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UNWTO and Italy Look Ahead as Official Visit Marks Restart of European Tourism

Under the leadership of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is on its first official visit to a Member State since restrictions on travel were introduced in response to COVID-19. The four-day trip to Italy (1-5 July) comes as the United Nations specialized agency for tourism guides the sector's restart and destinations across the Schengen Zone open their borders to tourists once again. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, UNWTO has led tourism's response through a series of high-level virtual meetings, uniting the sector, advocating for political and economic support and working with Member States to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and lay the foundations for recovery. Now, as borders in some parts of the world are carefully re-opening back to tourism, UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili is meeting face-to-face with political and tourism leaders to change gears. The official visit to Italy marks the start of this shift, comprising a series of high-level meetings in Rome, Milan and Venice. Italy "world tourism leader" Secretary-General Pololikashvili said: "Italy is a world tourism leader, a strong ally of UNWTO and committed to making tourism a pillar of sustainable economic development. We must build on the determination and solidarity that characterized our joint response to the crisis to grow back stronger and better with sustainability and innovation among our most important guiding principles." In Rome, Mr Pololikashvili held meetings at the highest levels of government. To further strengthen



the bilateral collaboration on the road ahead to reactivate tourism and its economic and social benefits, was the connecting thread of the meetings held with Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, Ministers of Culture, Cultural Heritage and Tourism, Dario Franceschini and of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio, and the city's Mayor Virginia Elena Raggi. The UNWTO delegation also met with Cardinal Parolin of the Vatican City, building on last year's audience with Pope Francis. In Milan, the Secretary-General met with Mayor Giuseppe Sala – advancing the 2nd UNWTO Sports Tourism Start-Up Competition as the city prepares for the 2026 Winter Olympics - and with the President Attilio Fontana of the Lombardy region. In addition to learning of Italy's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the official visit also offered the opportunity to look to the future and further UNWTO's priorities of making tourism more sustainable, resilient and innovative. On the opening day of

the trip, Rome Fiumicino Airport was presented with a special plaque as UNWTO recognized its commitment to sustainability. Furthermore, all three cities were formally invited to become part of the UNWTO League of Cities for Sustainable Tourism Initiative. New Special Ambassadors for Responsible Tourism Appointed The official visit also presented the opportunity for UNWTO to highlight the role of gastronomy and fashion, two of Italy's most celebrated industries, can play in growing tourism and making the sector more diverse and relevant. In recognition of their work, acclaimed chef Gino Sorbillo and fashion designer Giorgio Armani were appointed UNWTO Special Ambassadors for Responsible Tourism. In their new roles, they will use their status and influence to promote UNWTO's work in guiding tourism in these challenging times and highlight the sector's important role as an economic driver, leading employer and promoter of unique cultural heritage.



STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 1600 CEST (Geneva time)

WHO: access to HIV medicines severely by COVID-19 as AIDS response stalls

Countries seek innovative ways to mitigate the impact of disruptions and keep services going

Seventy-three countries have warned that they are at risk of stock-outs of antiretroviral (ARV) medicines as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new WHO survey conducted ahead of the International AIDS Society's biannual conference. Twenty-four countries reported having either a critically low stock of ARVs or disruptions in the supply of these life-saving medicines.

The survey follows a modelling exercise convened by WHO and UNAIDS in May which forecasted that a six-month disruption in access to ARVs could lead to a doubling in AIDS-related deaths in sub-Saharan Africa in 2020 alone.

In 2019, an estimated 8.3 million people were benefiting from ARVs in the 24 countries now experiencing supply shortages. This represents about one third (33%) of all people taking HIV treatment globally. While there is no cure for HIV, ARVs can control the virus and prevent onward sexual transmission to other people.

A failure of suppliers to deliver ARVs on time and a shut-down of land and air transport services, coupled with limited access to health services within countries as a result of the pandemic, were among the causes cited for the disruptions in the survey.

"The findings of this survey are deeply concerning," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

"Countries and their development partners must do all they can to ensure that people who need HIV treatment continue to access it. We cannot let the COVID-19 pandemic undo the hard-won gains in the global response to this disease.

