

February 27, 2015

The Honorable Lisa Raitt MP

Minister of Transport

House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario

Subject: Arrival Flight Paths for Pearson International over Mid-Town Toronto

Dear Minister Raitt,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of South (Forest) Hill District Homeowners Association and as a long term resident of midtown Toronto in the St. Pauls electoral district. Our area has over 300 homes, condominiums and apartments and two large schools. Residents are greatly concerned with the constant noise and pollutants from intermittent low flying aircraft in the super highway over our heads on a 24 hour basis, and which Nav Canada and the GTAA intend continuing to increase and concentrate.

The arrivals flight path from the south, south west and westerly which flies east was foisted on our neighbourhood and other areas of midtown in 2012 without any notification by the GTAA and Nav Canada, although they claim to have involved all residents in the process leading up its implementation, however the general public is missing from Nav Canada's list of major stakeholders . We are now bombarded by over 80,000 arrivals per annum most days heavily early in the morning and in the late afternoon and evenings until 1.30-2.00am - these morning and evening aircraft destroy sleep patterns for a large number of our residents, the daily aircraft make our properties outside almost unusable. The aircraft travel at heights below 5000 feet asl (above sea level) with noise levels at 75-90 decibels well in excess of 57 decibels, the international standard acceptable to humans. The frequency is intermittent but is as high as half to one minute in the busy periods. I should add this flight path flies directly over Brown Junior Public School which has 570 students on a full time basis.

I and other residents have attended CENAC meetings on a regular basis, researched and made suggestions for improvements to these flight paths, lodged large numbers of noise complaints under the **farcical system** which is maintained by Nav Canada and the GTAA, but all to no avail. Multiple reputable studies have been made world-wide on sleep deprivation and impact of cancer causing particulates on persons on the ground particularly children but have been ignored by the GTAA, Nav Canada and your Ministry, which causes us great concern.

We are aware that recommendations for improvements have been made recently by TANG and David Inch in his 47 page report who is a very qualified long term senior pilot and consultant with Air Canada . These recommendations cover both the short term as applies to all of Metro and the surrounding area and longer term as specifically applies to the southern portion of the arrivals flight path from the south, south west and west which comes in from the lake at Long Branch and flies over the midtown areas of Toronto and then turns north over Sunnybrook.

The longer term alternative proposed which would redirect the southern arrivals flight path super highway portion over Lake Ontario removing it from midtown Toronto would solve all of the associated problems for the 2 million residents living under it. This alternative has major benefits for all stakeholders - airlines, aircrew, traffic controllers and in particular the general public in the form of fuel and substantial dollar savings, shorter flight times and reduced pollution of noise and particulates over densely populated areas of midtown. It is emphasized that this alternative was excluded from the simulation studies carried out by Nav Canada using 2007-2010 flight data for Pearson International which resulted in the Flight Paths chosen. I personally confirmed this with members of Senior Management of Nav Canada and the GTAA present at a CENAC meeting in late 2014 and was told that they had no intent of revisiting the simulations to study the feasibility and cost/benefits attributable to such a change, no reasons were given.

We appreciate your involvement to date but wish to know when we can expect some action and response as applies to this specific part of the arrivals flight path without the multiplicity of excuses continually forthcoming from the GTAA, Nav Canada and your Ministry, we have experienced and endured for the last three years.

Yours faithfully,

Alan G. Pearson

CC.

The Honorable Carolyn Bennett, MP St Paul's Toronto, House of Commons , Ottawa, Ontario

The Honourable Eric Hoskins, MPP St Paul's Toronto, Minister of Health, Ontario Government

Councillor Josh Matlow, St. Pauls', City of Toronto

Councillor Joe Mihevc, St. Paul's West, City of Toronto