

Ministre des Transports,
de l'Infrastructure et des Collectivités
et ministre de l'Agence de développement
économique du Canada pour les régions du Québec



Minister of Transport,
Infrastructure and Communities
and Minister of the Economic Development Agency
of Canada for the Regions of Quebec

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

MAR 14 2013

Received

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Mr. Kevin Psutka
President and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Owners and Pilots Association
71 Bank Street, 7th Floor
Ottawa ON K1P 5N2

Dear Mr. Psutka:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 28, 2013, regarding the City of Mascouche's airport. Please be assured that I have taken note of the comments expressed in your correspondence and that I understand your concerns, as well as those of members of the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association.

As you know, Mascouche Airport is owned by the Municipality of Mascouche, which is responsible for decisions related to the airport's operations. As noted in an earlier reply to you from the Honourable John Baird, the federal government has no authority to intervene in the Municipality of Mascouche's decisions about its airport as long as operations respect federal rules for safety and security. I am aware of Mascouche Airport's status as a reliever airport, but the agreement between the City of Mascouche and the Mascouche Airport Corporation is a private matter.

I understand the impact that local and regional airports can have on their communities, and this is why Canada's National Airports Policy empowers local authorities to determine their needs with respect to airport services. Our Government is aware of the concerns of the general aviation community and keeps them in mind when developing policies and programs.

Should you require further information regarding the City of Mascouche's airport, I would invite you to contact Ms. Marie-Hélène Simard, Acting Associate Director, Operations, in Transport Canada's regional office, at 514-633-3120.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

Denis Lebel, P.C., M.P.