

September 3rd 2015

Municipal Clerk's Office

1841 Argyle Street (City Hall)

Main Floor

PO Box 1749

Halifax NS B3J 3A5

Re: Residential Development near Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce would like to formally express its support for the proposed amendments to the land use by-laws near Halifax Stanfield International Airport (HSIA). These amendments would regulate, but not prohibit, residential development near the airport and would allow the airport to maintain its 24/7 operations.

The fact that HSIA can operate around the clock is invaluable to the entire economy of Halifax and must be protected. The HSIA has an overall economic impact of almost \$1.3 billion per year and contributes over 13,000 jobs. As well, a well-functioning airport is critical for increasing Nova Scotia's tourism revenues and exports as recommended in the Ivany Report. All of these facts support the need for regulations that promote the continued growth of the airport. We understand the concern of property owners in the affected area; however, the city must protect the interests of the majority of citizens and the entire economy.

It is the opinion of our members who are in the transportation industry, that HSIA's ability to operate around the clock is a competitive advantage, especially in terms of cargo transportation. The airport currently processes over 32,000 metric tonnes of cargo and is expecting to process over 50,000 tonnes by 2030. Given the importance of 24/7 air access to continued growth at Halifax Stanfield International Airport, we ask that Council approve the changes as presented.

Sincerely,



Valerie Payn
President and CEO