

RE:

EC26.1, EC26.2, EC26.3, Support for Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, a significant contributor to the economic vitality of Downtown Toronto

TO:

Deputy Mayor Michael Thompson, Chair, Economic Development and Culture Committee

CC:

Councillor Shelley Carroll Councillor Joe Cressy Councillor Michael Ford Councillor Mark Grimes Councillor Cynthia Lai Mayor John Tory, Gene Cabral, BBTCA Jennifer Quinn, Nieuport Aviation

DATE:

November 26, 2021



Email. info@waterfrontbia.com

Website. <u>http://www.waterfrontbia.com/</u>

Address. 20 Bay Street, 11th Floor Toronto, ON, M5J 2N8

Dear Deputy Mayor Thompson,

We are writing in support of the restart and recovery of operations at the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (BBTCA), and the proposal for a transborder pre-clearance facility. The waterfront business community acknowledges the significance of this airport as a major gateway for tourist and business travel to Toronto, as demonstrated in York Aviation's economic impact study with Nieuport Aviation.

The access to regional air destinations through BBTCA is a competitive advantage as the waterfront develops as an expansion of Toronto's downtown business centre, and for the tourism and hospitality industries that are vital to the waterfront's vibrancy. We commend the work of Ports Toronto and BBTCA for their diligence in working with the community to be a good neighbour for waterfront stakeholders, especially as we've adjusted through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Waterfront Business Improvement Area (BIA) represents the business community along the Queens Quay corridor between Bathurst and the Port Lands, including the Toronto Islands. Improved connectivity is key for the continued growth of Toronto's waterfront as a destination with world-class potential. Additional connections to regional hubs through BBTCA will be a welcomed enhancement toward that goal.

Sincerely,

Tim Kocur

Executive Director tkocur@waterfrontbia.com