



MEDIA RELEASE

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### **TIANS Applauds Houston Government's Investment in Air Access**

May 6, 2022 - (Halifax, NS) The announcement today, to support air access into the region, will go a long way in the rebuilding of the Nova Scotia tourism economy. Funding totaling \$19 Million for Air Access and Infrastructure Upgrades, will be provided to Halifax Stanfield International Airport (\$13M) and J.A. Douglas McCurdy Sydney Airport (\$6.3M).

The routing decisions of airlines have a direct impact on visitation and the announcement today by the Province, will enable Nova Scotia airports to compete with destinations around the world vying to increase access.

As we begin the rebuild for both tourism and trade, the role of HIAA will be key in our success. Their ability to attract direct flights linking Nova Scotia to larger urban centers in North America Europe and beyond is crucial as we compete with global destinations vying for the same customer.

"HIAA boasts a world class International Airport that serves as a hub for Atlantic Canada. This is a strategic investment and we applaud Premier Houston for listening to the Nova Scotia tourism industry," says Wes Surrett, TIANS Chair. "TIANS has been advocating for increased support and flexibility for air access. This will have positive economic returns for the sector and the government with increase tax revenue through growth."

"The Nova Scotia tourism industry lost over \$3 Billion in revenue in 2020 and 2021," says Darlene Grant Fiander, TIANS President. "The announcement today will go a long way to helping us get back to pre-pandemic levels of annual revenue of \$2.6 Billion plus potential for significant growth in the coming years."

Working with partner associations and stakeholders, TIANS is committed to representing the best interests of the Industry; enhancing and supporting the development of a competitive business environment; advocating on issues critical to the Industry's success; and most importantly, leading Nova Scotia's most promising economic sector.

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