Stalled progress

According to data released today from UNAIDS and WHO, new HIV infections fell by 39% between 2000 and 2019. HIV-related deaths fell by 51% over the same time period, and some 15 million lives were saved through the use of antiretroviral therapy.

However, progress towards global targets is stalling. Over the last two years, the annual number of new HIV infections has plateaued at 1.7 million and there was only a modest reduction in HIV-related death, from 730 000 in 2018 to 690 000 in 2019. Despite steady advances in scaling up treatment coverage – with more than 25 million people in need of ARVs receiving them in 2019 – key 2020 global targets will be missed. HIV prevention and testing services are not reaching the groups that need them most. Improved targeting of proven prevention and testing services will be critical to reinvigorate the global response to HIV.

WHO guidance and country action COVID-19 risks exacerbating the situation. WHO recently developed guidance for countries on how to safely maintain access to essential health services during the pandemic, including for all people living with or affected by HIV. The guidance encourages countries to limit disruptions in access to HIV treatment through "multi-month dispensing," a policy whereby medicines are prescribed for longer periods of time – up to six months. To date, 129 countries have adopted this policy. Countries are also mitigating the impact of the disruptions by working to maintain flights and supply chains, engaging communities in the delivery of HIV medicines, and working with manufacturers to overcome logistics challenges.

New opportunities to treat HIV in young children

At the IAS conference, WHO will highlight how global progress in reducing HIV-related deaths can be accelerated by stepping up support and services for populations disproportionately impacted by the epidemic, including young children. In 2019, there were an estimated 95 000 HIV-related deaths and 150 000 new infections among children. Only about half (53%) of children in need of antiretroviral therapy were receiving it. A lack of optimal medicines with suitable

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Mexico's Auto Industry Outlook 2020 - 2025

Learn how the industry will develop post COVID-19 and with the USMCA fully implemented

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AviationManuals Develops Maintenance Manuals for BizAv Flight Departments

AviationManuals, the leading provider of digital operations manuals, has launched a customized General Maintenance Manual developed specifically for Part 91 flight operations. The company's General Maintenance Manual (GMM) is delivered with ARCDocs software and iPad app, and addresses procedures for maintenance leadership and shop floor personnel. Several flight departments have already incorporated the new offering into their operations. "A GMM is another valuable resource business aviation flight departments should consider having to help reinforce procedures, best practices and to assure an adherence to consistent standards," said company CEO Mark Baier. "It helps flight departments from everything to staying on top of changing and complex operations, to helping with employee onboarding." The GMM covers Roles and responsibilities, Personnel policies, Inspection programs, MEL management, Functional flight checks, Airworthiness directives, Tool calibration, Inventory control, Training and safety programs



Customizable AviationManuals' General Maintenance Manual for Part 91 operators is customizable for a wide-range of flight department sizes and can incorporate requirements tailored to individual operators. Getting started is as easy as filling out a simple form. A GMM helps develop consistency among varying experience levels of maintenance professionals and provides procedures to help contract workers assimilate in an

organization. Topics covered include inspection, maintenance and work turnover procedures; MEL management and deferral procedures; safety programs; aircraft marshaling and towing; procedures to use an outside MRO or repair center; personnel policies for maintenance personnel; duty time limits; and integration into existing Safety Management Systems.

Clients Operate 4,500 Aircraft Around the World AviationManuals supports a

client base that operates over 4,500 aircraft worldwide, including over 60 Fortune 100 company flight departments. Based in the Washington, D.C. area, the company provides digital operations manuals with update services, as well as SMS software and iPad apps for fixed-wing, rotary-wing, drone operators, and FBOs worldwide. Founded in 1996, the company has produced thousands of manuals.

Products and services include SMS Software, Flight/Company/General Operations Manuals, International Operations/Procedures Manuals, Minimum Equipment Lists (MELs), Emergency Response Plans (ERPs), FBO Manuals and Internal Audit Programs, as well as Letters of Authorization (LOA) support for RVSM, Data Link (CPDLC / ADS-C), PBN (RNP-10 / -4, NAT HLA, B-/P-RNAV, and RNP-1), Enhanced Flight Vision Systems (EFVS), and EFBs.

