

Wasaya Airways acknowledges Canadian Transportation Safety Board Finding

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Thunder Bay, ON - Wasaya Airways LP received and acknowledged the findings of the Canadian Transportation Safety Board (TSB) related to the loss of Wasaya flight 127 on December 15, 2015. "First and most importantly, we recognize and respect the privacy of the family of Captain Nick Little. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the family as they grieve their loss," said Michael Rodyniuk, President and Chief Executive Officer of Wasaya Airways LP.

Aviation is inherently dangerous and in Wasaya's operating environment, safety must be the priority, always. At Wasaya Airways, Safety is the company's priority. The loss of Captain Little and flight 127 on December 15th, 2015 cannot be undone; however, we can learn from the event and take every precaution to make certain it never happens again.

Toward that end, Wasaya has enhanced and implemented safety procedures based on the TSB findings. Changes to Wasaya's flight operations department, aircraft loading and maintenance procedures have been made. Minimum conditions for Wasaya flights operating in Visual Flight Rules (VFR) conditions have been increased well beyond the minimum required under Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs). Enhanced cold weather and icing training for Wasaya Flight Crews has been implemented. Wasaya continues to advocate for safer operating conditions in the north and is working with Transport Canada to bring about positive improvements to navigation aids and infrastructure.

"The steps we are, and have taken will enhance the safety of our operation and throughout our region," Rodyniuk said. "We thank the TSB for their diligent work. We cannot bring Captain Little back; however, the learnings from the loss of Wasaya 127 will enhance aviation safety."

Wasaya Airways is proud to be a 100% First Nations owned airline and the leading provider of quality air transportation services to more than 25 communities throughout Ontario & Manitoba.

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Wasaya Group Inc., the parent company of Wasaya Airways LP, is 100% First Nations owned by 12 First Nations: Bearskin Lake; Fort Severn; Kasabonika Lake; Keewaywin; Kingfisher Lake; Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug; Muskrat Dam; Nibinamik; Pikangikum; Sandy Lake; Wapekeka; and Wunnumin Lake. Wasaya serves 25 destinations in Northwestern Ontario with 60 daily flights and employs 350+ employees, of which over one third are First Nation.