Completed. The new high-resolution cameras will improve online runway condition reporting.

Goal: Fill runway cracks and repaint all runway lines.

- Completed. The work was completed in-house due to a lack of contractors available.

Goal: Prepare locations and access for future private hangars.

- Not completed. Goal deferred to 2023 due to other priorities including in-house completion of painting and crack filling.

Other Accomplishments:

The airport received many local visitors during the 108 Ranch Community Open House event in May 2022.

A used snow blower was donated by the Prince George Airport Authority to the airport. The equipment required some minor repairs but will serve well to maintain the runway in winter.



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2023 Business Plan Quesnel Regional Airport Contribution Service (1114)

Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services

Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.

Department/Function Services

The Quesnel Regional Airport contribution function was established through Bylaw No. 5151 in 2018 following a referendum of the participating electoral areas. The purpose of the function is to provide a contribution to the City of Quesnel to support operation of the Quesnel Regional Airport in recognition that the residents and businesses across the North Cariboo receive economic and social benefits from the airport.

The funding is provided through a three-year contribution agreement with the City (2019-2021). The agreement is limited to direct operating costs at the airport and does not include funding for capital projects at this time.

To enable input into airport operations, the City has established an Airport Advisory Committee with representation from elected officials from the Regional District and the City as well as key airport stakeholders.

Participants in the service are Electoral Areas A, B, C and I, which are taxed based on the assessed value of land and improvements. The maximum requisition is the greater of \$90,000 or \$0.0682/\$1,000 of assessment.

Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

2023 Goal

No new goals identified for 2023.

Overall Financial Impact

The 2023 requisition is the same as the 2022 requisition at \$70,000.

The requisition is currently maintained at \$70,000 annually over the five-year financial plan; however, this may require amendment in 2025 based on a renewal of the contribution agreement with the City of Quesnel.

Significant Issues & Trends

The COVID-19 situation had major negative effects on airport revenues with the loss of passenger fees from scheduled service of Central Mountain Air. Other aspects of airport business were also generally lower but rebounded well after the initial travel restrictions and advisories due to the pandemic.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

Measuring Previous Years Performance

Goal: Review the airport support contribution agreement with the City of Quesnel.

- Completed. The agreement was renewed for three years at an annual contribution of \$68,500.