



## **Resolution Number 2**

### **Northern Air Carrier Economic Issues**

Whereas Northern Air Carriers are an integral component in the northern economy, accounting for a substantial proportion of territorial gross domestic product and of private sector territorial employment, and;

Whereas Northern Air Carriers provide essential services to remote northern communities, and;

Whereas Northern Air Carriers provide important investment and career opportunities for Aboriginal people, and;

Whereas all of the aforementioned attributes of Northern Air Carriers are consistent with the established mandates of public sector northern stakeholders including the Territorial Departments of Economic Development and Tourism, the Federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (AANDC), the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), and Transport Canada, and;

Whereas mainline air carrier interest in northern gateway routes, which is likely motivated primarily by a desire to capture or retain network feed traffic, is compromising the role of Northern Air Carriers and thus putting northern jobs, northern economic development, Aboriginal peoples' investments, Aboriginal peoples' career opportunities, and service to remote communities at risk, and;

Whereas, the Northern Air Services Study, recently completed on behalf of Transport Canada by Inter Vistas Consulting, apparently recognized many of the aforementioned considerations but did not recommend any policy or regulatory initiatives to recognize and support the role of Northern Air Carriers in the northern economy or in Canada's air transportation system, and;

Whereas Federal and Territorial travel represents a significant proportion of northern gateway route traffic and thus could be used effectively to support the established mandates of the aforementioned public sector northern stakeholders by providing Northern Air Carriers with valuable core gateway route traffic.

Therefore be it resolved that:

Transport Canada be encouraged to develop policy that recognizes and supports the role of Northern Air Carriers in the northern economy and in Canada's air transportation network; and

Transport Canada be encouraged to consider the development of regulation to support the foregoing should policy initiatives not achieve the intended results; and

Other Federal and Territorial Northern stakeholders, including Territorial Departments of Tourism and Economic Development, AANDC and CanNor be encouraged to develop travel and other policies that recognize and support the role of Northern Air Carriers in the northern economy.

Passed at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in Whitehorse, April 18, 2012