Qualicum Beach Airport December 3, 2025 Quarterly Report

Published: December 3, 2025

TOWN OF **QUALICUM BEACH**

Promotion of Airport Discussion Forum (COTW)

TOWN OF
QUALICUM BEACH

How did the Town of Qualicum Beach promote the December 3, 2025, COTW?

- ✓ Constant Contact email promotion – sent to 975 email addresses on November 19, 2025.
- ✓ Posted to Facebook – published November 19, 2025.
- ✓ Posted on Town homepage – published November 19, 2025.
- ✓ Published as Town Tidings in the Parksville/Qualicum Beach Newspaper and Constant Contact November 19, 2025.
- ✓ Poster on display in Town Hall foyer and elevator November 19, 2025.
- ✓ Lobby Screen.

The purpose of this Report is to provide Council an overview of Airport related matters that have occurred in the third and fourth quarter of 2025

Annual Live Exercise Emergency Training

TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

- On September 10th, the Qualicum Beach Airport participated in and hosted an annual live exercise.
- A fuselage of an aircraft was brought in as a prop to simulate response to an aircraft crash.
- There were three separate scenarios throughout the day. Qualicum Beach Fire and Rescue, Ocean Side RCMP, BC Ambulance and Qualicum Beach Public Works all participated in this Transport Canada required exercise.
- Training for these scenarios is critical to support agencies' response.

Hangar Construction

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QUALICUM BEACH

Council approved two individual lease agreements for the purpose of constructing aircraft hangars.

These two hangars will be located on Row B and are intended for private aircraft. The new hangars will provide additional revenue to the Airport's budget.

Hangar Construction

TOWN OF
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Wesley Ridge Fire

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On July 31,2025, the Wesley Ridge Fire occurred.

The Town of Qualicum Beach and the Qualicum Beach Airport played a pivotal role during this arduous time.

The Airport provided the infield for up to nine helicopters companies and their equipment; fuel was made available through the Airport dispensing system; and staff were on hand to provide support.

Because of its central location, and proximity to the wildfire, the Qualicum Beach airport was able to provide essential resources and support.

Wesley Ridge Fire

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ACAP Grant Applications

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In 2024 the Town applied for two grants through the Airport Capital Assistance Program (ACAP)

- runway taxiway, and
- apron overlay.
- Loader, Snow Blower & Attachments.

In 2025 the Town was notified that they were not approved for either of the grants.

Both grant applications have been resubmitted, and the Town will be notified in the spring of 2026.

The projects will not proceed without successful grant applications.

BCAAP Grant Application

TOWN OF
QUALICUM BEACH

As per Strategic Initiative (24-GG-10) approved December 11, 2024.
In March 2025 staff applied for an Airport Master / Business Plan grant through the British Columbia Air Access Program (BCAAP) with a value of $35,000.

The Town has been notified that they were not approved for the 2025 grant application.

Staff have referred a BCAAP Airport Master/ Business Plan application request to the 2027 *Strategic Planning* budget process for Council's consideration.

Council Strategic Initiatives 2025

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CAT4 Airport Facts

Council directed staff to investigate the viability of identifying if the communities of Qualicum Woods, the Evergreens, Aldous Road, Cottonwood Drive, Hemsworth Road and Rupert Road could become recognized as Noise Sensitive Areas (NSA).

Staff have consulted with Nav Canada on the viability of NSAs within these identified areas, and NAV Canada supports the recommended changes to the Canadian Flight Supplement as shown on the Dec 3, 2025 power point presentation.

Staff provided a Report to Council at the October 22,2025 regular Council Meeting and there was a motion to defer the Report to the December 3, 2025, CoTW meeting.

CAT4
Airport
Facts

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Council Strategic Initiatives 2025

As part of Council's 2025 Strategic Initiatives, Council directed staff to conduct a review of the Airport Establishment and Operations Bylaw.

Staff have completed the Bylaw review, with the exception of terminal lease rates, and provided a Report at a special meeting of Council November 26, 2025.

CAT4 Airport Facts

TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

Jurisdictional Questions Transport Canada

The Town sent a list of jurisdictional questions to Transport Canada's Judicial Branch located in Ottawa December 23, 2024 and has received the following statement:

"Unfortunately, after reviewing current priorities and workload within both DOJ and Transport Canada's legal department, we will not be able to provide a legal opinion (or direction) on this matter at this time. Due to a significant increase in high-priority and time-sensitive files, resources have been reallocated to address those demands".

