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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nanaimo Airport Welcomes Air Canada Service to Calgary

Nanaimo, British Columbia (December 9, 2014) —Thanks to the completion of the runway expansion, the Nanaimo Airport has seen passenger numbers climb over 70% since 2008. With only a few weeks left in 2014, the Nanaimo Airport Commission is expecting to post another record year. With this ongoing success, it's no wonder Air Canada announced today daily non-stop service to Calgary.

"We are delighted to launch our newest regional services at Nanaimo Airport to Calgary next spring and we look forward to welcoming customers from the Nanaimo/Cassidy areas onboard Air Canada Express flights operated by Jazz Aviation," said Kevin C. Howlett, Air Canada's Senior Vice President of Regional Markets. "Customers can fly either point-to-point between Nanaimo and Calgary, or conveniently connect at our Calgary hub to and from our worldwide network to destinations in Europe, extensive North American route network and beyond. Our Nanaimo-Calgary flights complement our multiple daily Nanaimo-Vancouver flights."

The new daily flight starts Friday, May 1, 2015. Arriving in Nanaimo at 1:15pm and departing for Calgary at 1:45pm. Air Canada will operate a Q400 on this route. This will be in addition to the eight daily Air Canada Express flights from Nanaimo to Vancouver in the summer schedule.

"Developing service is key to Nanaimo Airport's continued growth to ensure safe, reliable transportation for Central Vancouver Island residents," shares Mike Hooper, President and CEO of the Nanaimo Airport. "This announcement is a major indicator of how strongly the Mid-Island region is supporting Air Canada's gateway route from Nanaimo to Vancouver." With those flights at near capacity, this new route will provide additional Air Canada seats for those travelling to Eastern Canada and the world.

Within a 4-hour window, there are more than 25 Air Canada flights this new service connects to including multiple flights to Edmonton, Fort McMurray and Toronto. In addition to the domestic flights, there are connections to the USA and international destinations such as Los Angeles, Las Vegas, London, and Frankfurt.

In the first six months of 2014, the Nanaimo Airport has enjoyed an average of 33.3% growth per month. Year to date growth in 2014 is at nearly 20%.

About Nanaimo Airport (YCD):

Nanaimo Airport is a ten-minute drive south of downtown Nanaimo on 224 hectares (550 acres), which includes the nearby Cottonwood Golf Course. YCD is a not-for-profit authority owned by the Nanaimo Airport Commission. Vancouver Island's third largest airport, Nanaimo Airport serves a primary central Vancouver Island area with a total population base of approximately 250,000. The YCD service area extends north from Nanaimo to Qualicum, west to the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and south to Duncan and the Cowichan Valley. YCD is ideally situated as the most convenient departure/arrival point for customers from the mid-Island area.

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