



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONSTRUCTION ON EXTENDED RUNWAY COMPLETE AT RED DEER AIRPORT**

**Red Deer – October 13, 2016** – The Red Deer Airport is pleased to announce that the construction on their newly extended runway is now officially complete and will become fully operational upon final inspection and approval. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at the airport on Friday afternoon to signify this important milestone in the future development of the airport and the region.

“We are certainly happy that the construction on the new runway is complete. We had excellent weather in the early spring which allowed us to make great progress. We did experience some challenging weather later in the summer due to rain, however the construction crews worked extremely hard to get this project back on track and complete within the original set timeline” says George Friesen, CEO at Red Deer Airport.

The airport embarked upon a 2000 ft. extension of their primary runway and some additional rehabilitation and extension work on Apron 7 after the announcement came in October 2015 that the airport would receive funding from the Provincial Government through the Alberta Community Partnership Grant. The remaining project costs were provided jointly by The City of Red Deer and Red Deer County.

“This critical investment has allowed the airport to land larger aircraft meaning we can now actively pursue a broader range of passenger and commercial services to improve passenger experience and options. It also helps to support the expansion and growth of aviation business and industry in the region which will in turn create more jobs for Central Albertans,” says George Friesen.

“This project is a true representation of the joint collaboration between the Alberta Government, the City of Red Deer and Red Deer County coming together to support economic development activity in the region, including the creation of new jobs, and the diversification of our economy. We certainly want to thank them for their contribution as this project would not be possible without their continued support.”

For more information, please contact:

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## **About Red Deer Airport**

The Red Deer Airport (YQF) is a vital transportation link for Central Alberta, offering scheduled passenger and charter services. YQF is operated by The Red Deer Regional Airport Authority, a not-for-profit, non-share Capital Corporation incorporated under the Alberta Regional Airports Authorities Act. Since 1992, it has been responsible for the management, maintenance and development of Red Deer Airport.