AviationManuals is a member of the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA), International Business Aviation Council (IBAC), and the National Air Transportation



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pediatric formulations has been a longstanding barrier to improving health outcomes for children living with HIV. Last month, WHO welcomed a decision by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to approve a new 5mg formulation of dolutegravir (DTG) for infants and children older than 4 weeks and weighing more than 3 kg. This decision will ensure that all children have rapid access to an optimal drug that, to date, has only been available for adults, adolescents and older children. WHO is committed to fast-tracking the prequalification of DTG as a generic drug so that it can be used as soon as possible by countries to save lives.

"Through a collaboration of multiple partners, we are likely to see generic versions of dolutegravir for children by early 2021, allowing for a rapid reduction in the cost of this medicine," said Dr Meg Doherty, Director of the Department of Global HIV, Hepatitis and STI Programmes at WHO. "This will give us another new tool to reach children living with HIV and keep them alive and healthy." Tackling opportunistic infections

Many HIV-related deaths result from infections that take advantage of an individual's weakened immune system. These include bacterial infections, such as tuberculosis, viral infections like hepatitis and COVID-19, parasitic infections such as toxoplasmosis and fungal infections, including histoplasmosis.

Today, WHO is releasing new guidelines for the diagnosis and management of histoplasmosis, among people living with HIV.

Histoplasmosis is highly prevalent in the WHO Region of the Americas, where as many as 15 600 new cases and 4500 deaths are reported each year among people living with HIV. Many of these deaths could be prevented through timely diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

In recent years, the development of highly sensitive diagnostic tests has allowed for a rapid and accurate confirmation of histoplasmosis and earlier initiation of treatment. However, innovative diagnostics and optimal treatments for this disease are not yet widely available in resource-limited settings.



- ExecuJet MRO Services Middle East, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dassault Aviation, has received European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) approval to perform line and base maintenance on the Dassault Falcon 2000EX EASy models.

This additional approval complements the FAA Repair Station as well as various other authority approvals. The company's approvals include those for the Falcon 7/8X up to and including C Check, Falcon 900EX EASy up to and including C Check, Falcon 900C/EX up to and including 36 month inspection and the Falcon 2000EX EASy up to and including C Check – 72 Month / 3750FC.

Nick Weber, Regional Vice President, ExecuJet MRO Services Middle East, said: "We are delighted to extend our maintenance and support capabilities on the Falcon aircraft in the Middle East. ExecuJet is committed to providing class-leading customer service worldwide, so enhancing our service capabilities is paramount." The company's Middle East facility is based at Dubai International Airport with an additional line facility at Dubai's South Al Maktoum International Airport. In addition to a large range of aircraft types, the Dubai

ExecuJet MRO Services Middle East Receives EASA Approval To Include Further Dassault Falcon Models



facility is also approved by Rolls Royce, GE, Honeywell and Collins Aerospace.

About ExecuJet MRO Services

ExecuJet MRO Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of Dassault Aviation, has world class MRO facilities in Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe and the

Middle East, where major repair and refurbishment activities are conducted. All MRO operations performed within the global ExecuJet MRO Services network comply with the world's most stringent regulatory and safety requirements.

Specializing in airframe, avionics and engine maintenance; aircraft engineers are factory trained and

certified on a wide range of aircraft, including Dassault, Bombardier, Gulfstream, Embraer, Hawker, Cessna and various others.



Zeusch Aviation named a Continuing Airworthiness Management Organisation (CAMO)



Zeusch Aviation, the Netherlands-based aerial services provider, has taken the next major step in its quest to earn its Air Operator's Certificate (AOC). On 17 June 2020, it was named a Continuing Airworthiness Management Organisation (CAMO). Zeusch operates a King Air fleet which is used for broadcast relay services, aerial surveillance, medevac, transplant flights and aerial mapping. The first Zeusch aircraft to be managed under the CAMO is a King Air C90A, with preparations to add its Beechcraft B200 Super King Air in full swing. The remaining aircraft in the fleet, a second King Air C90A and a second Super King Air B200 will be migrated over within the next year.

