

Dear Senator Murkowski

It was with great pleasure that I and other Yukoners witnessed your recent visit to the Yukon to discuss future shared developments. I was pleased to witness your aircraft here again a week ago, and I am glad to see you make frequent use of our airport. The Whitehorse airport is the front line contact with most visitors to our Territory.

Two recent life threatening emergency situations here in the Yukon illustrate the need for you to build a facility on the Whitehorse airport to house US aircraft;

In the first instance, Canadian climbers on Mount Logan found their life in peril and required rescue. American helicopters supported by heavy transport were able to intervene on Canadian territory and provide the life-saving medical attention needed. The climbers then wisely chose to be evacuated from Canada to Anchorage for treatment and recovery. We thank you sincerely.

In the second instance this summer, a Canadian pilot and his wife crashed on a remote airstrip in Northern Yukon. They waited in the wreckage for six hours until an Alaskan airplane and pilot, summoned by the Canadian Armed Forces in Comox British Columbia, arrived to affect a rescue. Once again the life-saving assistance of you, our American neighbors to the West were instrumental in saving Canadian lives.

I and other Canadian pilots would take the liberty of inviting you to come and construct what ever facilities you need to continue to provide such vital services. I am sure you could recover much of the cost by renting secure overnight storage to the Canadian government aircraft that appear here now and then, and for which there is no hanger space.

If any space is available I would be interested in renting a small corner on an annual basis for my private home built aircraft. This might further defer any costs to the American public.

Sincerely

J George Balmer
(A Canadian Flying Taxpayer)