



<p>An allocution by the Chairman of the Board of the Ottawa Macdonald-Cartier International Airport Authority</p>	<p>Une allocution du Président du Conseil d'administration de l'Administration de l'aéroport international Macdonald-Cartier d'Ottawa</p>
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J. Peter Vice

<p>At the Authority's Annual Public Meeting</p> <p>Held on May 12, 2009 Hilton Garden Inn, Ottawa</p>	<p>À l'occasion de la réunion publique annuelle</p> <p>Tenue le 12 mai 2009 Hilton Garden Inn, Ottawa</p>
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VEUILLEZ VOUS REPORTER À L'ALLOCUTION

Good afternoon everyone and thank you for joining us today.
Bonjour et bienvenue.

The year 2008 was a relatively quiet one for the Airport Authority.
But make no mistake, quiet does not mean that there wasn't a lot happening at the airport.

At the end of February, we opened the new wing of the airport, at the south end of the terminal.

The first phase of the opening involved the gates on the east side of the wing, which were made available to the travelling public in time for the March break travel season.

A new Air Canada Maple Leaf Lounge also opened, much to the delight of our frequent travellers.

During the months that followed, a new D'Arcy McGee's pub was opened to great reviews. The final pieces of the old terminal were demolished and removed, and a significant amount of work was done to prepare the remaining surfaces to accommodate bridges and aircraft.

In December, the remaining gates were opened in time for the holiday travel season.

In all, the wing offers 2,000 square metres of additional holdroom capacity as well as 12 gates and 7 passenger loading bridges.

A lot of thought went into connecting the new wing with the history of the airport. Reclaimed BC fir timbers from World War II hangars that were demolished in 2007, were incorporated into the design of the wing, and give a sense of warmth and history to the space.

Needless to say, we have an airport that we can all be very proud of.

It is not uncommon for any one of the Members of the Board or the employees to hear from friends and neighbours about how beautiful the airport is now, and how far it's come in a very short period of time.

And, I know the community is becoming much more aware of the positive impact this airport and Airport Authority have had and continue to have on the region.

From an economic impact standpoint, we announced the results of our latest study in 2008.

It confirmed that the total economic impact of the airport is \$1.9 billion per year. When you break it down, that represents:

- 4,900 direct jobs;

- 11,800 total jobs;
- \$180 million in direct wages;
- \$450 million in total wages; and
- \$225 million in tax contributions to various levels of government.

The Authority also contributed to the community in a philanthropic way. We've told you in the past about Project Clear Skies, the Authority's charitable giving program, launched in 2004.

In its funding wave of 2008, Project Clear Skies injected \$125,000 into worthy charitable projects.

As an example of how funding was used, \$3,000 helped La Mie de l'entraide, from the Quebec side, purchase a new industrial-size fridge and freezer which helps their food bank operation store more food and eliminate waste.

The Aphasia Centre of Ottawa put its donation of just over \$10,000 towards the purchase of kitchen appliances that will equip its newly-constructed adapted kitchen. The kitchen will provide an opportunity for clients who have limitations caused by stroke or brain injury to learn skills as they strive to regain self sufficiency.

I am delighted to announce that Project Clear Skies has created \$500,000 worth of brighter days for charitable organizations in the National Capital Region since 2004.

The airport campus employees also made a difference in the community last year.

Of particular note was the 3rd Annual Plane Pull for charity in September.

With the generous assistance of FedEx Express, HMS Host, The Ottawa Citizen and other sponsors and supporters, the event attracted 32 teams, hundreds of spectators and raised more than \$33,000.

The funds were divided equally between Project Clear Skies and United Way Ottawa.

The employees have to be commended for once again hosting a super, family-friendly event that was a lot of fun.

For these and many other reasons, I speak on behalf of the entire Board of Directors when I say how proud we are of the entire Authority team.

Year over year, they deliver excellent results, meet and exceed the targets they set and they put their heart and soul into every project.

For that we say all thank you.

I would like to say thank you to the Board of Directors, most of whom are here today.

They take a tremendous amount of pride in being a part of the airport, and they are committed to ensuring that the right decisions are made and the best approaches adopted.

That said, they also put a tremendous amount of trust in the Authority team, which allows them to move quickly and respond to the ever-changing needs of the passengers and the industry.

Welcome to Gilles Lalonde, the newest member of the Board, who brings with him a great deal of business and community experience.

Gilles is a nominee of the Ville de Gatineau and a welcome addition to the group.

Of course, having a strong intermediary makes all the difference.

Our CEO Paul Benoit does an excellent job of ensuring that there is a smooth flow of information between the Board and the management team and makes sure that everyone has what they need to get the absolute best job done.

Paul, thank you for your leadership and your guidance and congratulations – you and your team have once again done a great job.

Paul will be addressing you shortly, and he will go into a bit more detail about the results, and will touch on how the Authority is dealing with the current economic situation.

I would just like to wrap up my remarks by saying that 2009 will be a challenge for everyone, but I am confident that we have the right team in place to deal with whatever happens in the world, the economy and the industry.

Thank you, Merci.