



Where journeys begin.

NEWS RELEASE

November 4, 2014

Seasonal flights to Mexico underway at YQQ

The Comox Valley Airport is pleased to offer non-stop service to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico for another winter season. The first Mexico bound passengers departed from YQQ on Saturday, November 1 for sun, fun and sand onboard WestJet. Flights will continue each Saturday until May 2, 2015.

"Last year more than 5,400 guests took advantage of this non-stop service to Mexico," explained Comox Valley Airport CEO, Fred Bigelow. "This is the perfect option for residents who are seeking a quick getaway to somewhere sunny without any travel hassles. In just under five hours after taking off at YQQ, you could be taxiing into the gate at Puerto Vallarta and ready to hit the beach."

To reach the same destination on the same day, starting from Vancouver International Airport (YVR), would add an additional five hours of travel time, plus an overnight stay in a hotel due to ferry schedules. The Comox Valley Airport has been working hard through its latest advertising campaign to remind North Island residents to do the math before booking a trip from another airport this winter.

"It is easy to get enticed by a lower air fare on the mainland," explained Bigelow. "But before you book that ticket, do the math and make sure you are taking into account the real cost of your trip including: gas, ferry, hotel and your time."

Bigelow is also reminding North Island residents of another important reason to use YQQ this winter.

"The best way to bolster our case for a new non-stop sunspot destination is to use up the capacity that we already have. With the addition of a new early morning flight to Calgary in January 2015, there are more markets than ever opened up to Comox. This includes same-day access in both directions to sunny destinations like Varadero, Cancun and Palm Springs, as well as improved connections to many other destinations."

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For more information on Puerto Vallarta and other WestJet destinations accessible from Comox, visit: www.westjet.com. Guests are also reminded that their first checked bag is still free for flights booked in Flex or Plus fares, as well as all international flights to and from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and Europe. For additional details on baggage fees visit: www.westjet.com and click on the Travel Info tab.

For more information about calculating the real cost of your trip from the mainland visit: www.comoxairport.com/realcost.

About the Comox Valley Airport

The Comox Valley Airport (YQQ) is an economic driver for Northern Vancouver Island, supporting about 193 direct jobs including airlines, airport management, security, food and beverage, retail and ground transportation. The airport and tourism business community together generate \$367 million in Gross Domestic Product and \$701 million in direct economic output for the community. YQQ is operated by the Comox Valley Airport Commission, which was established in 1996 as a non-share capital and not-for-profit organization to operate the civil aviation facilities, including the terminal and apron at YQQ. The airfield and its associated systems, including air traffic control, are operated by the Royal Canadian Air Force at 19 Wing Comox on a continuous 24-hour basis.

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