

GIPA

GRANDE PRAIRIE AIRPORT



Annual Report

2022



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Mission Statement

*To be the Peace Country's
connection to the world!*



Vision Statement

*A model airport for Canada's
smaller cities dedicated to
exemplary customer service.*

Message from the Chair of the Board

This year the GPAC saw recovery from the COVID. Passenger numbers were up and approaching pre COVID numbers. Consequently, there has been an increase in the number of flights. Unfortunately though, the number of flights to and from Edmonton continues to be a concern area. This year saw the planning of a new 20 year plan for the development of the airport start.



The Commission received information and a presentation from industry experts. This included the state of the industry in Canada, a forecast of things to come and how Grande Prairie airport fits in.

The consultants then undertook stakeholder interviews. From the stakeholder interviews and input a draft report was produced.

This draft was presented to the Commission and members of city council.

A pro forma budget is expected in the very near future. Once this is received the plan will again be reviewed by the Commission and the stage set for the development of the Grande Prairie Airport.

J. Fletcher Bootle

Chair, Grande Prairie Airport Commission

Message from the Chief Executive Officer



The highlights of 2022 for the Grande Prairie Airport centered around the experience of guiding our business into recovery from the effects of two years of devastation to the aviation industry by a global pandemic.

Slowly the return of air services and passenger volumes brought us to a level of 52% in comparison to our 2019 activity. Third quarter 2022 gained the most with highs of 72% month over month. Flight options increased over the year to 15 per day with load factors over 80%. We anticipate additional flights in 2023 to achieve the 2019 level of 21 per day.

With additional traffic comes improved revenues and we are pleased with our financial position at year end which cut our 2022 budget deficit by over 85%. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of our staff in 2022 to meet rising passenger and service demand with minimal human and financial resources. Even more impressive were the actions above and beyond their regular duties in recognizing the tremendous service struggles of our air carriers and passengers during the summer and Christmas holiday periods. From opening early to staying late for the comfort and safety of customers, to voluntarily assisting ground crews with handling luggage to reduce wait times and frustration for travelers, the team at GPA did everything possible to make the travel experience a little better.

Thank you to each and every staff member for your pride and dedication. We are in good hands for continued success in 2023!

Brian Grant
CEO, Grande Prairie Airport

Annual Statistics

2022 saw continued recovery towards 2019 pre COVID passenger traffic.

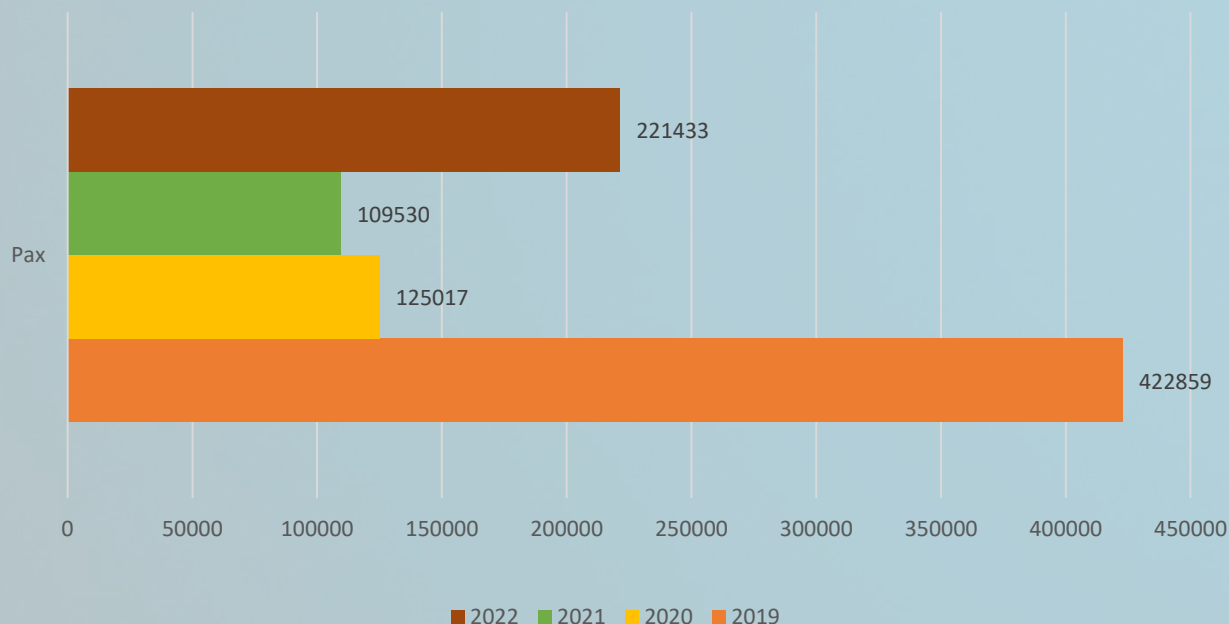
Overall 2022 passenger numbers increased to 221,433 people and were at 52% compared to 2019.