Qualicum Beach Airport 3 Phase Power Update

TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

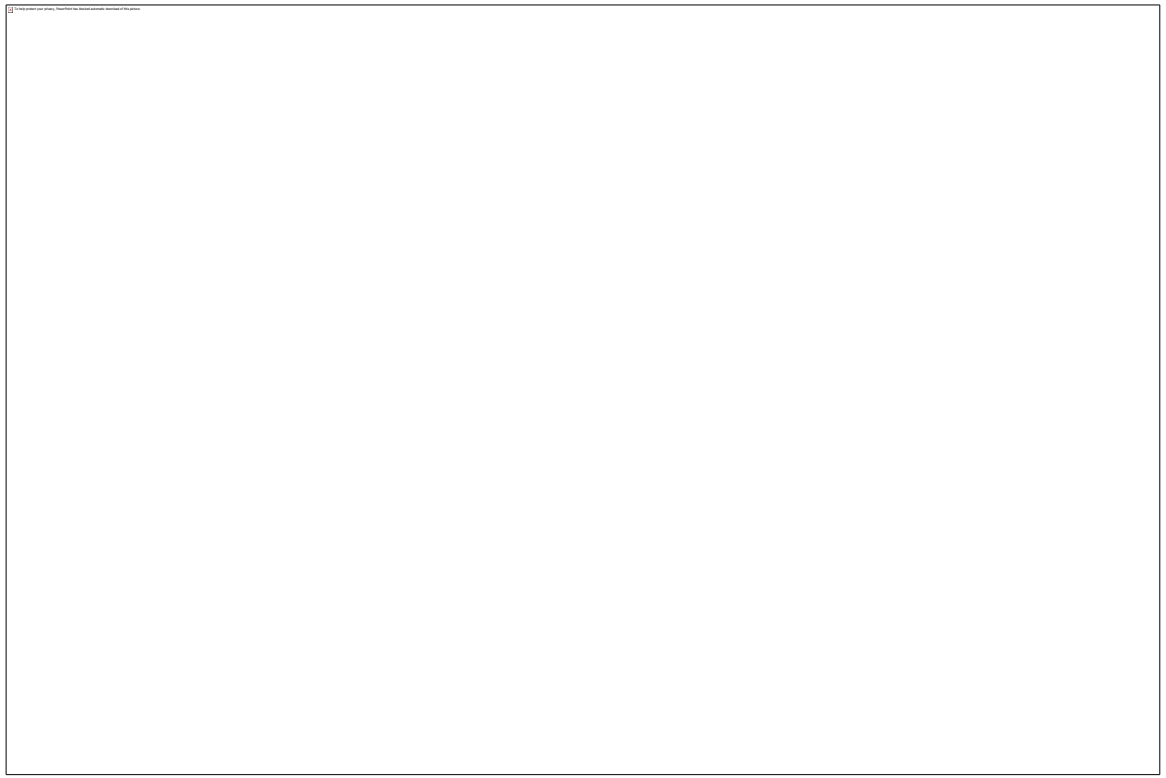
On January 10, 2024, staff met with representatives from Sealand Air and an engineering consultant retained by BC Hydro.

The engineering consultant has since provided staff with a report that provides capital cost estimates and explores two options:
Option 1: is estimated to be $ 1,806,000, and
Option 2: is estimated to be $ 1,115,000.

Due to the high capital costs for 3-phase power infrastructure and low demand for charging electric aircraft, staff are recommending that until electrification of aircraft in Canada becomes industry practice, Council take no action. Alternatively, Council could provide direction to staff for action.

Helicopter Training

From January to November 2025, the Airport Manager has approved 23 days of helicopter training, (approximately 20 hours of training at the Qualicum Beach Airport) The training was for air ambulance operations and occurred during daytime and nighttime hours.



Air Ambulance

BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) has reported from January 1,2025 to May 31st there have been 11 transfers from the Qualicum Beach Airport.

Staff requested stats from May to December and have not been provided response at time of report writing.

Communications and Education

The Airport Authority continues to improve communications and education regarding best practices such as the Good Neighbour Program (GNP), Noise Sensitive Areas (NSA) and Noise Abatement Procedures (NAP). This is being done through verbal communications with local pilots, Qualicum Beach Flying Club, and Sealand Flight school.

Letters have also been sent to flying schools and flying clubs on the Island and lower mainland.

In 2025, the Town of Qualicum Beach launched their new web site which includes an improved section for Qualicum Beach Airport and provides easy access to information, including procedures.

Public Inquiry

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From June 12, 2025 - November 17, 2025, the Airport Authority received a total of 175 inputs from 35 addresses:

VIOLATIONS ACTIONABLE BY THE TOWN			
	Concern Type	**Concern Sub-type**	**Notes**
2	Noise Complaints	Noise Abatement Procedure Violation (Specific Aircraft)	*Information received about a specific aircraft and its operation in relation to the Noise Abatement Procedure (NAP).*
1	Noise Complaints	Curfew Violation	*Curfew violations are assessed against established Airport Operating Hours.*

COMPLAINTS NOT ACTIONABLE BY THE TOWN			
	Concern Type	**Concern Sub-type**	**Notes**
1	Concern	Lead Fuel Use	
4	Noise Complaint	Excessive Noise	
112	Noise Complaint	Flight Path	
2	Noise Complaint	Flight Training/Circuits	
4	Noise Complaint	Low-Flying Aircraft	
6	Noise Complaint	Helicopter Noise	*Public inputs identified as a Noise Concern –Subtype are tracked separately and will be reported to Council and the public quarterly.*
2	Noise Complaint	Helicopter Training	
6	Noise Complaint	Excessive Noise/Low Flying Aircraft	
7	Noise Complaint	Excessive Noise/Frequency of Flights	
1	Noise Complaint	Flight Path/Low Flight Aircraft	
2	Public Inputs in Support of the Airport		
25	OTHER - Airport Operations, general comments or questions		

175 | Total Public Inputs from 35 individual addresses

Thank you