

DAYSRING AIRPARK NEWS LETTER

June 1st, 2008



I feel it necessary to speak out on a recent local event that has me troubled. Here at the airpark we have been asking for support from the local, community members and all three levels of government for three years with nothing in return.

Than recently without evening asking for money, admittedly not even knowing what to do with the money, the Municipality of Queens was given a quarter million dollars by the Province from the Federal Government for the South Shore Regional Airport, <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/nova-scotia/story/2008/04/11/leefe-airport.html>.

Now I think it's a good idea that our government support local airports, my problem is this:

1. They received that money without as much as an application process.
2. It was given to them with no strings tied, no commitments what so ever agreement.
3. That money that was allocated by the Federal Government for aviation is being used to bale the Municipality of Queens out of a foreseeable mess that they got themselves into and should have been responsible for which was an "underground fuel spill". They excavated an area 100 x 30 x 20. That accounts for proximally 160 truck loads of material excavated and trucked out and than back in.
4. They claimed to have used all that money to cleanup the oil spill. If that's the case where did all the money come from for all the extra work they did putting in a massive parking lot for the drag strip community? And how is it that they were allowed to pay themselves to clean up the oil spill. No wonder is cost so much! I'd like to see how much they were paying themselves to do the work!

The municipally excavated a fairly small area and all that work was done by their own crews. The material was than taken to their own landfill site for decontamination, which is just a fancy word for spread the material out and let the fuel evaporate.

My other problem with all this is, the Municipality isn't even replacing the pumps. They may not even keep the airport open. They have been talking amongst themselves about closing the airport down or selling it to the drag strip community for a token fee for sometime now.

So at the end of the day, when it comes to improving aviation that money was wasted. Yes it cleaned up an oil spill, but an oil spill that they should have been responsible for. You don't put steal tanks in the ground with no plans to never replace them. That money in no way enhanced aviation at the airport. It was used to alleviate the Municipality of a liability and bring them one step closer to ridden themselves of the airport.

On a more positive note, we now have more air traffic here and more aircraft visits at the Dayspring airpark with out 1740 foot gravel strip that the South Shore Regional Airport has with their almost 4000 foot paved strip.

We plan to have another fly in on August 16th with the 17th as our backup day in case of bad weather. This year we're asking for a \$20 dollar donation for all you can eat to help support the COPA action fund. COPA has fought for our freedom to fly for years and now they are asking for our help to top up their legal funds. Come support a great cause, meet new pilots, see some new planes and have a great time.

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