As a CAMO, Zeusch Aviation now has responsibility for managing every element relating to the airworthiness of the aircraft, including handling maintenance schedules, and ensuring all required certificates are valid at all times of operation. To maintain safety standards and assure proper oversight, all maintenance is carried out by an external contracted maintenance company. "By taking airworthiness management in-house and establishing our own CAMO certificate, we are no longer

dependent on a third-party CAMO service for which we are not the sole customer. Now we can determine when and where the maintenance of the King Air C90A will be performed. Our customers will benefit by having greater access to our aircraft as we plan and manage our own maintenance schedules. As a CAMO we can also be assured of increased fleet availability and reliability," said Managing Director Herman van Kranenburg. Danny van Ieperen joins as in-house CAMO specialist. New hire Danny van Ieperen will manage the CAMO for Zeusch as an in-house specialist. He brings 19 years of aircraft maintenance expertise to the organisation. He began his career as a mechanic for Dutch airline Martinair, and he has worked as a ground engineer,

technical specialist, and duty maintenance controller with several Dutch aviation companies since.

Zeusch recently reached a major milestone by recording its first aircraft registration on The Netherlands registry. The Beechcraft B200 Super King Air – new registration PH-ZAZ – was outfitted to perform aerial mapping capabilities. All of these efforts support the company's objective of earning its Air Operator's Certificate (AOC). "We have the AOC in our sights and are focused on developing the necessary personnel, assets and safety management systems to reach this goal. Bringing Danny on board adds real value to the business, and these latest developments highlight that we're working diligently towards our goal," adds van Kranenburg.



Regional business aviation airports preparing themselves now for a post Covid-19 fightback will be a significant factor in restarting not only the economy but also the business aviation industry. This is the key message that Nick Weston, CEO of Weston Aviation is keen to point out as the UK joins the majority of Europe in starting to relax lock-down measures and easing travel restrictions. The lockdown experience has of course shown many that home and virtual working is viable and a good workable alternative to the traditional office and commuting practice and there are of course no doubt the environmental and infrastructure benefits that should be encouraged. However, business travel must and will continue and now, day by day restrictions on travel is easing. The demand for both business and leisure travel will be running ahead of the commercial airlines ability to restart routes and getting back to full service. This is where business aviation will show its full and real potential as a cost-effective business tool that helps to drive commerce and not just a preserve of the rich and famous.

Regional Business Aviation Key to A Post-Covid 19 Bounce Back.

Regional airports will also play a significant role in the rebuilding of business aviation and the economy. For many years, Weston Aviation has invested in FBO services and facilities at smaller regional airports where previously none existed. At all of the Weston Aviation owned and operated FBO locations, year on year growth has seen an increase in airport movements and revenues.

The simple reason for our success is that we don't see ourselves as an FBO, a charter brokerage, a fuel company or an airport tenant, we are a multi-resource company that works closely in partnership with our airport owners and management teams with one objective in mind, mutual growth. Traditionally, regional airport FBO's and airports themselves have failed to capture growth with a reactive approach accommodating aircraft movements day to day rather than a pro-active approach planned carefully around the potential of an airport and its capability to grow. The

message of how viable, efficient and cost-effective business aviation is, rarely leaves the airport perimeter fence to be spread to the local business community that could and would use it.

Regional connectivity will be the key to bouncing back post-Covid 19. As airlines may take up to two years to once again operate to their previous 2019 schedules, business aviation will not only facilitate flights for



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JET LINX PURCHASES MERIDIAN AIRCRAFT MANAGEMENT & AIR CHARTER

Becomes The Largest Private Jet Fleet Serving The New York Tri-State Metropolitan Area

Jet Linx, the leading private jet management and jet card membership company in the United States, continued its strategic expansion in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut tri-state region by acquiring Meridian's Aircraft Management and Air Charter business. Meridian is a full-service private aviation company headquartered at Teterboro Airport. While the terms of the transaction were not disclosed, the acquisition encompasses a fleet of 23 long range and short range private jet aircraft including Bombardier Global Express 6000 and 5000s, Gulfstream G550s, GVs, G450s, GIVSPs, Dassault Falcon 7Xs and 2000s, and Embraer Phenom 300s, among others. Upon closing the transaction, Jet Linx will become the largest private jet management and jet card membership company in the tri-state region and the second-largest aircraft management company in the United States with over 120 aircraft and 19 locations nationwide (FAA Part 135).

