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Contact: Jeff Lea 314-793-4240 jeff.lea@mspmac.org

WestJet Airlines to Launch Service from MSP this Summer MSP's Newest Airline to Fly to Edmonton in Western Canada



MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL– WestJet announced it will launch its first-ever service from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP). Starting this June, the Calgary, Canada-based airline will operate multiple weekly flights between MSP and Edmonton, Alberta (YEG).

WestJet will become the 16th airline operating at MSP in 2023.

"We're thrilled to welcome WestJet to Minnesota and are pleased to add an important business route to Edmonton from MSP," said Brian Ryks, CEO of the Metropolitan Airports Commission, which owns and operates MSP. "WestJet's arrival also opens up new connections for travelers across Western Canada and the United States leveraging their codeshare with Delta Air Lines, MSP's largest carrier."

Launched in 1996, WestJet is the second largest Canadian air carrier, flying to 110 destinations in 24 countries. It has a fleet of 180 aircraft, operating primarily Boeing Next Generation 737s (700/800) and the 737 Max aircraft.

"We are delighted to be introducing our new service connecting Edmonton with Minneapolis," said John Weatherill, WestJet chief commercial officer. "As WestJet continues to strengthen our U.S. network offerings, we look forward to providing our guests on both side of the border with convenient and affordable options for their business and leisure travel needs."

WestJet will fly to Edmonton five times per week, beginning June 2. Booking is currently open through October. WestJet will be the only airline serving this destination from MSP, which will support important business connections to Canada, Minnesota's top export market.

"Our \$18 billion trading relationship supports hundreds of thousands of Minnesota jobs, especially in key sectors like agriculture and energy," said Ariel Delouya, Canada's Consul General in Minneapolis. "The new service to Edmonton will make travel easier and faster between Minnesota, the broader Midwest, and all of Western Canada, strengthening partnerships and opening new opportunities between people, communities and businesses."

With the addition of Edmonton, MSP airlines will operate non-stop service to a total of six Canadian destinations. Airlines are scheduled to serve a total of 154 destinations (127 domestic and 27 international destinations) from MSP this year.

Additional Media Contact:

WestJet Media Relations <u>media@westjet.com</u> <u>WestJet Media Newsroom</u>

The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) owns and operates one of the nation's largest airport systems, including <u>Minneapolis-St Paul International (MSP)</u> and six general aviation airports. The MAC's airports connect the region to the world and showcase Minnesota's extraordinary culture to millions of passengers from around the globe who arrive or depart through MAC airports each year. Though a public corporation of the state of Minnesota, the organization is not funded by income or property taxes. Instead, the MAC's operations are funded by rents and fees generated by users of its airports. For more information, visit <u>www.metroairports.org.</u>