



ST. JOHN'S
International Airport Authority

News Release

St. John's International Airport to Host Air Service Development Conference

Altitude East, the largest and most significant air access forum for airports, airlines, tourism and transportation professionals in Atlantic Canada, is being held in St. John's, NL on June 25th and 26th.

- Largest air service development conference in Atlantic Canada
- 23 airports from across Canada and 9 airlines will be represented
- Hosted by St. John's International Airport in partnership with Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
- First time being hosted in St. John's, NL since its inception in 1999
- Keynote speakers include industry experts and key airline players, in addition to lunchtime addresses by Zita Cobb, Founder and CEO of Shorefast and Inn Keeper of the Fogo Island Inn, and Alan Doyle, award-winning musician, actor and writer

ST. JOHN'S, NL, Thursday, June 6, 2019 – St. John's International Airport Authority is set to host Altitude East, a leading air access forum that is being held for the first time in St. John's, NL on June 25th and 26th. This biennial Atlantic Canadian conference provides a forum for airport, airline, tourism and transportation professionals to engage with and hear from experts and key players in the air service industry on developments, opportunities and experiences in growing air access. Delegates from 23 Canadian airports and nine airlines will be participating in the forum, along with industry experts and well-known local figures.

“Altitude East is an important air service development conference to foster relationships with airline network planners and to present new route investment opportunities,” said Keith Collins, President and CEO at St. John's International Airport Authority. “We are delighted to host this event and showcase our region to the many airline decision makers who will be attending, many of whom will be visiting St. John's for the first time.”

Altitude East forum consists of panel discussions, keynote addresses and business-to-business meetings between airports and airlines. The 2019 conference themes focus on future opportunities and challenges for the airline industry; the growth and potential impact of low cost carriers on the Atlantic Canadian region; what it takes to secure air services to the US, and lessons learned from the exponential airline passenger growth experienced in Iceland.

"We are very pleased with the caliber of speakers and the level of interest within the industry to attend this event. With the recently increased awareness within our community of the importance of air access, we believe that the conference program will be appealing to local tourism leaders and key stakeholders. We are also delighted to welcome and highlight two well-known and well-regarded Newfoundlanders as lunchtime speakers – Zita Cobb and Alan Doyle - both who portray the strong local character and excellence that exists in our region," added Collins.

"Altitude East is the flagship event for our region's airports," said Reg Wright, President of the Atlantic Canada Airport's Association. "Air travel in Atlantic Canada has been growing, which buoys tourism and trade. Altitude East is a gathering place where we make the connections to grow air service in our communities, strengthen critical working relationships and navigate the challenges facing the aviation industry."

All details on the program and a list of keynote speakers can be found on the conference website at www.AltitudeEast.com. Approximately 125 delegates are expected to attend the two-day event being held at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown St. John's.

Since its inception in 1999 by Halifax Stanfield International Airport, this is the first time Altitude East is being held outside Halifax, NS. This forum is being hosted by St. John's International Airport, in partnership with Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

St. John's International Airport Authority is a private, not-for-profit, non-share 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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