"This acquisition is a significant step in our strategic plan as we continue to enhance our fleet and flight operations serving the New York tri-state area and further develop the Company as the leader in private jet travel. It could also not be better timed as it follows the grand opening of our flagship private terminal at Teterboro Airport last September," said Jamie Walker, President & CEO of Jet Linx Aviation. "It is an honor to have purchased Meridian Aircraft Management and Air Charter, one of the most admired, respected and trusted operators in the private jet industry. Like Jet Linx, Meridian is a family-owned business, and it will be our commitment and our privilege to continue their legacy of excellence, safety and service. This exemplifies and underscores our unwavering commitment to provide the highest standards of excellence and the finest service experience not only to our clients in the New York tri-state area, but nationwide, as Teterboro is the busiest private aviation airport in the U.S."

With heritage that dates back to 1946 at Teterboro Airport, Meridian is a full-service Fixed Base Operator (FBO) renowned for its enduring reputation for providing the New York metropolitan area with private aircraft fueling, hangaring, maintenance, management and charter services. Meridian has earned numerous industry awards and accolades over the years for its FBO services. As the longest continuously operating private aviation services company in the New York metropolitan area, Meridian will continue operating its FBO and aircraft maintenance businesses at Teterboro Airport and Hayward Executive Airport in California.

"Jet Linx aligns perfectly with

Meridian's values, culture and commitment to safety, and we could not be happier to have partnered with Jet Linx to purchase our aircraft management and charter business," said Ken Forester, Owner & CEO of Meridian. "It was important for us to find the right company who would be able to take our existing aircraft management and charter business to the next level, and Jet Linx was the obvious choice. We are excited to continue supporting Jet Linx, and our former aircraft management and charter customers, through our FBO and aircraft maintenance businesses going forward."

Jet Linx has become the leading private jet management and Jet Card company in the United States due to its unique and innovative business model. The company offers a far more personalized approach to guaranteed private jet travel solutions through individual, city specific, local operations. Jet Linx is committed to the highest and most stringent safety standards in the private aviation industry, and to the managed, strategic and sustained growth in private jet aircraft, jet card members and locations across the country.

2019 was a year of unprecedented achievement for Jet Linx; it established six new private base terminal locations across the country, and forged two groundbreaking and unprecedented partnerships – one with Forbes Travel Guide and the other with Southwest Airlines and CAE. The collaboration with Forbes Travel Guide – the world renowned and only independent, global rating system for luxury hotels, restaurants and spas – made Jet Linx the "Official Private Aviation Company" of Forbes Travel Guide as well as the first and only company in private aviation to establish and implement Forbes Travel Guide's preeminent and unparalleled standards of service excellence. Jet Linx also collaborated with Forbes Travel Guide in the creation of customized, proprietary Jet Linx standards of service excellence for private aviation. Jet Linx joined forces with Southwest Airlines and CAE to create a groundbreaking pilot cadet program which provides a unique career pathway and lifecycle solution for pilots, facilitating entry into the aviation industry and providing opportunities for pilots to elevate and extend their careers. The company also acquired Elliott Aviation's Aircraft Management & Charter business in Minneapolis, and following the purchase of Meridian Aircraft Management and Air Charter, the Company intends to make additional acquisitions of other respected and established private jet management companies as an integral part of its growth strategy and continued expansion across the United States.

Gulfstream G450 joins Vertis Aviation portfolio to support demand from new customers

Vertis Aviation, the Switzerland-based bespoke charter specialist, announced today the addition of an elegantly styled Gulfstream G450 to its Vertis Charter Management Programme, VCMP. The aircraft has been added to support increased demand from an emerging new set of clients seeking safe and secure travel options as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The latest addition to the Vertis Aviation virtual roster is based in Basel and operated by a completely Swiss crew, bringing the famed national attention to detail to every flight. As international border restrictions ease Vertis anticipates significant demand for this high-quality aircraft for flights between Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the USA. It is immediately available for charter exclusively through any of the Vertis offices in Los Angeles, Dubai, Cape Town, and the headquarters in Zug. With a range of up to 4,350 nautical miles, the large jet's spacious 1525 cubic feet comfortably seats up to twelve passengers in an elegant and comfortable two zone cabin. The



