



John Tory  
Mayor

February 16, 2016

The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Transportation  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Garneau,

In recent months, members of my staff have met with a group called "Toronto Aviation Noise Group (T.A.N.G)" and with their local Councillor, Councillor Jon Burnside. The purpose of this meeting was for the group to share the neighbourhood's concerns regarding what they view as unreasonable aircraft noise resulting from a change in a new, concentrated arrivals route.

T.A.N.G's concern was brought to my attention after years of advocacy to all levels of government and intense community outreach on the issue. While the group maintains that they understand flight traffic is an inevitable factor in their community, they seek more equitable and balanced approaches to sharing flight traffic over Toronto communities.

The primary concern for the group stems from actions in 2012 by NAV CANADA that saw a change to flight paths. This change imposed a new highly concentrated Pearson Airport arrivals route over these previously unaffected midtown neighbourhoods. This redesigned arrivals route directed 40% of all aircraft arrivals at Pearson over this neighbourhood.

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An overarching concern is for the implementation of this flight plan without consulting both the residents and their local representatives beforehand.

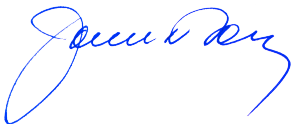
Residents and the local Councillor have expressed their grave concern with respect to the negative effects of this flight path on their quality of life. As this flight path is concentrated and aircraft operation runs 24 hours a day, residents find little reprieve from the strong aircraft noise throughout the day and night.

With respect to advocacy, T.A.N.G has been unsuccessful in engaging with the GTAA and NAV CANADA. The group has obtained two meetings with the previous Minister of Transportation, the Honourable Lisa Raitt. The Honourable Carolyn Bennett has been supportive of the group's efforts, including asking questions in the House of Commons.

The group desires the possibility of an amended air space design, implemented in a balanced manner. In the longer term, the group proposes regulation or legislation to require future plans are made in collaboration with residents and local elected officials in the planning stages of these flight paths.

I believe with a newly elected federal government there is an opportunity to take a new look. On behalf of the affected residents, I would like to request that a further review of the flight path be undertaken and the concerns outlined in this letter be taken into account. I encourage you to engage the community directly so that an amended and balanced approach to the noise levels can ultimately be achieved. I am available to discuss this issue further at your convenience.

Sincerely,



John Tory  
Mayor of Toronto

- c. Councillor Jon Burnside, City of Toronto
- Hon Carolyn Bennett, P.C., M.P., Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
- Hon Robert Oliphant, P.C., M.P.
- Hon Kathleen O. Wynne, M.P.P., Premier and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs
- Hon Eric Hoskins, M.P.P., Minister of Health and Long-term Care
- Marg Evans, Chair, T.A.N.G
- Renee Jacoby, Vice-Chair, T.A.N.G