

## **Template Resolution on Airport Privatization**

**Whereas** in a country as vast and sparsely populated as Canada, safe and efficient air transportation is essential to connecting families and communities and to continued economic prosperity;

**Whereas** Canada's airports are vital assets that contribute to the quality of life and economic growth in the cities, communities and regions they serve;

**Whereas** media reports indicate that the Government of Canada is actively considering selling Canada's airports to for-profit entities to achieve a one-time financial windfall;

**Whereas** the international experience in airport privatization has often resulted in higher fees and reduced services for travellers and airlines as a result of efforts to maximize return on investment;

**Whereas** such outcomes would negatively affect communities of all sizes across Canada by making air travel more expensive and reducing service;

**Whereas** the last decade has seen a massive increase in the number of Canadians using air travel to connect with loved ones, enjoy well deserved vacations and explore the country, or help create jobs;

**Whereas** any increase in fees on air travel resulting from the privatization of airports would constitute an unfair tax on Canada's middle class;

**Whereas** divestiture of airports to local not-for-profit authorities in 1994, led to massive user-financed investments in airport infrastructure which have given Canada an enviable network of world class airports;

**Whereas** the physical infrastructure of airports has been modernized, the governance system under which they operate has not kept up with the times and is now in urgent need of repair;

**Whereas** that situation would only be exacerbated in a privatized for-profit system;

**Be it resolved that** the *municipality of Anytown* calls on the Government of Canada to renounce its push for the for-profit privatization of Canada's airports and clear the way for needed improvements to the current airport governance and financing system; and

**Be it further resolved that** the *municipality of Anytown* urge the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) bring this matter forward for emergency debate at the next meeting of its National Board of Directors.