

Sundre Airport Update

OVERVIEW

Mountain View County remains committed to providing ongoing information to all users of the Sundre Airport related to County initiatives, upcoming events, and other topics that you may be interested in. As always, please feel free to contact us if you have any ideas or concerns that you would like brought to our attention.

It has been just over a year since the County began managing the operations and maintenance of the Sundre airport, with a significant amount of learnings, challenges, and successes in that time period.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

As of January 1, 2022, the County entered into an agreement with KS2 Management Ltd. for the maintenance of the facility, resulting in the approval of a winter and summer maintenance plan that details the high level of services that KS2 has provided on our behalf. These plans can be found on the County's website and Mobile App.

FUEL SYSTEM

The County was also pleased to arrive at a mutually agreeable arrangement with the Sundre Flying Club for the ownership of the fuel facilities at the airport which will ensure that they remain available to airport users well into the future. The transfer of the fuel system operation as of March, 2022, has gone smoothly with the support of the Sundre Flying Club members. The County has installed a new fuel payment terminal at the Airport, which aligns with the existing system at the Olds/Didsbury Airport, as well as a back up cellular system in the event that the rural internet fails. Should you find the fuel system down, please use the information as posted in order to contact KS2 so that they may resolve the issue.

AVIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Aviation Advisory Committee is a board established by Mountain View County that has representation from members of the general aviation community at both the Olds/Didsbury and Sundre airports, Mountain View County Councillors, County Administration and KS2. The committee has been busy reviewing the current operations of the airports, future development potential and short-term action items that have arisen either from committee members or other airport users. Members from the general aviation community include Glen (Bruno) Bradley, Jim Smith, Don Bell, Mike Kennedy, Thomas Thomas and Neran Persaud.

AIRPORT LOTS

Specifically, at the Sundre Airport, the Aviation Advisory Committee recommended that the County undertake a subdivision of the northern block of land which has resulted in the creation of eight new lots. The Committee has recommended that the County review the cost and timelines associated with the development of a hard surface taxiway to service these new lots which will be investigated in the coming months and returned for Council consideration. Following this review, the Committee has also recommended that Council consider auctioning off two of the new lots in order to spur development and identify the market value of the remaining lots. Stay tuned as we work through this process and have discussions surrounding the sale or lease of these lots.

MOBILE APP

Have you heard about Mountain View County's mobile app? We have made the airport section on it much more robust and hopefully a valuable tool for your use. Through the app, you are able to check on fuel prices at both Mountain View County Airports, submit service requests directly to the County and KS2, and obtain quick access to a variety of links such as Foreflight and NAV Canada weather. This app, along with Mountain View County's Economic Development Website (<u>www.mvcecdev.com</u>) will continue to be populated with airport related information, including minutes of the Aviation Advisory Committee meetings.

EVENTS – ALBERTA AIR TOUR

On an exciting note, the Olds/Didsbury Airport has been selected to be the 'lunch' stop for the Alberta Air Tour on Saturday June 3, 2023 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, similar to the stop which occurred at the Sundre Airport for 'breakfast' last year! Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information as it becomes available. We hope that you will join us all at CEA3!

FEEDBACK FROM AIRPORT USERS

Council approved the costs to repair the boiler system located within the terminal building which were undertaken in January of 2023, resulting in a significantly longer lifespan of that system.

In the next few months, in addition to the long-range planning already identified, other items that the County will be considering at the Sundre Airport include:

- Reviewing concerns raised with the terminal building water well; and
- Developing a fee structure and process associated with the tie-down area

As we head into the spring season, we join you in looking forward to some nice weather, clear skies, and calm winds. If you have any questions related to this information, please do not hesitate to reach out. We look forward to continuing to build strong relationships with hangar owners and users of the airport.

Safe Travels!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mountain View County Christofer Atchison Director, Legislative Community and Agricultural Services <u>catchison@mvcounty.com</u> 403-335-3311

KS2 Management Ltd Kent Milley Director 403-829-8105 Ks2management@outlook.com

Airport Maintenance: 825-994-4815