

Minutes

Airport Community Consultative Committee (ACCC)

2026, Q1 Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Location: Virtual (MS Teams)

ITEM	PRESENTER
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WELCOME (10 MINS) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Land Acknowledgement b. YYC Updates <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 2026 Routes Americas Awards for Airport Route Development (5-20 million passengers) ii. New routes announced: Sao Paolo (WestJet), Abu Dabi (Ethihad Airways), Cancun (Air Canada), Puerto Vallarta (Air Canada) iii. New in Terminal: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YYC has a new exhibit in partnership with Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame. This year, we unveiled, <i>“70 Years of the Order of Sport”</i> 2. Aerospace Innovation Hub (AIH) 3. Charging stations throughout the terminal 4. Goodmaps, YYC’s new accessible tool. The GoodMaps app describes surroundings out loud, offers turn-by-turn audio guidance and adjusts as you move. 	<p>Gabriela Soto, Calgary Airports</p>

<p>5. Centralized Screening: we have received positive feedback, and two more lanes are set to open later this year.</p>	
<p>2. PASSENGER UPDATE (5 MINS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Passenger Volume Trends: Despite a significant decline in US travel reported in the news, Calgary Airport has only seen a modest 5% drop in US passenger volumes, compared to 20-30% at other airports, attributing this resilience to WestJet's network and Calgary's role as a connection airport. b. Nexus Program Impact: The pause on the Nexus program has contributed to a drop in passengers at some airports, but Calgary has not seen a significant impact from this factor. c. Aircraft Count and Up-Gauging: Increased passenger volumes do not necessarily mean more aircraft, as airlines are up-gauging to larger aircraft to increase seat availability without increasing the number of flights; however, it is too early to determine if aircraft counts have increased. d. Air Traffic Operations and Forecasts: Airplane operations in 2026 are expected to surpass those in 2025, with January operations nearly identical year-over-year and February showing a slight increase. 	<p>Dionne Crutchley, Calgary Airports</p>
<p>3. NAV CANADA (10 MINS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Airspace Design Philosophy and Vancouver Redesign: Presentation on the national airspace design philosophy, using Calgary's connected approach as a model for other airports and detailing the multi-year redesign of Vancouver's airspace to minimize overflight of populated areas and improve operational efficiency. b. Connected Airspace Design: Calgary's airspace design connects approaches and standard terminal arrival routes, enabling smoother continuous descent operations, which are quieter and more efficient, and noted the intention to replicate this model across Canada. c. Noise Mitigation Strategies: Vancouver's redesign prioritized overflying fewer homes by routing approaches over industrial areas, rivers, and green spaces, resulting in approximately 	<p>Ian Giesbrecht, NAV Canada</p>

<p>140,000 fewer people being overflowed, as measured by census and noise projection data.</p> <p>d. Summer Operational Impacts and Major Events: Anticipated operational impacts during the summer due to major events like the FIFA World Cup, including increased VIP traffic, overflow parking management, and enhanced security measures at major Canadian airports.</p>	
<p>4. ENVIRONMENT (10 MINS)</p> <p>a. Aircraft noise and operational update</p> <p>b. Dashboard and Data Presentation: A new dashboard for operational and noise statistics is in development, with plans to present updates at each meeting and to accept ongoing feedback from participants regarding data display preferences.</p> <p>c. NMT Placement Review: A project to evaluate and potentially relocate Noise Monitoring Terminals (NMTs) is underway, with a kickoff meeting scheduled with HGC, the acoustic specialist, and plans for community consultation primarily through ACCC meetings.</p> <p>d. Noise Exposure Statistics: Increased noise events in southern communities following the reopening of the West runway, with Castle Ridge, Cutcher Hills, Radisson Heights, and Temple experiencing the highest noise levels, and Mayland Heights and Marlborough seeing the highest frequency of overflights.</p> <p>e. Runway Usage and Wind Effects: Runway 29 <u>(Crosswind)</u> usage increased significantly in January due to Chinook winds, leading to more noise concerns in northwest communities; this runway's usage was up about 20% over the previous year during winter months due to wind patterns.</p> <p>f. Community Engagement and Data Use: Noise statistics are reviewed quarterly to identify anomalies, with data also used to guide community engagement and consultation processes.</p>	<p>Megan Roche, Calgary Airports</p>
<p>5. ROUNDTABLE (15 MINS)</p> <p>a. Use of Noise Statistics: Question on whether airport staff use noise statistics to inform operational changes; it was explained that while the data is reviewed for trends and anomalies,</p>	<p>All</p>

changes are not made solely based on noise data due to safety priorities, but the information supports consultation and procedural updates.

- b. Runway Maintenance and Disruptions: Question about further work on the refurbished West runway; it was confirmed that the runway is complete, with only routine maintenance expected, and no significant traffic disruptions anticipated.
- c. Sharing Meeting Materials: Question on if slide presentations could be shared with communities; it was confirmed that slides and meeting minutes are published on the website and can be freely shared, and community members are welcome to participate in meetings.
- d. NMT Placement Consultation: Question about community notification regarding NMT updates; it was stated that consultation will occur primarily through ACCC meetings and with community representatives, with the possibility of broader engagement if needed.
- e. Helicopter Operations and Community Concerns: Multiple participants discussed the disruptive impact of helicopters, particularly in certain neighborhoods, and it was agreed to invite representatives from Hawcs and Stars to future meetings to address operational questions.
- f. Water Rationing and Airport Operations: Question about the impact of city water rationing on airport operations, it was explained that measures such as asking planes to fill water at departure airports and using non-potable water for irrigation.