

THE YMM CHECK-IN

Fort McMurray International Airport's Community Newsletter



Why Vancouver? Contest: WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

To celebrate Air Canada's new non-stop flights from Fort McMurray to Vancouver launching tomorrow, December 2, Air Canada and YMM ran a contest last month for the the chance to win non-stop flights for two to Vancouver!

And the winner is... Courtney Hicks! Congratulations, Courtney, you and a plus one are going to Vancouver!

About:

✈️ YMM-YVR non-stop service starts tomorrow, Dec. 2, 2025

- 📅 Fly non-stop Tues, Wed & Thurs
 - 📅 Flight time: just over 2.5 hours
-



YMM Photos with Santa

Thank you to everyone who has already purchased tickets for our holiday event in support of Santas Anonymous. We're down to our final six tickets (hurry, hurry, this newsletter goes out to almost 7,000 people!). If you'd like to join Santa, Mrs Claus, Buddy the Elf, and enjoy live local entertainment at a warm, festive afternoon at YMM, now's the time to grab yours.

Each ticket includes a printed and digital photo, with all proceeds supporting local families through Santas Anonymous.

[Purchase
Tickets](#)



YMM

PASSENGER of the month



YMM Passenger of the Month

Congratulations to our December YMM Passenger of the Month, Bryan Sim!

In his response to why he flies YMM - Bryan wrote, " Super convenient. Way better than driving to Edmonton." We couldn't agree more, Bryan.

Be sure to look for the QR code airside next time you travel through YMM to enter our Passenger of the Month contest!



Team YMM Spotlight on Minette Valdez

Minette Valdez, Accounting Coordinator, Fort McMurray Airport Authority, grew up in the Philippines and moved to Canada in 2016. Outside work she enjoys cooking and listening to audiobooks, which she says keep her grounded and creative.

What she values most at FMAA is the people. She describes the team as genuinely kind and always ready to help, something she felt from her very first day. That immediate sense of welcome remains her favourite memory and the reason she feels so connected to the organization.

Minette recently got engaged, adding a joyful milestone to an already meaningful year. Her calm, thoughtful presence and her appreciation for teamwork make her a standout colleague, and we're glad to celebrate her.

[Click for More Team YMM Spotlights](#)



2026 YMM Digital Art Exhibit

Thank you to our incredible judging panel — Lisa Smith, Dawn Booth, Rienna Davis, Emma Carter and Michelle Foran — for lending their time, expertise and creative insight to review this year's submissions for the YMM Digital Art Exhibit 2026.

Each year, this program brings local stories, perspectives and talent to life on our terminal's digital screens, and your thoughtful evaluation ensures we continue to showcase meaningful work that reflects the spirit of our community.

We look forward to announcing the selected artists in January during a community celebration where the artists will be unveiled and invited to share their process, inspiration and the stories behind their pieces.

Thank you again to our judges for helping us shape another remarkable year of art at YMM. Follow us FlyYMM on socials for the announcement of selected artists and community celebration!



On the YMM Runway

Team YMM has been busy sprinkling a little Christmas magic around the terminal, and it shows. The trees are lit, the garlands are up, and the whole place has that unmistakable holiday glow you only get when everyone pitches in with heart. Thank you to our amazing team for bringing the season to life and making YMM feel warm, cheerful and ready to welcome travellers and our community all month long.





YMM History Moment

This remarkable photo captures a glimpse of northern aviation in the 1930s. Standing proudly in front of their ski-equipped aircraft marked CF-AA, two early aviators prepare for takeoff on a frozen field surrounded by boreal forest.

During this era, Fort McMurray was emerging as an important stop for bush pilots connecting remote northern communities, delivering mail, supplies, and passengers long before roads reached the region.

The image is a timeless reminder of the courage and ingenuity that helped shape Fort McMurray's aviation heritage and the vital role these early flights played in building the North.

This image is sourced from the Fort McMurray Historical Society database. If you have a photo to share, please email us at info@flyymm.com.

YMM Terminal

Hours of Operation

Open Daily
4 a.m. to 12 a.m. (midnight)



End of the Runway - Airport Humour



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Fort McMurray Airport Authority is a community-based, non-share capital organization that owns & operates Fort McMurray International Airport (YMM). Please visit FlyYMM.com for more information.



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