

October 27, 2020

Mr. Wayne Easter
Chair
FINA – House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
wayne.easter@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Easter,

On behalf of the almost 25,000 men and women working in Canada's \$12.1 billion business aviation community, we offer our sincere congratulations on your appointment as chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance.

By way of this letter, we are pleased to follow up on our 2021 pre-budget submission, *Turning Towards Recovery*, sent to the Finance committee on August 7, 2020. A summary of our recommendations is reproduced below for your reference.

I would also like to draw your attention to two critical, and perhaps surprising facts about business aviation that may influence your deliberations and planning in advance of the fall Economic Statement.

The first is that **business aviation can help kick start the aviation industry's recovery by piloting safety and health programs related to rapid testing and contact tracing**. As we are all aware, a true economic recovery will only be possible once Canadians are able to travel freely and safely. Business aviation can assist the government design and pilot testing as business flights deploy from carefully managed and controlled Fixed Base Operator (FBO) facilities where every passenger is known to flight operations and could be instantly and easily traced and contacted.

The second is that **business aviation can help enable Canada's Green Economy and recovery plan**. Not only can business aircraft give Canada's entrepreneurs and corporations a much-needed competitive edge, providing safe, reliable and rapid transportation of key personnel and goods, business aircraft are some of the most technologically advanced and sustainable aircraft flying today. Moreover, supporting the use of these technologies also supports Canadian aviation research, development and manufacturing. We invite you to read more about business aviation's commitment to the environment on our dynamic new microsite, [Business Aviation's Environmental and Economic Footprint in Canada](#)

Mr. Easter, thank you for your attention. We hope to have the opportunity to discuss these ideas in more detail in an appearance before the Finance committee later this fall.

Yours sincerely,



Anthony Norejko
President and CEO

2021 Pre-budget Submission Summary

Recommendations: How business aviation can spark economic growth

Short-term remedial and relief recommendations

- Work with the business aviation community to pilot rapid testing and contact tracing processes for air passengers, using the small scale and highly controllable business aviation aircraft/FBO environments.
- Expedite the use of technologies and processes (e.g. contact tracing, rapid testing) that would accelerate the safe opening of our interprovincial and international borders and responsibly remove the 14-day blanket quarantine requirement.
- Suspend all federal and carbon taxes on jet fuel and avgas until air travel reaches pre-COVID levels.
- Accelerated capital cost allowance, expense tax deduction, credit and/or a rebate program applied to the purchase, modification and upgrade of health and safety equipment related to COVID-19.

Longer-term (2021) recommendations for recovery and growth

- Recommendation # 1:** Create federal financial stimulus programs that would encourage the purchase and environmental modernization of business aircraft, materials and services.
- Recommendation #2:** That the Government of Canada excludes all aircraft that are used for business purposes from any new “luxury” tax schemes.
- Recommendation #3:** Work with industry to create a modernized set of Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs) for business aviation that is more flexible and responsive to business aviation operations, particularly for small operators, including the increased use of appropriate delegations and exemptions.
- Recommendations #4:** Ensure that we support our climate change goals as we ramp up the economy by promoting sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in any Government of Canada programs that reduce the applicable fuel tax rate and provides other incentives to companies that manufacture renewable fuels.