



Northern Transportation Advocacy Bureau

Date: Saturday September 6th, 2025

NEED HELP? 780-527-6232 (NTAB Cell)

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Location: Peace River Airport

Note: There is no Internet Access

## AGENDA

10:00 AM Call to Order / Welcomes: Carolyn Kolebaba – NTAB Chair

### Peace River Airport: Facility & Grounds Tour

[NavCan: Peace River Airport Executive Summary \(2023\)](#)

#### Discussion Topics:

- 1) East – West Connector: Following from yesterday’s PREDA meeting in Red Earth Creek; the completion of the east-west connector from Fort McMurray into Peace River has been designated as a priority by the Alberta Government. What will be the impact on the Peace River area?
- 2) 10:30 Will Call - Port of Valdez, Alaska: Jeremy Talbott; Ports and Harbors Director will provide an update on the recent USA announcement of “drill baby drill” priority for pipeline development and energy exports for Alaska; effectively making Valdez no longer being available to develop a partnership with northern Alberta for a railway corridor, oil & gas exports, and access to tidal waters?  
[\(Link: Photo of Port of Valdez – Oil Storage Tanks\)](#)
- 3) 11:00 Will Call - Fort McMurray to Alaska Railway Corridor ([G7G Background](#)): For 40 years, Dr. Matt Vickers has been advocating for northern corridor infrastructure development founded upon indigenous equity/revenue sharing partnerships; economic prosperity, and alternative solutions beyond the stifling legislations; nonsensical regulations, and an overall lack of nation building vision. Matt has been a long-time contributor to our municipal leaders advocating for northern economic corridors. We first met Matt in Yellowknife 15 years ago. Today Matt joins us to review the G7G idea and how the USA’s priority to champion Alaska’s resources may impact Alberta’s access to tidal waters.  
NOTE: Since we last spoke with Matt: MANY MANY [Congratulations to Dr. Matt Vickers](#): 1) Island Rail Corporation appointment as Chairman of the Board; 2) Honorary Doctorates awarded from Vancouver Island University; and University Canada West; and 3) Co-Chair of Honoring Nations Canada - Fulbright Canada.  
  
*NOTE: Imagine the existing North American railway system connected to **ports in Alaska**, expediting world-wide import and export of commodities. Consider the economic boost to be enjoyed by remote communities along the 2570 km route. [REDI Marketing1 Video](#)*
- 4) Community Airport Management Services - Business Case. Building capacity and retention for the PREDA region community airports is important to long-term viability. Will Stewart is the CEO of Global Airport Training, and Director of Terminal Services Grande Prairie Airport; and Property Management of Peace River Airport; and on the Board of Directors of Alberta Airports Management Association. In 2023, Will completed a regional overview of PREDA’s community airports. Through this overview it was identified that most of our community airports do not have “someone on the ground” to maintain the local infrastructure and services. On behalf of PREDA & NTAB, Will is following up on this finding to ascertain if there is a business case for the municipalities with community airports to join resources to create a regional fee-for-service airport “care-taker” role.
- 5) Member Request: Birch Hills County: Revisiting Watino ([Video 2m](#)) [Link: Background – Northern Alberta Railway](#)

FYI: Yellowknife formalizes support of Arctic Security Corridor stretching northeast to Nunavut and the Arctic coast. The project aims at strengthening Canadian Arctic sovereignty and security by building a 600 km all season road from Yellowknife to Nunavut’s Grays Bay and upgrading the port of Grays Bay? Diavik Mines closing in early 2026. [Link: Press Release](#)

#### NTAB Membership

Big Lakes County  
Birch Hills County  
Clear Hills County  
County of Grande Prairie #1  
County of Northern Lights #22  
MD of Fairview #136  
MD of Greenvale #16  
MD of Smoky River #130  
MD of Spirit River #133  
MD of Opportunity #17  
MD of Peace #135  
Northern Sunrise County  
Saddle Hills County  
Town of Peace River  
Town of Sexsmith