

#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Harbour Air to move to permanent terminal by end of 2012

**VANCOUVER, BC (September 10, 2012):** By the end of 2012, Harbour Air will be flying in and out of the new, permanent Vancouver Harbour Flight Centre (VHFC) in Vancouver's Convention Center, based on an agreement in principle between Harbour Air, Vancouver Harbour Flight Centre and the BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo).

A resolution has been reached to relocate Harbour Air's downtown Vancouver operations.

The Province has approved Harbour Air's plan to construct an extension to the west side of the VHFC's docks to better satisfy Harbour Air's operational requirements. Harbour Air will utilize the new, permanent facility for its ticketing and administrative activities. Decommissioning of the temporary facility will begin immediately.

By early November, PavCo will begin construction on the seawall connection and Harbour Green Park improvements to fully connect the seawall adjacent to the temporary Harbour Air facility.

The permanent float-plane terminal was built and is operated by VHFC which leases the water lot and terminal space from PavCo on a 50-year operating lease.

Harbour Air and VHFC had been unable to reach agreement for some period of time. The agreement in principle between the two parties now resolves former disputes between them regarding passenger tariffs, lease fees and lease renewal criteria, etc.

The Float Plane terminal is part of a key transportation hub, connecting passengers to many water accessible parts of the Province at a reasonable cost.

The City of Vancouver has approved a decommissioning plan for the temporary facility and has also approved a short extension to the current operating permit to support Harbour Air's planning and relocation to the VHFC terminal. The company expects to be fully operational in the terminal by December 2012.



#### Quotes

# Rich Coleman, Minister of Energy, Mines, and Natural Gas and Minister Responsible for Housing and Deputy Premier

"A resolution in this matter is good for the people of Coal Harbour and for all the parties involved, and we are happy to see that mediation has been able to bring conclusion to this issue and appreciate all the parties working on a solution."

#### **Gregor Robertson, Mayor of Vancouver**

"The float plane terminal and the air traffic that it supports is an important generator of economic activity for Vancouver. We are very pleased an agreement has been reached that will support the completion of the seawall and provide improvements to Harbour Green Park."

#### Dana Hayden, President and CEO BC Pavilion Corporation

"This is a welcome development that supports PavCo's ongoing commitment to find a solution for float-plane operators so they can use the new terminal at the Vancouver Convention Centre. We appreciate the patience of the public as the parties have worked hard to find a resolution to their commercial dispute."

## Greg McDougall, CEO, Harbour Air

"We are glad to have an agreement that addresses our concerns and allows us to provide an uninterrupted first class experience flying in and out of downtown Vancouver. We would like to thank everyone, and can now re-focus on our core business – providing safe, reliable flights to our customers"

#### Paul McElligott, President, Vancouver Harbour Flight Centre

"We look forward to welcoming Harbour Air and their passengers to our facilities this fall. We would like to thank PavCo and the City for their leadership and cooperation."



## **Media Contacts**

# **British Columbia Pavilion Corporation**

Trevor Pancoust 604 646-3567

## **City of Vancouver**

Corporate Communications 604.871.6336 media@vancouver.ca

## **Harbour Air**

Meredith Moll 604-838-4586

# **Vancouver Harbour Flight Centre**

David Hoff 604 646-2469