

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Airport Sub-Committee: June 21, 2019

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JOHN-PAUL DANKO.....

SECONDED BY MAYOR / COUNCILLOR

Vantage Airport Group Climate Change Initiative

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has declared a climate emergency with a mandate to achieve net zero carbon emissions before 2050;

WHEREAS, TradePort International Corporation as a subsidiary of Vantage Airport Group has a mandate from the City of Hamilton to operate John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport and grow passenger and cargo volumes in order to maximize the economic potential of the airport and surrounding Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD);

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is currently in negotiations to extend the current Head Lease between the City and TradePort (Vantage Airport Group);

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton recognizes that climate action and the low-carbon transition represents a massive opportunity for economic stimulation and growing job opportunities in the new low-carbon economy;

WHEREAS, air travel and air cargo have a significant inherent carbon footprint;

WHEREAS, John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport is ranked as North America's fastest growing airport and is known as Canada's busiest overnight express cargo airport;

WHEREAS, air travel passengers and air cargo consumers are increasingly concerned about the carbon footprint of their consumption choices;

WHEREAS, Greater Moncton Romeo LeBlanc International Airport under management by Vantage Airport Group has achieved Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 2 – Reduction and is working towards Level 3 – Optimization;

WHEREAS, increased uncertainty, severity and frequency of extreme weather events as a result of climate change have been observed in the Hamilton area and are projected to increase into the future;

WHEREAS, air travel and air cargo operations are vulnerable to unforeseen severe weather events and disruptions caused by such events could result in significant travel disruptions and monetary losses; and,

WHEREAS, London Luton Airport and Cardiff Airport as comparator airports have commissioned climate change studies to identify the resiliency of their operations to future climate change impacts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton request that Vantage Airport Group commit to the implementation of the four stage Airport Carbon Accreditation program (or agreed alternative) at John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport, with the goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions before 2050;
- (b) That the City of Hamilton request that Vantage Airport Group commit to an evaluation of the resiliency and preparedness of their operations and assets due to potential climate change impacts and develop a prioritised risk assessment and adaptation plan; and,
- (c) That the City of Hamilton negotiating team include these actions as part of the current negotiations to extend the Head Lease between the City and TradePort (Vantage Airport Group).