rear cabin also converts to a private sleeping cabin for two. Inflight entertainment and communications are accessible through the on-board connectivity system enabling voice and text activity as well as app usage, internet surfing and video conferencing. A well-equipped front galley ensures the finest cuisine can be prepared on board. The neutral cool tones, contrasting rich veneers and stunning design deliver the perfect flying environment for corporate,

leisure or government travellers. "As customers return to the skies, it is imperative that we offer a strong, varied portfolio of aircraft which is why we are pleased to welcome this stunning aircraft to our portfolio," said Catherine Buchanan, Chief Operating Officer for Vertis Aviation. "We've noticed a surge in demand from travellers, both corporate and leisure upgrading from first and business class to executive aviation. They have been driven to charter aircraft

owing to reduced commercial routes and the safety benefits afforded by executive aviation. This interest is also stimulating our regular charter business as we continue to source aircraft from across the globe to satisfy these requests."

The addition of the Gulfstream G450 complements the current Vertis portfolio which now includes a Bombardier Global 5000, a Bombardier Global 6000, a Bombardier Challenger 350, a Dassault Falcon 900EX as well as an Embraer E145. "Our business model is unique in that we are able to transform our offering to meet market demand. As new aircraft owners enter the market we anticipate that we'll be adding more aircraft to our VCMP in the next six months." By offering exclusive outsourced charter sales management the Vertis Charter Management Programme is ideal for individual owners, small fleet operators, or aircraft management companies looking for innovative ways of generating asset revenue while bringing new charter opportunities to market.

Flying Colours Corp. completes 240-month Global Express heavy inspection and confirms more in the pipeline.

Flying Colours Corp., the North American MRO and completions business, has completed a 240 month inspection for a Bombardier Global Express aircraft. The intense check took place at Flying Colours Corp's Peterborough, ON, headquarters where a technical team with extensive heavy maintenance experience completed the twenty-year inspection.

Completely stripped back to the airframe a thorough check for corrosion, stress fractures and other issues that may affect the structural integrity of the aircraft was undertaken. This was followed by a number of service bulletin updates. In conjunction with the mandatory 240 month

inspection tasks and landing gear restoration, additional hourly inspections were completed, as well as, multiple service bulletins to inspect for and correct flap corrosion. In the new fully computerised and climate controlled state-of-the-art paint shop, which opened this March at the Canadian company's headquarters, paint work touch ups rejuvenated the fuselage.

The aircraft was already familiar to the Flying Colours Corp. team having visited Peterborough just two years' ago for a complete cabin refurbishment and new fuselage paintwork under previous ownership. Minor touch ups to the cabinetry and soft furnishings were also undertaken

in parallel with the latest maintenance. Confirming the company's expertise on this platform a further two Bombardier Global Express heavy maintenance checks are in the pipeline, with a 120- and 240-month scheduled in the next six months.

"The 240 month inspection is extensive and requires extreme attention to detail to ensure the aircraft is structurally safe to enter back into service," said Kevin Kliethermes, Director of Sales. With most early production Global aircraft still operating Kliethermes says the team is pleased to be supporting future inspections. "As a Bombardier Authorized Service Facility, we

are very well positioned to support owners of this airframe. We have a highly motivated and experienced maintenance workforce that understands the intricacies of these detailed checks; we have the infrastructure with eight spacious hangars in North America enabling easy fuselage access; and a dedicated Global tail-dock designed to support work on the Global platform. We also have our avionics, paint and interiors team standing by to support a variety of aircraft upgrades in parallel. Owners appreciate the ability to have all the work conducted in one location as it significantly minimises downtime," concludes Kliethermes



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passengers as and when they need, from their local smaller airfield instead of the main well known business jet hubs, they will also get closer to the final destination saving an incredible amount of time.

Charter Brokers need to consider smaller regional airports more too. I have previously tested this by giving a post code in the middle of the Cotswolds and been offered flights to Bristol or Birmingham, when Gloucestershire, Cotswold and Oxford Airports are much closer and convenient. The smaller regional airports also need to play their part and promote the benefits of business aviation locally. Earlier this year I attended a business dinner in Cheltenham sitting with many high net worth individuals and local business leaders. Only one person had chartered an aircraft once before and despite Gloucestershire Airport being only four miles from where we were in Cheltenham, no one else in the room realised that business aviation existed.

