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## To: Mayor and Council Re: AIRPORT PRIVATIZATION

I'm writing to bring to your attention an issue that potentially affects the health and prosperity of all of Canada's cities and communities: airport privatization.

As you may know, the federal government is currently considering the for-profitprivatization of Canada's airports.

Other countries that have privatized airports have found that it often leads to higher fees and reduced services for travellers and airlines. This can damage tourism, business travel, and the local economy. Most of all, it makes it more difficult and expensive to maintain essential connections with the rest of the country and the world.

We hope that, with your support and that of your council, we can mobilize municipal and community leaders across Canada to oppose this plan.

To be clear, our current airport governance model is not without problems, and these must be addressed to make our passenger aviation system more competitive and improve the traveller experience. But as long as for-profit airport privatization remains on the table, it will delay effective action needed to solve these problems.

A number of municipal councils across the country have already adopted resolutions opposing for-profit airport privatization, among them Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and the Capital Regional District of Victoria. We urge you and your council to join them in adopting a resolution opposing the for-profit privatization of airports and calling on the federal government to focus on modernizing the current system to lower costs for travelers and enhance the competitiveness of Canada's air transport industry.

I have attached for your information a <u>template resolution</u> that your council may want to adapt, a <u>template letter</u> to your local Member of Parliament, as well as a backgrounder on <u>airport privatization</u> and one on <u>Canada's airline industry</u>.

We believe that successfully stopping this misguided initiative will require a groundswell of opposition. We hope that you will join us in urging the Government of Canada to abandon this plan and focus on the real issues that damage the competitiveness of passenger air transportation in Canada.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at: <a href="mailto:mbergamini@airlinecouncil.ca">mbergamini@airlinecouncil.ca</a>.

Yours truly,

Massimo Bergamini President and CEO National Airlines Council of Canada

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