

Why This Mile Of Runway Matters To You



If you think the Pembroke & Area Airport doesn't have much of an impact in your life, we'd like to try and change your thinking about that.



Most people who are familiar with the Pembroke & Area Airport know it from when Pem-Air, a scheduled service to Toronto, operated from here. That service ceased operations in 2001, but that didn't mean the Airport ceased operations. Today, the Airport continues to service 400 aircraft movements every month, nearly 5,000 a year, and most of it without anyone knowing. So let's take a look at what happens here.

the only organization in Ontario that trains and certifies Critical Care Paramedics. It also trains and certifies Flight Paramedics. The only Critical Care Paramedics in Ontario work for Ornge or the Toronto Paramedic Service.

In addition to being the direct location for air ambulance, the Airport also acts as the back-up for landings planned at local helipads. If weather conditions or patient conditions make landing at the helipad unsafe, Ornge is redirected to the Airport. For this reason, the Airport is a critical part of the emergency plans of the local hospitals. The hospitals require the Airport to be their healthcare partner for local people needing emergency transport to specialized hospitals.

The Airport is also a partner with Quebec healthcare. In March of this year, a joint operation between the Quebec police and Ornge resulted in the rescue of a tourist, coordinated from the Pembroke & Area Airport.

Finally, Ornge often uses the Airport for refuelling, even if they don't require it for patient transfer. As they are prepared to be called anywhere in Ontario at any moment, that means being fuelled.

If you're wondering how often this service is needed, Ornge is at the Pembroke & Area Airport 1-2 times a week. That's 50-100 local people, and their families, benefiting from this service every year.

A Partner in Healthcare

When you think about healthcare in our region, the Airport might not be the first thing that comes to mind. It does, however, hold a few roles in the local healthcare system.

The Airport is used frequently by Ornge; Ontario's air ambulance operation. Ornge has both fixed wing (airplane) and rotary wing (helicopter) air ambulances that use the Airport. Ornge paramedics are Critical Care Paramedics (CCP). In fact, Ornge is





A Partner in Safer Communities

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) use both helicopters and fixed wing aircraft in their operations. Their use includes: search and rescue (SAR); support of specialized units; support during public demonstrations; transportation of personnel; advanced operational photography; search and containment of escapees; regional traffic or crime initiatives; drug eradication and evidence searches. In the list of missions where the OPP utilized the Pembroke & Area Airport, was the 2015 fugitive search for the man who took the lives of three local women in Wilno.

A Partner in Protected Communities

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry spent a lot of time at the Pembroke & Area Airport in 2016. The dry conditions necessitated daily tours to spot fires. Three helicopters were based at the Airport to respond to emergency situations. One of those was in Algonquin Park. Renfrew County has forests that are produce recreational, tourism and economic value to our respective communities. More than 100 forest product companies depend on the forests, half of which are on private land. Aerial surveillance of forests partner with local fire departments in all of our communities.

A Partner in Tourism and the Environment

Another service that the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources provides via the Airport is the wildlife tracking (moose and deer) and fisheries management. This service helps the province determine fish limits and hunting tags. Approximately 8,000 antlerless deer and moose tags are allocated annually. In addition to being a very popular activity among local residents, hunting and fishing are key tourism draws to our region.

A Partner in Defence

The Airport's largest user is Garrison Petawawa. Their special operations and tactical squadrons train at the Airport, and that training is critical to Canada's military role with the nation, and around the world. Garrison Petawawa also returns \$540 million each year to our local region, and their

7,000 employees, and families, are taxpayers in all our communities. We are all proud to be the host region for Canada's largest military base.

A Partner in Education

Every Sunday afternoon, a group of local students come to the Pembroke & Area Airport to take a charter airplane to W. Ross MacDonald School, a school for the visually impaired, blind and deafblind. The students reside at the school for the week and return to the area on Friday afternoon. This charter occurs every week in the school year. The charter is paid for by the Ministry of Education.

A Partner for You

Local residents do not pay anything more for the services that the Airport supports in our region. However, if the Airport was not available for these services, that would certainly come at a cost to our local residents. For example, the cost of not being able to support Ornge at the Airport would be an additional \$1 million in land ambulance costs. In Ontario, land ambulance costs are split equally between the province and the municipalities. One additional ambulance would add \$500,000 to the tax bill of Pembroke and Renfrew County. That is an impact to every ratepayer.

Pembroke & Area Airport
Phone: 613-687-5300
info@flycyta.ca

