



Airport Lighting Upgrade

On March 17, 2016 the Town of Slave Lake was approved for a grant of \$347,850 through the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) program under the Intermunicipal Collaboration component in support of the Airport Lighting Project. The total project budget was approved at \$439,200 with an estimated completed cost of under \$415,000. The additional funds required over and above the grant will come from Airport Capital Reserves

The project was awarded to Integrated Airport Systems Ltd from St. Albert. As the engineers they designed and oversaw the project with local electricians Olsen Electric carrying out the installation.

According to our engineers the Slave Lake Airport was the first airport in North America to be on a **100% LED medium intensity system** and the first airport in Canada to follow the new TP 312 5th Edition standards which were made effective September 15, 2015. The project included:

- New PAPI's (Precision Approach Path Indicator) to replace the outdated VASIS (Visual Approach Slope Indicator System).
- New Taxiway Lights
- New Runway Lights – including threshold, displaced and wing bar lights. To meet the new standard the runway lights are split lens on the first thirds from each threshold with yellow lens on back side. As the pilot is taking off and is reaching the last third of the runway the lights will change from white to yellow indicating the end of runway is approaching.
- New Hold Signs plus the addition of a second sign at each hold line – TP 312 5th Edition standard
- Extension of Airport Beacon
- New ARCAL – which was also mounted at the top of beacon tower for better range
- Reduction of transformers from 4 to 1
- New Apron Flood Lights
- New natural gas generator with a 30 second auto switch in the event of a power failure
- New connections at every light – no cables were replaced.
- Removal of all old components and cables that were no longer required

The upgrade began early September 2016 and was completed mid-November 2016 with some landscaping remaining for 2017. During the upgrade the runway and lights remained serviceable with only the VASIS/PAPI being unserviceable for a short time period. Feedback from pilots has been very positive – a comment was made “that there is no mistaking were the airport is” as the lights are very crisp and bright. The airport is anticipating a reduction in operating costs as the system is highly efficient.