

Deborah Liske

Subject: FW: Correspondence for Agenda

From: CRD Chair [<mailto:crdchair@crd.bc.ca>]
Sent: February-18-17 8:57 AM
To: Anja Nurvo
Subject: Fwd: Notice of Motion

For agenda please

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "JUDY BROWNOFF"
Date: February 16, 2017 at 8:55:13 PM PST
To: <breems@crd.bc.ca>
Subject: Notice of Motion

Hi Brent

Here it is. Thanks.

Notice of Motion

The federal government is currently exploring “asset recycling” of its airports; ie selling equity stakes to attract institutional investment. The prospect of “cashing in” on the sale of Canada’s major airports to private for-profit business interests is no doubt appealing to the federal government but much of the potential (one-time) revenue such as a sale *might* generate seems to miss the very real long-term risks to Canadians of a sell-off. When it was tried in the UK and Australia, the sale of their airports did not produce the promised returns to the government and did not deliver the anticipated tax revenues. What did happen is that the customer fees increased and service levels for passengers declined, leading Australia’s Competition Commissioner to say that the sale of these assets “is severely damaging Australia’s economy.”

In a country as vast and as sparsely populated as Canada, safe and efficient air transportation is essential to connecting families, communities and to the continued economic prosperity of our country. Our Victoria International Airport is the 10th busiest airport in Canada with over 1.7 million passengers per year, a mainstay of our region’s tourism economy, and a leader in the area of environmental sustainability around the airport facilities and lands.

Whereas recent media reports indicate that the Government of Canada is actively considering the privatization of Canada’s airports in order to achieve a

one-time financial windfall and this plan may be formalized in the upcoming federal budget;

And Whereas airports are part of the core economies, including the tourism economy in Victoria, and social infrastructure of every community and region and consultation with local governments need to be advanced on this issue;

Therefore be it resolved that:

The Capital Regional District Board urge the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to immediately call on the Government of Canada to stop its push for the privatization of Canada's airports; and to begin consultations with Canadian local governments and other stakeholders to develop an air transport policy that reflects the true needs and aspirations of Canadians and Canadian communities.