

340 - 100 Princess Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S2 Tel: 807-473-2600 Fax: 807-475-9627

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Passenger Volumes Hit All-Time High in 2016

The past year saw Thunder Bay Airport (YQT) volumes hit an all-time high by exceeding 800,000 passengers for the first time. In 2016, YQT hosted 807,041 passengers in total.

Thunder Bay International Airports Authority (TBIAA) will also start 2017 with record seat capacity offering very competitive pricing and connectivity.

"The new year begins with unprecedented seat capacity in the Thunder Bay market," according to the Airport Authority's President and Chief Executive Officer, Ed Schmidtke. "This competition provides travelers with more service and price options."

The Airport Authority also hopes to benefit from a growing trend of US residents choosing Thunder Bay as a gateway. Thunder Bay pricing to European destinations compares very favourably with US airports in Duluth and Minneapolis, often offering a saving of \$400USD to \$500 USD per person. Similar savings are also available on the winter charters destined to Cancun, Mexico and Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. "Our research has found several weeks this winter where an all-inclusive price to the same resort was \$500USD per person less expensive from Thunder Bay than from Minneapolis," according to Schmidtke.

## **About TBIAA**

TBIAA is the private non-shareholder corporation responsible for the operation of the Thunder Bay International Airport. TBIAA receives no government funding for the operation of the Airport. Economic activity related to the Airport is responsible for an estimated \$645 million dollars in GDP annually and over 5000 jobs.

Customers are encouraged to visit <a href="www.thunderbayairport.com">www.thunderbayairport.com</a> for more information on services and facilities offered by Thunder Bay International Airport.

For more information, contact:

Ed Schmidtke President & CEO Thunder Bay International Airports Authority 807.473.2600