

MEDIA RELEASE

Pacific Heliport Services receives \$1.3 million provincial grant for Vancouver Harbour Heliport airside improvements

Vancouver, B.C. (June 5th, 2019): Vancouver's downtown waterfront heliport has been granted \$1.3 million in funding from the Province of British Columbia's *B.C. Air Access Program* and is subject to customary negotiation and contractual execution.

Each year, the program announces grants that fund up to 75% of the cost for approved airport infrastructure upgrades that maximize safety and convenience for the travelling public.

The grant provided to Pacific Heliport Services Ltd. (PHS), the company that operates and manages the heliport, will be used for several improvements to the facility located on Waterfront Road next to the Vancouver SeaBus terminal. PHS is a wholly owned subsidiary of Helijet International.

The airside and core infrastructure improvements will include new ramp and bridge structures to the floating heliport. Upgraded dual fuel dispensing systems will also be fitted, along with permanent containment booms and fences in-between the heliport and shoreline to collect debris. The total project is valued at an estimated \$1.7 million, with PHS intending to fund the balance of the project.

"After more than three decades of service, it's time to revitalize the heliport's infrastructure to enable its continued safe and efficient operation. This support from the province will help us renew one of the busiest aerodromes in the Province," said Aleks Powell, General Manager for PHS. "Vancouver's waterfront heliport plays a vital role in facilitating government business travel, private sector commerce, tourism and emergency life-saving medical services and serves as a significant generator of economic benefits."

In 2018, 15 different helicopter air operators completed more than 14,000 passenger flights at the heliport. 90 per cent of the flights were for business purposes.

228 of the landings were performed by dedicated BC Ambulance Service helicopters which uses the heliport to transport patients to and from health facilities in the Lower Mainland.

The Vancouver Harbour Heliport has operated without incident or accident throughout its 33-year history. It generates more than \$40 million in direct and indirect annual economic benefit annually and contributes more than \$2 million in government tax revenues. Ongoing operations also generate more than 70 direct person years of employment and nearly \$5 million in direct wages each year.

About Pacific Heliport Services Ltd.

Pacific Heliport Services Ltd. is Canada's largest private Transport Canada-certified heliport manager/operator. In addition to operating the Vancouver Harbour Heliport, PHS also manages and operates the Victoria Harbour Heliport and the Nanaimo Harbour Heliport.

About Helijet International Inc.

Helijet International is a Canadian-owned company and the world's largest scheduled helicopter airline carrying well over 2.4 million passengers in the past 33 years. In addition to its scheduled helicopter services, Helijet is the major service provider of dedicated medically equipped helicopters to BC Emergency Health Services. Helijet also provides exclusive use helicopters and business turbojet services to world renowned Sport Fishing Resorts, public service and energy companies throughout the West Coast of British Columbia and Pacific North West. Online at www.helijet.com. Twitter: [@Helijet](https://twitter.com/Helijet).

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