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New Governance Structure Approved for Sarnia Chris Hadfield Airport

Sarnia, Ontario: The consulting firm Explorer Solutions (a division of The Loomex Group Ltd.) recently completed an airport governance study for Sarnia Chris Hadfield Airport. The results of the study recommend changing the airport's governance structure to a municipal services corporation. <u>As reported by The Observer on June 23, 2025</u>, Sarnia city council has voted in favour of this change.

Currently, Sarnia Chris Hadfield Airport is owned by the City of Sarnia, and it is operated by Scottsdale Aviation. This arrangement is formalized by the terms of a headlease agreement that is set to end in 2027. While the agreement is still in effect, Sarnia will establish the municipal services corporation.

The municipal services corporation will include a chief executive and a city-appointed board of directors to oversee airport operations, but Sarnia will continue to own the airport. Trent Gervais, the president and CEO of Explorer Solutions, advised the city's council, "I think that if you sit and wait for business to come to you, it won't come. We need to dig deep and find it."

With the change in the airport's governance model approved, Explorer Solutions will continue to work with Sarnia to develop an implementation plan. The details of the plan are expected to be delivered this August.

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