However, Q3 and Q4 2022 passenger traffic was 63% of 2019 with a high of 72% in October.

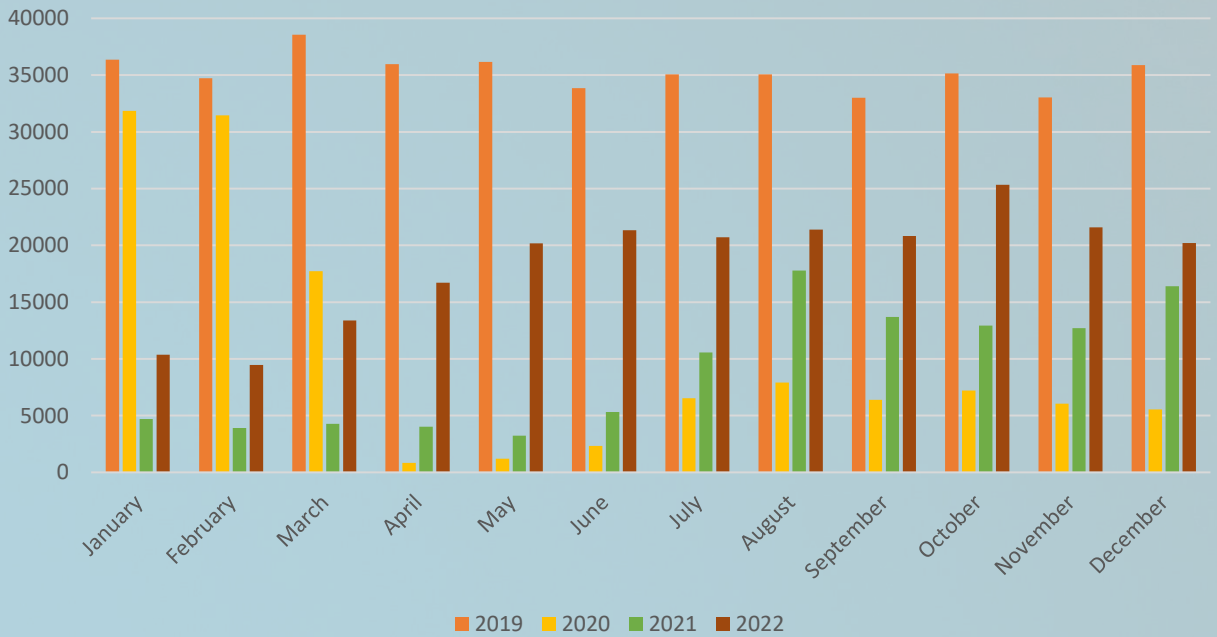
Daily passenger traffic continues to trend upwards despite a difficult December. This paints a positive picture for 2023.



