



AIR CORRIDOR

Vancouver International Airport (YVR) is strategically located on great circle routes at the commercial crossroads of the Asia-Pacific region and North America. Vancouver is an ideal gateway connecting the Asia-Pacific region, North America,

Europe and Latin America. YVR is supported by a network of regional airports throughout British Columbia that provide fast and efficient connections for business, international education and tourism.

Vancouver International Airport

- 119 destinations in 20 countries
- 78 direct flights a day to U.S. destinations
- 113 flights a week to the Asia-Pacific region
- 67 flights a week to Europe
- Canada's second busiest airport handled 17 million passengers and almost 224,000 tonnes of cargo in 2011

A \$1.9 billion rapid transit line opened in 2009, providing a first class connection from YVR to downtown Vancouver.

As a growing gateway, Vancouver Airport Authority is investing \$1.8 billion in improvements designed to decrease connection times, enhance baggage systems and upgrade the terminals and airfield. YVR's value proposition for both passengers and air cargo is strong:

- Located within a metropolitan area of 2.3 million people (of whom approximately 37 per cent are of Asian heritage).
- Facilitates shipping of world renowned seafood and agricultural food products to approximately 135 destinations worldwide.
- Supports a growing network of universities throughout British Columbia, with an increasing number of opportunities for international students.

- World renowned natural tourism attractions, enhanced by the exposure from the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.
- A rapidly expanding clean technology and creative industries sector.
- Strong world demand for British Columbia mining, natural gas and forestry resources, whose business activities are facilitated by air connections.

British Columbia's Regional Airports

- 38 certified regional airports
- \$210 million has been invested in the past 10 years
- 300+ airports, heliports and water aerodromes in the province

Competitive Business Environment

A number of initiatives have been taken to make the Pacific Gateway Air Corridor globally competitive:

- As of April 1, 2012 the British Columbia government has eliminated the Aviation Fuel Tax for international flights, resulting in \$12-16 million in collective annual savings for air carriers.
- YVR and other BC airports offer fee incentives to secure new or expanded air services.
- Federal government taking steps to liberalize international air services agreements and improve passenger facilitation processes, such as Transit Without Visa Programs.
- Federal, provincial and airport partners collaborate to fast-track approvals for new air services.

In 2010, China granted Approved Destination Status (ADS) to Canada allowing Canadian tour products to be sold in China. The number of trips to Canada by mainland Chinese travellers increased by more than 24 per cent in 2011².

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