



GREATER TORONTO AIRPORTS AUTHORITY

Office of the Board of Directors

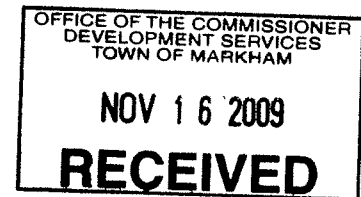
Marilynne Day-Linton, Chair

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November 12, 2009

Mr. Frank Scarpitti, Mayor and Members of Council  
The Corporation of the Town of Markham  
101 Town Centre Boulevard  
Markham, ON  
L3R 9W3



Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Members of Council:

Thank you for your recent correspondence advising me of the Town of Markham Council resolutions, notably that the GTAA be requested to restore its funding to Buttonville Airport.

As you are aware, in 2001 the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) entered into a ten-year subsidy agreement with Buttonville Airport. The subsidy was brought into effect at a time when Toronto Pearson was undergoing its redevelopment and was not in a position to handle further capacity or growth. With development completed, Toronto Pearson is in a position to handle growth of up to 38 million passengers with our current facilities and up to 50 million passengers with future planned development.

Ongoing economic uncertainty has led the GTAA to review all expenditures through our budget process, and to make tough and significant cuts to provide relief through further fee reductions for air carriers. As part of this process, in October 2008, the GTAA served formal terminal notification to Buttonville, which was effective April 2009.

After careful consideration, the GTAA Board of Directors found it difficult to justify why, as a not-for-profit corporation, the GTAA, whose mandate is to serve the commercial aviation needs of the Greater Toronto Area, would continue to subsidize a private, for profit airport operator. While the GTAA fundamentally supports Buttonville's continued operations, the current reality has forced our hand and the rationale for restoring this subsidy does not exist.



The GTAA appreciates and understands that the Town of Markham is concerned about the possibility that Buttonville Airport, an important asset to the economy of the region, may close. We are sure, however, that you appreciate that it is the GTAA's primary responsibility to provide effective and efficient commercial air services to the more than 32 million passengers who use our facility for their business, leisure and air cargo needs. In light of this, the Board of Directors stands by its decision not to fund Buttonville Airport.

Should you have any further questions, I would be pleased to discuss with you at your convenience.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Day-Linton'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial 'M'.

Marilynne Day-Linton  
Chair, Board of Directors

cc.

Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services – Town of Markham  
Dr. Lloyd McCoomb, President and CEO – Greater Toronto Airports Authority  
Greater Toronto Airports Authority - Board of Directors