

# Shoal Lake Regional Airport

*planning now to serve the region for the next 20 years*



## Services and Uses Provided

- Tourism
- Crop spraying
- Provincial air ambulance
- Pilot training
- Recreation
- Serving the livestock industry
- Access to farm machinery dealerships
- Access to hunting and fishing outfitters
- Aerial photography
- Aircraft charter
- Policing
- Civilian search and rescue
- Fuel and oil for land and sea planes
- Natural Resources
- Transportation

## Strengths

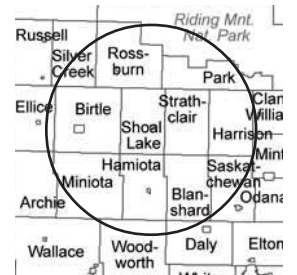
- Strong Flying Club
- Established flight school
- Active airport
- Open year round, day and night
- Debt free
- Lake a published sea plane base
- Strong agri-businesses
- Emergency Medical Services Centre
- Access to three major highways
- Room for expansion
- Strong community/regional support
- Local government involved and supportive
- Environment Canada weather station
- Well located relative to other airports
- Several medical centres in the region
- Lots of volunteerism
- Many recreational opportunities nearby

## Weaknesses

- Accommodation for visitors
- Present runway needs resurfacing
- Runway length limits some aircraft
- Difficulty finding funding for capital improvement projects
- Lack of crosswind runway
- No on-site transportation from airport to other places in the region
- Perception that aviation is a 'rich person's' hobby
- No on-site maintenance, but there are good shops outside the area

## Shoal Lake Regional Airport is a shared asset in our region.

*There are many examples of shared assets in this region, the Strathclair Bend Theatre and its programs, the Hamiota Dental Clinic, the many lakes – Rossman Lake, Patterson Lake, Seech Lake, Hooper's Lake, and many more. Like the other examples, Shoal Lake Regional Airport provides services and benefits to people and businesses in a fairly wide area. Our planning has identified some of these services, check out the list. We are gradually developing a vision for what the Airport could be like in 20 years. Realistic planning requires assessment of strengths to build on, weaknesses to minimize, opportunities that will/may be developed, and threats to be recognized. Developing concrete plans is the next step.*



## Opportunities

- Work with community development organizations in the area
- Work with tourism organizations and providers in the area
- Businesses could work together to attract/provide services that benefit all
- Develop an instrument approach so airport is usable in poorer weather
- Promote use for recreation and tourism in area
- Expand flight training operation
- Better promotion, information and communication
- Businesses at the airport, eg. hangar rental, shop space, etc.
- Find non-traditional capital improvement funding sources

## Threats

- Declining population in the region
- Communication with people in the region
- Aging Flying Club membership
- Fuel cost and availability
- Deterioration of runway
- Support within the region
- Wind farms and towers
- Rising government debt
- Government regulation

## Our Vision for 2032

- Well maintained runway of adequate length with a second crosswind grass runway
- Regular float plane activity on Shoal Lake, with both itinerate and local traffic
- Fuel system with fuel truck for deliveries
- Private and commercial hangars and aircraft
- On-site businesses operating
- Aerial application by fixed wing and helicopters
- Flight training with students from a wide area and other countries
- Air services for strong medical facilities in the area
- Strong youth involvement
- An Air Park with homes on site
- Freight services including delivery of ag parts and products
- Oil businesses in the area serviced by the airport
- New recreation opportunities like skydiving and soaring
- Reserve funding in place for improvements and expansion

**We are looking for your input into the plan being developed for the next 20 years; the plan will be much better with input from the entire region served by the Airport.**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A PLANNING MEETING ON**

**Thursday, April 21**

**7:00 p.m. • Shoal Lake Curling Club**

