

TO: Darla Blake, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Cheryl Waugh, Transportation Services Coordinator
SUBJECT: Transportation Services Report – August 30, 2013

Recommendations:

1. That Seal Tec Industries Ltd be paid \$9140.01 per their invoice dated August 28, 2013 for 4863 lineal metres of non-routed hot rubber crack sealing at the Bella Coola Airport.
2. That the Transportation Services Report dated August 30, 2013 be received.

Bella Coola Airport

Crack Sealing (Recommendation 1)

The crack sealing crew from Sealtec Pavement Maintenance completed the runway cleaning and sealing on August 22nd. There was time and budget to clean the apron but not seal it. There is one substantial crack on the apron that has been reported by an airport stakeholder and he has volunteered to fill it if can arrange to obtain some sealant.

Wildfires

July 31st saw a lightning storm pass through the valley with several strikes and resulting wildfires. Two became fires of note with one burning in the upper valley and the other in South Bentink Arm. Fire-fighting efforts meant increased activity at the airport with extra personnel and aircraft brought in and additional helicopter movements. The Coastal Fire Centre (CFC) parked a fuel tanker truck airside to ease the burden on local fuel supplies and several working helicopters turned the field into their parking lot. A NOTAM was issued by the one of the CFC protection officers for smoke in the area and restricted flying space for those not involved with the fire-fighting operations. Both fires were brought under control and reached the mop-up stage before the third week in August. There was only one incident I am aware of and that involved a heavy-lift helicopter experiencing a hard landing but this happened at a staging area and not at the airport.

We are fortunate to have the seasonal services of the fire crew combined with the expertise of the Wildfire Management Branch/Coastal Fire Centre and year-round personnel at the local Forest Service office. Thanks to all for a job well done!

Airfield Grass Removal

The CCRD, on behalf of the Bella Coola Airport Commission, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) years ago for semi-annual maintenance of the airfield that would otherwise return to wild vegetation. Another purpose of the agreement was to continue the framework of cooperation between the Ken Stranaghan family, who used to maintain the hay meadow surrounding the runway perimeter.

Due to various circumstances the field has not been maintained for some time and comments were being received from airport stakeholders. There are regulatory issues and practical issues that need to be addressed. Two separate individuals approached the office with an interest in cutting the airport infield, which includes intrusive alder saplings. Staff discussed the necessity of addressing the airfield conditions

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and best options for an immediate resolution. In consideration of the company currently under contract for seasonal grounds maintenance at the airport, which is fully insured for work at an active airport, an addendum was issued to Matthews Contracting for a one-time service in 2013 to cut the airfield vegetation, including a separate service item to brush out and remove a small stand of mixed trees off the runway's west end.

The terms of the MOU will be revisited, as will the multi-year seasonal grounds maintenance contract, with the intention of addressing future airfield maintenance issues to avoid a recurrence of the matters described above.

Environment Canada

A representative from Environment Canada met with me on July 31st looking for a suitable site for the installation/operation of a weather station. According to the representative, the airport could be ideal in meeting their criteria for limited adjacent structures, no nearby heat source (paved areas), available electricity and 900m² of open space. I advised of vacant lease lots and have had subsequent email communication with the representative. Although no decision has been made, the anticipated timeline for installation, wherever it may be, is not until the summer of 2014.

Lease Lot 12 Update

To date payment has not been received for Lot 12 and the interested party will be advised of a firm deadline to clear any charges. If the deadline is surpassed steps will be taken to dissolve our agreement.

Janitor Services

Comments were received regarding recent floor waxing in the waiting area of the terminal building and the removal of litter and debris from between chairs and seat cushions in lobby area. The janitor is now aware of these situations and will be more attentive in the future to the expected standards.

Bella Bella Airport Emergency Response Planning

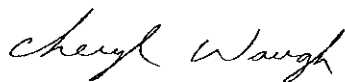
We have received an advance invitation to participate in an Emergency Response Plan tabletop exercise hosted by the Bella Bella Airport administration and planned for this fall. The program will be professionally facilitated and further details from Bella Bella will be forthcoming as they are known.

Miscellaneous

- Salesman called re airport lighting (runway)
- Representative from the Cariboo Chilcotin Tourism Association requested address and email details for the Bella Coola Airport and the Bella Bella Airport for a listing on *Hello BC*, the province's premier tourism website.

Denny Island Airport

The Denny Island Airport Commission did not meet in August.



Transportation Services Coordinator