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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS WELCOMES THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RETURN OF AIR CANADA'S NON-STOP SERVICE FROM TORONTO, CANADA TO PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts is excited to welcome the return of Air Canada's non-stop service between Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ), Canada and Piarco International Airport (POS), Trinidad. The four-times-weekly flights, year-round, commencing on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 will further enhance connectivity and economy of travel between Canada and Trinidad and Tobago, providing travellers with greater access to this vibrant Caribbean destination.

This restored air link, since the pandemic, is a significant milestone for Trinidad and Tobago's trade and tourism sectors, marking an important step in the recovery and growth of international travel. The addition of more frequent flights to and from Toronto will not only encourage more Canadian visitors to experience the unique culture, attractions, and natural beauty of Trinidad and Tobago, but will also support business and investment opportunities between the two nations.

Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell, expressed enthusiasm about the development, saying, "Today's announcement marks a significant moment for travel and for the people of Trinidad and Tobago as we celebrate the return of Air Canada's direct service from Toronto following the cessation due to the pandemic. This flight will again bring the world, and in particular our diaspora closer to us, facilitating tourism, trade, and the exchange of culture between Canada and our beautiful islands. We are confident that this enhanced connectivity will drive new opportunities for our hospitality industry and other sectors, as well as encourage Canadians to visit and explore the rich heritage, diverse landscapes, and warm hospitality that our nation is known for."

The return of the Air Canada service to Trinidad and Tobago is expected to have a positive impact on several key areas, including, tourism growth and increased visitors, easier travel for business and trade, and cultural exchange.

Air Canada's four-times-weekly flights will operate on Boeing's 737 Max 8 with 169 seats, offering a range of services to ensure a comfortable and seamless travel experience for all passengers. This route will provide valuable access for travellers looking to enjoy the diverse cultural offerings, eco-tourism, and dynamic attractions for which Trinidad and Tobago is recognised.

"We met with Air Canada in several "Routes Americas" event, and at that time there was some uncertainty of the timing of their return. So, today we are very excited about this news. The airline will provide the vital air link, and we look forward to welcoming visitors from the Canadian market back to Trinidad and Tobago with open arms. We encourage both leisure, VFR, and business travellers to take advantage of this direct connection to discover all that our islands have to offer." added Minister Mitchell.

## Flight Schedule

Air Canada will operate the following schedule between Toronto Pearson (YYZ) and Port of Spain (POS):

- Flight AC 984 Toronto to Port of Spain Mondays, Thursdays, Friday and Sundays at 20:00; and
- Flight AC 985 Port of Spain to Toronto Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 02:35.

For more information on flight schedules, bookings, and travel information, please visit aircanada.com.



Photo above: Boeing 737 Max 8

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