

**Toronto
Port
Authority**



**Administration
Portuaire
de Toronto**

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July 10, 2013

Councillor Adam Vaughan
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Vaughan:

Re: Toronto Port Authority and the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport

I take this opportunity to address your comments at the recent City Council Executive Committee meeting about the ongoing City Staff / independent consultant work regarding the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (“BBTCA”), and to clarify, yet again, your ongoing misrepresentations regarding various issues involving the Toronto Port Authority (“TPA”) and BBTCA.

This is the 11th such letter since 2008 along similar lines regarding your many other misunderstandings, misrepresentations and falsehoods¹, all of which are available, for transparency purposes, in the Executive Correspondence section at www.torontoport.com.

As you would expect, we are concerned when elected officials provide inaccurate information about the airport and its operating agency to their constituents as fact. We understand from a media report² that you stated the following to the Executive Committee on July 3, 2013:

“We’re spending \$1.6 million of taxpayers’ money ... to study an idea that is never going to take off.”

As you know, City Council has already determined that all expenses related to the first phase of the City’s analysis of the Porter Airlines proposal in question will be recouped from Porter Airlines via the TPA³. This requirement for the funds to NOT come from

¹ June 27, 2008, August 28, 2009, October 20, 2010, December 1, 2010, September 13, 2011, March 23, 2012, March 27, 2012, November 13, 2012, November 29, 2012 and April 23, 2013

² Don Peat, *The Toronto Sun*

³ The Toronto Port Authority is mandated to be a self-financing business enterprise. It receives no funding from governments, by law. In fact, the agency pays millions in taxes and royalties to governments, including the City of Toronto, each year.

taxpayers was outlined and approved two months ago at the City Council meeting of May 7, 2013. In fact, you voted in favour of an amendment by Councillor McConnell where the TPA's financial role in the recovery of the City's direct expenses was clearly identified.

To now claim that "taxpayers' money" is being used for this study when City Council has prescribed otherwise, particularly when the City *has already received* the associated funds from the TPA on behalf of Porter Airlines, is just one more example of your apparent inability to speak the truth when it comes to facts involving the BBTCA.

Our mutual stakeholders deserve better.

Respectfully,


Mark McQueen
Chairman

cc: His Worship Mayor Rob Ford, City of Toronto