

# Vermilion Airport Planning for the Future



Photo credit: R. Bingham

# CYVG Airport Master Plan 2019

## Findings and recommendations:

- Runway and other surfaces have significant weathering, ravelling, and cracking issues
- Runway requires resurfacing by 2024
- Recommended milling and filling in the meantime
  - To reduce rate of deterioration
- Lighting is in good condition
- Runway markings are faded
- Must conduct a geo-technical survey before doing any resurfacing work

# Medevac Traffic

- Both fixed wing and helicopter
- Essential service for our residents
  - Emergency trips
  - Patient transfers
- Used more frequently in 2021-22 than previously
  - For critical care intervention, and when EMS is maxed out



# Local Aviation Businesses

- Hancraft Aero – Geoff Hancock
  - Aircraft Maintenance Engineer
  - Opened in Vermilion in August 2019
  - Generating more traffic as business increases
  - Condition of pavement limits size and complexity of aircraft

# Local Aviation Businesses

- Aviation fuel sales
  - Belairus Fuels - Darcy Balaneski
  - Opened summer 2022
  - Significant increase in airport traffic
- Jason Hart Air Spray
  - Busy in June and July
  - Necessary support for local farms

# Student Training and Business Traffic

- Erwin Warkentin
  - Free lance instructor based in Vermilion
  - Basic training
  - Upgrading
- Aviation training schools
  - Enroute stop for students on training flights from other airports
- Business traffic
  - Vermilion business customers
  - Oil industry

# Local and Visiting Aircraft

- Aircraft based at CYVG
  - 8 based at airport, 5 nearby in county
- [COPA General Aviation Economic Impact Report 2017-18](#)
  - “each aircraft *directly* generates 0.57 FTEs of employment, earning approximately \$42,400 in wages. This contributes \$68,500 in *direct* GDP and \$168,500 in *direct* economic output to the Canadian economy.” (Page 26)
- [Canadian Community Airports Profile – 2022](#)
  - See Moose Jaw Municipal Airport Case Study (page 49)
- Visiting flyers
  - Frequent stopping place for aircraft passing by
  - Flyers arriving for business or extended visit
  - Alternate destination if weather is below VFR minimums at nearby airports

# CYVG in the Future

- Airport can be a catalyst for economic development
- Many ideas for development require a functioning airport
- Necessary facility for a growing community
- Require a long term outlook
  - 10 year strategic plan
- Service to community
  - retain vital Medevac transport ability



# Airport Improvements

- Near term
  - Pavement rehabilitation
  - Master Plan stated 2024
- Medium to long term possibilities
  - Runway extension
  - GPS instrument approach procedure

# Community Airport Program

- The Community Airport Program (CAP)
  - Part of the [Strategic Transportation Infrastructure](#) Program
- Grants for Municipalities
  - rehabilitation and improvement of community airports.
- Funding for approved projects is cost-shared:
  - 75% provincial contribution
  - 25% municipal contribution
- Application deadline - November 30<sup>th</sup> each year