

# Maritime Travel Business Travel Management



Platinum member



## News Flash

December 16, 2020



### AIR CANADA

**Air Canada Becomes First Canadian Airline to Offer Optional Biometric Boarding for Flights Departing the US to Canada:** Air Canada said today it is the first Canadian airline to offer its customers the safety and convenience of a new boarding option utilizing facial biometrics. The technology is now available for customers departing San Francisco International Airport (SFO) with plans to progressively roll it out for customers at other US airports where the airline operates.



**St. John's-Based PAL Airlines Expands At YQM Following AC Pullout:** St. John's-based PAL airlines is adding new routes from Moncton to two different areas of Newfoundland and Labrador. As of the first week of January, the airline will begin flying from Moncton to Deer Lake and from Moncton to Wabush in Labrador.

**FlyGTA Suspends Flights Until Spring 2021:** The City of Kingston has announced that the final FlyGTA flight of the year has landed at the Kingston Airport. According to a release from the City, the final FlyGTA flight of 2020 landed in Kingston on Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020. However, the partnership

between the City and the Toronto-based air carrier will continue in 2021.



**United & Delta Follow American & Alaska's Lead By Ditching Change Fee On International Flights:** United Airlines and Delta Air Lines are joining American and Alaska in permanently eliminating costly change fees on international flights. The new policies, announced Wednesday, will be a boon for travelers who need to change their plans after airlines' flexible pandemic travel waivers go away – traditional change fees on international tickets were as high as \$500 per person on some routes.



**Canada-U.S. border closure extended to Jan. 21:** Shortly after, Public Safety Minister Bill Blair said in a tweet the country's "decisions will continue to be based on the best public health advice available to keep Canadians safe."

Please provide us with your feedback at [btm@maritimetravel.ca](mailto:btm@maritimetravel.ca).



**Happy Holidays & Office Hours:** On behalf of the Maritime Travel team, we want to wish you Happy Holidays! We thank you for all your support over this challenging year and look forward to a fantastic 2021. Kindly note that the Corporate Branches will be closing 12PM on December 24 and December 31. Our offices will be closed December 25 and January 01. Please direct all travel requests to [afterhours@maritimetravel.ca](mailto:afterhours@maritimetravel.ca) or call us at 1-844-423-9133.



**Maritime Travel – TravelSmart: COVID-19 Health and Safety Resource Center:** Maritime Travel has compiled a one-stop resource for travel managers and travellers, offering accurate and up-to-date information on policies pertaining to all forms of travel. This online portal will consist of categories such as:

- [General Information \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Government Regulations](#)
- [Air Travel Regulations](#)
- [Hotel Updates](#)
- [Car & Ground Transportation](#)