

News Release

Record Summer Passenger Traffic at St. John's International Airport

Passenger Volumes grew by more than 9% over the same period in 2015

- 9.4 per cent growth in summer passenger traffic in 2016 compared to 2015
- 836,000 passengers travelled through the Airport between May and September this year
- Each summer month was a record high for passenger volumes
- August was the busiest month in the Airport's history with nearly 200,000 passengers travelling
- 8 per cent growth in airline seat capacity in 2016
- 43 per cent growth in airline seat capacity since 2008

St. John's, NL, Thursday, October 20, 2016 – St. John's International Airport had the busiest summer in its history this year that saw a total of 836,000 passengers travel through its gates between May and September. Each summer month set a new record high for passenger volumes, peaking in its busiest month in August at nearly 200,000 passengers. The record numbers of passengers represented a 9.4 per cent growth over the same period in 2015.

These record passenger volumes were enabled by the increased availability of airline seats for purchase to and from St. John's International Airport. Since 2008, airline seat capacity has grown by 43 per cent. In 2016 alone there has been an 8 per cent growth in this area that can largely be attributable to the addition of new, international services. This has placed St. John's International Airport among the top three medium to large-sized airports in Canada for growth in this area.

"The record numbers of passengers we saw travel through our Airport this summer can be contributed to the strong tourism product that our Province offers, as well as the attractiveness of our City for meetings and conventions. The addition of new, direct flights to new destinations, in particular our new European services, also encouraged travel by locals," said Marie Manning, Director of Marketing and Business Development with the St. John's International Airport Authority. "While we have made significant progress in increasing airline seat capacity at our Airport, we continue to work with our airline partners to enhance the level of service at our Airport for our stakeholders and our community."

St. John's International Airport is served by 9 commercial airlines, providing direct air services to 16 domestic, transborder and international destinations during the summer period, including three daily flights to Europe.

St. John's International Airport Authority is a private, not-for-profit organization with the mandate to provide the region with a safe, cost-efficient transportation facility that is a catalyst for economic growth. Under the provisions of a long-term Ground Lease with the Federal Government of Canada, the Airport Authority is responsible for the airport's operations on behalf of the community it serves.

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