

VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON
-AIRPORT USERS MEETING-

Thursday, April 8, 2025, 4:30 pm

Pemberton and District Community Centre, 7400 Prospect Street & Zoom Webinar

STAFF: Gwendolyn Kennedy, Manager, Corporate & Legislative Services
Elena Aranguren, Deputy Corporate Officer
Hayley McLean, Community Services Officer

ATTENDEES: George Vodarek
Stephen Smith
Samantha Porter
Tracy Rozsypalek
Greg Sorensen

1. CALL TO ORDER

In honour of the Lílwat7ul, the Village of Pemberton acknowledges that we are meeting within the unceded territory of the Lílwat Nation.

At 4:35pm Gwendolyn Kennedy, Manager of Corporate and Legislative Services, called the meeting to order.

2. APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR

There were no volunteers to chair the meeting.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Gwendolyn Kennedy introduced Hayley McLean, Community Services Officer, to the group.

4. AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

5. MINUTES

5.1 Airport Users Meeting, June 13, 2024

There were no changes to the minutes of the June 13, 2024 meeting.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Airport Update

Gwendolyn Kennedy provided the airport users with an update regarding the 2025 draft budget, indicating that the main difference in this year's budget is the additional funding for repairs to the airport. The budget has not yet been approved by Council.

Discussion took place regarding the following:

- Regular mowing maintenance
- Brush and ditch clearing along the East Taxiway Access Road
- Tree falling and chipping
- Fence repairs and installation of a new roller gate on the East Taxiway Access Road

7. DISCUSSION

Discussion took place regarding the following items:

- Funding and grant applications to support the airport planning study, gate improvements, crack sealing, and drainage upgrades
- Consideration of developing a 20-year airport development plan that would include a third row of lease lots, additional access roads, public parking, and runway upgrades
- The importance of preserving land for future development
- Concern about overgrown trees at the east end of the airport
- Access road remains in poor condition following January 2024 flood
- Requirements of Blackcomb Helicopters' agreement with respect to operation of the terminal building
- Consultation with aviation businesses regarding events and filming at the airport
- AWOS panel reported missing
- Possibility of eliminating landing and tie-down fees for non-commercial users: Airport users to present a proposal to staff
- Proposal for umbrella liability insurance policy to reduce costs for airport leaseholders: Airport users to investigate
- Smoke from open burning near the wastewater treatment plant affecting airport users: Staff to investigate
- Runway lines need repainting
- Local radio frequency has a smaller radius and altitude compared to other airports
- Report of signs missing
- Idea proposed to create a pathway connecting the airport to Big Sky Golf Course for better community access

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 New airport business proposals

Samantha Porter, Fort Langley Air Ltd., introduced herself to the group and shared her background in aviation, highlighting her extensive flying experience and connection to Pemberton. Samantha presented her plan to establish an ultralight flight school that will offer flight training, introductory flights, and sightseeing tours, with an emphasis on affordability and offering a unique way to experience the region.

Gwendolyn Kennedy informed the group that another business operator has applied for a business licence to establish an ultralight flying school.

9. TERMINATION

At 5:40pm the meeting was terminated.

Gwendolyn Kennedy
Corporate Officer