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## NEWS RELEASE

October 28, 2013

### **Direct flights to Mexico from YQQ start this weekend** *Fiesta celebration planned for Saturday at the airport*

The Comox Valley Airport will send off the first Mexico bound passengers with a Fiesta celebration at the airport on Saturday, November 2. The first WestJet flight to Puerto Vallarta, direct from YQQ, jets away at 11:45am and guests travelling that day can enjoy traditional Mexican fare served up by YQQ's *On the Fly Café*, as well authentic Mexican music and decorations as part of the airport's annual fiesta-themed event.

"Once again we are pleased to offer a weekly flight direct from YQQ to Puerto Vallarta from November through April," said Comox Valley Airport CEO, Fred Bigelow. "These flights are so convenient, saving our passengers time and money while helping to alleviate additional stress associated with having to travel to another airport to catch a flight."

"The flight to Puerto Vallarta from the Comox Valley Airport takes approximately five hours," explained Bigelow. "To reach the same destination on the same day, starting from YVR, would add an additional five hours travel time, plus an overnight stay in a hotel before and after the trip due to ferry schedules. That is a huge savings in terms of time, money and hassle."

The Comox Valley Airport is hopeful travelers will recognize the benefits of travelling direct from YQQ this winter. To promote the Puerto Vallarta route, the airport recently sponsored the *Jet Away to Puerto Vallarta* contest in partnership with JetFM and several local businesses. Last Friday, lucky JetFM listener Sandi Phye won a fabulous all inclusive vacation for two from YQQ to Puerto Vallarta.

"We were pleased to partner with local businesses to offer this amazing opportunity for our passengers to win a free trip," said Bigelow. "The Comox Valley Airport has been offering seasonal service to Mexico since 2004. We want to keep this route thriving in the hopes of attracting additional sunspot destinations to our airport."

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The Comox Valley Airport will also be handing out luggage tags to the first 50 WestJet guests to arrive at YQQ who are bound for sun, fun and sand. JetFM will be broadcasting the festivities live from the terminal building and anyone wishing to join in the fun is welcome from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 2.

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