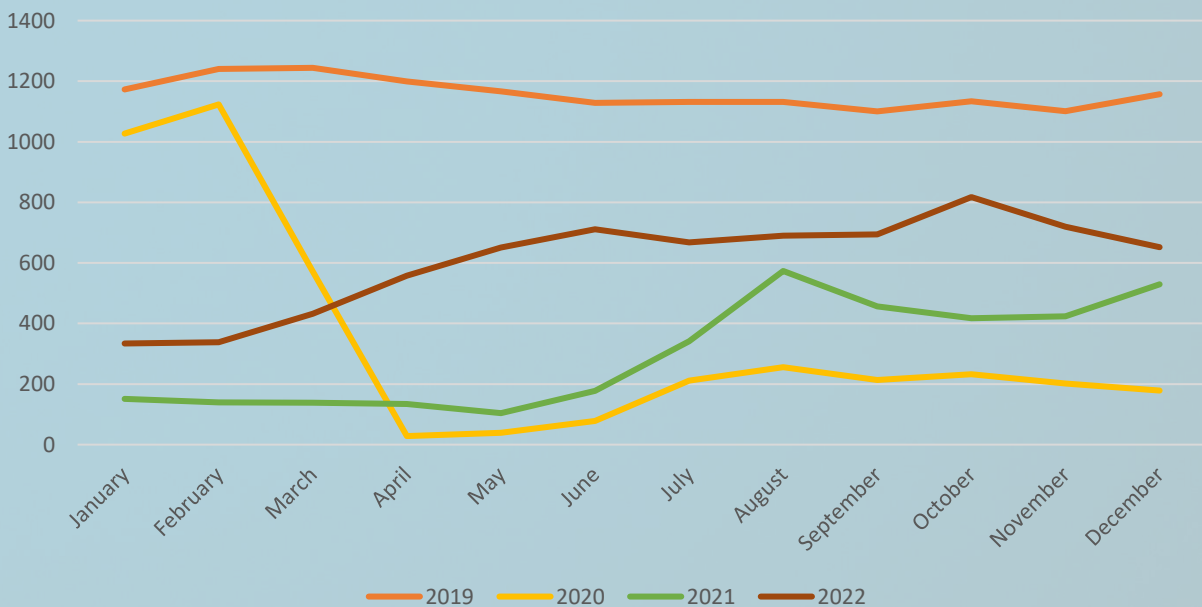
Annual Passenger Movements



Total Passengers by Month



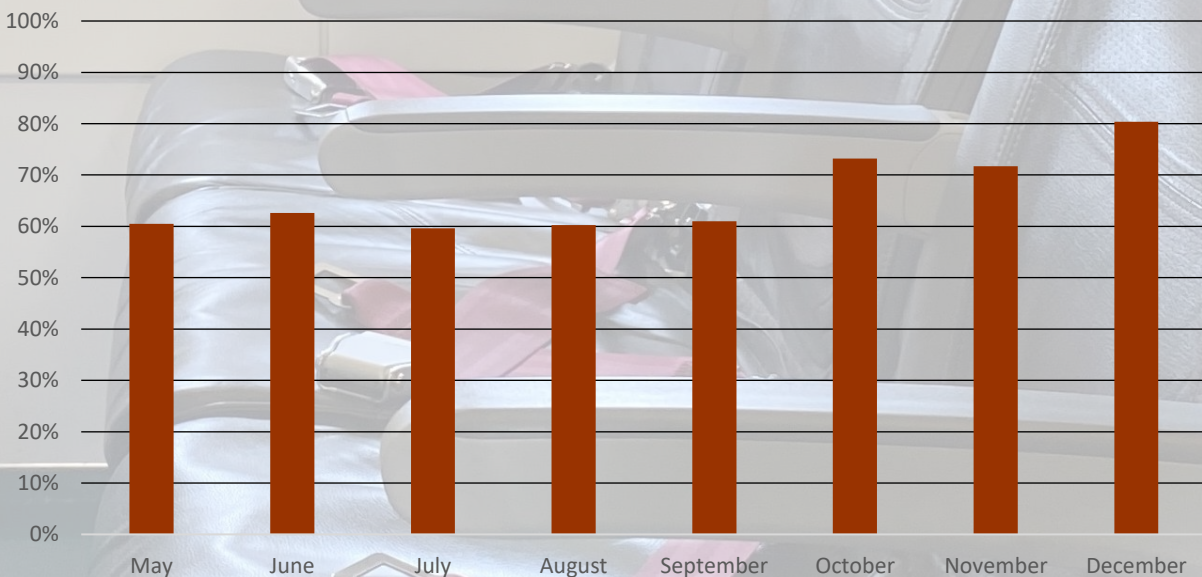
Average Daily Passengers per Month



Seat Inventory & Load Factor

Increased flight numbers in 2022 were the trend following COVID with an approximate average of 15 flights weekly at the peak of the year. However, this still falls short of the 21 flights weekly seen in 2019. Importantly, the seats that were available were in use with load factors increasing steadily during Q3 and Q4 of 2022 culminating in a height of 80% load factor during the month of December.

2022 Average Monthly Load Factor



Capital Projects

The Grande Prairie Airport was fortunate to obtain funding through the Airport Capital Assistance Program (ACAP) again in 2022. The ACAP funding amount is based on passenger movements and GPA was eligible for 50% funding for the purchase of a motor grader, runway sweeper and a truck & plow, which resulted in the receipt of \$564,740 in funding.

An Overaasen RS400 runway sweeper unit was purchased for additional support for winter operations. ACAP funding for this equipment was \$359,740. This high-speed unit was the first of its kind to be delivered to a regional airport of our size. Built in Norway, this unit consists of a cab over single axel Mercedes truck, a 28' plow and a 5th wheel style towed behind runway sweeper that's capable of sweeping 20' width in a single pass.

This unit can clear an area of 357,500 m² every hour and is capable of handling winters toughest conditions.



A new John Deere 770G grader was purchased for lifecycle management. ACAP funding for this equipment was \$205,000. This is a very important piece of equipment in our fleet. It allows us to clear roads and parking lots on airport property and aids in airfield operations with keeping airfield lights and signage clear of snow. This unit was also purchased with a snow wing which allows us to slope snow banks on the airfield to meet Transport Canada regulations during winter months.



A new Case SV340B skid steer was purchased for lifecycle management. This unit is a key piece of equipment mostly used in the long-term parking lot removing snow and ice from parking stalls. A versatile machine with numerous attachments which are used for summer and winter operations around the airport.



