



## KAMLOOPS AIRPORT

### MEDIA RELEASE

**March 15, 2010**

For the month of February 2010, 22,498 travelers used Kamloops Airport as part of their travel plans. This is a decrease of 4% (928 travelers) over February 2009 when 23,426 people used Kamloops Airport.

The decrease in travelers is reflective of the very good winter driving conditions over the Coquihalla Highway throughout February which encouraged Vancouver bound travelers to drive versus fly. It is a known observation that good highway conditions divert travelers from flying, but this year the effect modified by the number of people who diverted from Whistler to the interior ski resorts such as Sun Peaks due to the Olympics.

February Aircraft Movement Statistics as compared to same month in previous year

	February 2009	February 2010	Difference
IFR	1,210	1,075	-12%
VFR	400	313	-22%
Local	<u>670</u>	<u>660</u>	<u>-2%</u>
Total	2,280	2,048	-11%

The number of IFR and VFR flights in February 2010 was off due to the number of corporate and personal aircraft attending the Olympics in Vancouver. In previous years, these people would normally come to Kamloops to visit our area ski resorts.

The approach instructions for Kamloops Airport continued to be under a great deal of scrutiny during the month of February. A great deal of technical work has now been done by Nav Canada and they have selected a possible solution for Kamloops. This solution will offer a 478 foot (146 meter) above ground level decision height for pilots to safely approach the airport over Kamloops Lake. This will involve the installation of small radio beacon to safely guide pilots through and out of the valley in the event that they cannot see the airport during poor weather conditions. The goal is to have this beacon installed and the approach instructions published prior to the next winter season. The weather analysis shows that we could achieve just over 99% reliability, which is what the expansion project intended to achieve at its outset.

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Kamloops Airport Ltd. (KAL) is a subsidiary of Vancouver Airport Services. Our mission is to serve the Kamloops community and trading area of the BC Interior by providing airport facilities that are safe, clean, efficient, profitable, friendly and that reflect a local sense of place.

If you require additional information please contact:

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