

Toronto Pearson unveils Healthy Airport program featuring innovative tech partnership

By **Mary Jane Pittilla** on June, 23 2020 | Airlines & Airports



Toronto Pearson Airport's five-point Healthy Airport commitment includes autonomous floor cleaning machines

Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA), which operates Toronto Pearson, has launched its Healthy Airport program that outlines the steps the airport and its partners are taking to be ready for air travel.

GTAA also announced a strategic partnership with BlueDot, a leader in data analytics and technologies to predict and monitor infectious disease risks.

Toronto Pearson's Healthy Airport commitment and health measures are aligned with the global aviation measures established by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Air Transport Association (IATA), and Transport Canada's framework for addressing COVID-19 and the recovery of the aviation sector.

Said Deborah Flint, President and CEO of the GTAA: "As government restrictions on air travel begin to be lifted and flights increase, Toronto Pearson is ready, and we are intent on exceeding international standards. Everyone who works at Toronto Pearson is dedicated to playing a leadership role in fulfilling the health protection measures and adapting quickly to changes and future standards. We are dedicated each day to providing the pathway for Canadians who are dreaming of the day they can travel again."

Restrictions easing

Passengers will experience the airport's five-point Healthy Airport commitment, which includes the highest standards for cleaning and hygiene, clear communications and the introduction of innovative technology advancements, including touchless check-in, a disinfection corridor for airport workers, facility monitoring for congestion, autonomous floor cleaning machines and air quality monitors.

Additionally, the GTAA has partnered with BlueDot to monitor and manage risk from COVID-19 and other infectious diseases using the Canadian technology company's insights platform.

In addition to measures introduced by the GTAA on June 1 – mandatory masks, limited access to airport facilities, continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene and increased signage for physical distancing – the Healthy Airport announcement includes the following commitment to passengers and airport workers:

- Making passenger and employee health its top priority.
- Working with its partners to set strong, consistent standards for passenger and airport worker health.
- Deploying multi-layered tools and adjusting quickly to changes and intelligence.
- Ensuring its approach is best in class and aligned with international aviation standards.
- Exploring all innovative and technologically advanced solutions for ensuring the safety of passengers and employees.

Many of the 400-plus organizations operating out of Toronto Pearson – including air carriers and transit agencies – are implementing health and cleaning measures, and are working with the GTAA to ensure their employees comply with the airport's new commitment, as well as with requirements established by federal, provincial and municipal health authorities.

In addition to conducting airport-wide workforce education sessions, the GTAA has worked with public health officials and airport employers to develop a voluntary COVID-19 case log.

The GTAA is working with Wipro, a global technology leader, to conduct a pilot of wearable tracing and physical distancing technology for airport workers.

As regional and national rules and restrictions ease in the coming weeks and months, Toronto Pearson employers will continue to work with the Canadian government to assess risk and to encourage a logical and reasonable return of domestic and international travels, the GTAA said.