

Minister of Transport



Ministre des Transports

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

His Worship John Tory
Mayor of Toronto
City Hall
100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 16, 2016, regarding the changes NAV CANADA made to the flight paths in and around Toronto in 2012.

Transportation affects the daily lives of Canadians, and I am committed to ensuring that it continues to serve our communities and families and does so safely. Transportation serves as a backbone to our economy, and it must do so while also respecting Canadians and our natural environment.

Transport Canada is the safety regulator for aviation in Canada. Although the department does not approve changes to individual routings other than to confirm that designs meet the applicable standards, it is an important issue for all.

As you may be aware, in 2015, NAV CANADA and the Canadian Airports Council developed the *Airspace Change Communications and Consultation Protocol* to promote transparency in the decision-making process and ensure better management of noise concerns. The protocol will be applied to any future changes to airspace design and use.

The protocol presents a useful approach to ensuring that the public, in particular those most affected by the airspace changes, are consulted in advance of changes occurring. The protocol will be applied to any future changes to airspace design and use.

Additionally, NAV CANADA and the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) have created the Noise Mitigation Initiatives Engagement Plan, which incorporates public consultation from surrounding communities into various ideas focussed on reducing the impact or frequency of aircraft noise issues where possible.

In August 2015, eight roundtables were held around the city. The meetings followed the same agenda, which included an in-depth conversation on six concepts and ideas proposed by NAV CANADA based on feedback received in recent years. The meetings also gave stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback on these concepts and to propose others.

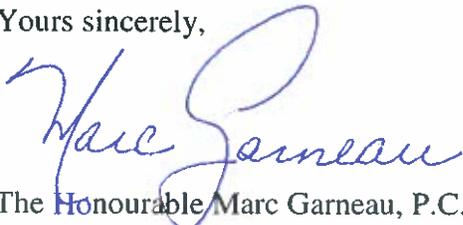
Based on the results of the roundtables, NAV CANADA is now carrying out technical reviews of all six concepts. Additional public consultations, data analysis and implementation will occur later this year. My hope is that these new initiatives, including broad public engagement with NAV CANADA and the GTAA, will address noise concerns and future airspace changes in a more open manner.

Transport Canada's experience has shown that noise issues are most effectively addressed at the local community level. Mr. Mayor, I encourage you to direct your constituents, including the members of the advocacy group called "Toronto Aviation Noise Group (T.A.N.G.)", to work with the GTAA's Community Environment and Noise Advisory Committee and to address any questions regarding flight paths around Toronto and future public consultations to NAV CANADA.

I have taken the liberty to forward your letter along with mine to Mr. John Crichton, President and Chief Executive Officer of NAV CANADA, and Mr. Howard Eng, President and Chief Executive Officer of the GTAA, whom I both trust will be more than happy to ensure that the right NAV CANADA and GTAA representatives meet with T.A.N.G. in the near future.

Please accept, Mr. Mayor, the expressing of my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marc Garneau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Transport

c.c. The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs

Mr. Robert Oliphant, M.P.
Don Valley West

The Honourable Kathleen O. Wynne, M.P.P.
Premier of Ontario and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins, M.P.P.
Minister of Health and Long-term Care

Ms. Yasmin Ratanski, M.P.
Don Valley East

Mr. John Crichton
President and Chief Executive Officer of NAV CANADA

Mr. Howard Eng
President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Toronto Airports Authority