Two concrete panels were replaced on our existing apron 1. It was identified that these panels were deteriorating and needed replacing. These panels are 20' x 20' and are 18" thick to support aircraft when taxiing on the apron.

Our existing storage compound fence was completely replaced. We increased its footprint to include the maintenance facility in its entirety. In doing so, a portion of an existing public roadway was closed off to improve safety for staff and reduce interactions with the public when equipment is moving around the facility.



A new sidewalk was poured in front of the terminal in the summer of 2022. The original 1979 sidewalk had started to break down at the seams and was beginning to pose a tripping hazard. The new installation has an expected life of 25 years and will improve the safety of our passengers.



A fresh coating of stucco was applied to the underside of the overhang along the front of the terminal building. The existing stucco was original to the building in 1979 and had begun to discolor and in some smaller areas fail.

A major undertaking in 2022 was the installation of over 250 LED pot lights throughout the terminal building. Completed completely in house this large project updated the look of our facility while reducing our environmental footprint.



Inside the hold room, upgrades to two washroom doors allowing them to open at the push of a button will improve the passenger experience for those with mobility restrictions. These openers are illuminated to display green when the washroom is free and red when the washroom is in use allowing for uninterrupted usage.

Revenue & Expenditure Highlights

Grande Prairie Airport's 2022 revenues demonstrate that GPA is on the road to recovery with year end revenues being 76% of pre-COVID numbers. Increased flights and passenger traffic, propelled parking revenues to increase 107% over 2021 and restaurant/kiosk revenue to increase 190%. The growth in passenger numbers also resulted in a 103% increase in Airport Improvement Fee revenue.

Our financial position at year end cut our 2022 budget deficit by over 85%.