We are all anticipating business aviation seeing a surge in demand not only for connectivity reasons, reassurance of travelling with known colleagues and family but also due to the lack of airline routes, capacity and reliability issues. The airport terminal experience is not going to be a pleasant one for quite some time with increased check-in time, longer queues, shortage of facilities and of course the increased risk of infection.

As we begin the bounce back, let us all fully consider the full range of regional airports that are available to business and private aircraft. If you are a broker, just look little closer to see if there is a smaller and closer regional airport that you can use as there are many. If you are a regional airport owner, open the gate, step outside and tell your local community of your incredible facility with flexible flying right from their doorstep. One new customer is an additional movement, airport fee and fuel sale. Let's break the mould, shake off the reactive past and be ready to rebuild.





GIRLS IN AVIATION DAY 2020 AVAILABLE TO ALL – ONLINE & FREE OF CHARGE – NOW YEAR ROUND



WAI to launch new Aviation for Girls App on 6th Annual GIAD, September 26

Women in Aviation International’s Girls in Aviation Day bigger and more far-reaching than ever! WAI chapters and corporate members will not host in-person events this year, and will instead deliver a virtual experience through a new Aviation for Girls app that is free and available to all beginning Saturday, September 26, 2020. “With the continued growth and success of Girls in Aviation Day – in large part due to the dedicated and tireless efforts of WAI Corporate Members and Chapters all around the world – we knew we had to expand the GIAD experience this year, and canceling wasn’t an option,” says WAI CEO Allison McKay. “With input from our chapters, partners, the board of directors, and staff, we decided for the safety of our youngsters and volunteers, to provide a virtual experience that takes no chances with safety.”

Without geographic constraints, the Aviation for Girls app is the tool WAI will provide to allow more girls to experience the valuable WAI content, resources, career panel videos, hands-on activities, virtual tours, scholarships, and mentoring opportunities. Key to the GIAD experience is providing participants the chance to meet role models to whom they can relate, see in themselves, and who represent career opportunities they may never have dreamed of. In addition, GIAD attendees using the app will qualify to apply for WAI 2021 scholarships and will receive monthly WAI Connect eNewsletters, and the digital version of Aviation for Women magazine.

“It’s important to note the Aviation for Girl app is not meant to take the place of our future face-to-face GIAD events, but rather to complement the big day beyond



2020,” adds Outreach Director Molly Martin. “We all agree that the app will extend the power of the day for the girls and help ignite their aviation spark in thousands. And, with year-round availability and a continuously growing library of content, we’ll be able to help keep that spark lit

all across the world.” Since WAI’s first annual international Girls in Aviation Day in 2015, the annual WAI event has grown every year since its first gathering of 32 events and 3,200 participants. In 2019, GIAD met more than 20,000 attendees participating in 119 events in 18



Zeusch Aviation extends capabilities as its Beechcraft B200 Super King Air joins The Netherlands registry

Zeusch Aviation, the Netherlands-based aerial services provider, has reached a major milestone by recording its first aircraft registration on The Netherlands registry. The Beechcraft B200 Super King Air – new registration PH-ZAZ – was already configured to support medevac and charter missions and now the aircraft is also equipped with a brand new AVCON removable mapping window, located in the aircraft belly, which enables aerial mapping capabilities. The modifications support the company’s focus on delivering high-standard mapping and relay services and serves to enhance the aircraft value.

The new window increases terrestrial visibility to ensure accurate data collection to support

detailed map creation. It has also undergone a complete overhaul of both engines in preparation for its expanded offering. The multi-purpose aircraft is available for mapping missions for private individuals, governmental associations and corporations who want to establish the geospatial baseline of an area’s topography, natural landscape, built environment and more.

Following a successful series of mapping flights performed in Denmark this May, the aircraft will begin mapping operations throughout the whole European continent this summer. Zeusch is also planning on expanding the company’s reach beyond Europe. Managing Director Herman van Kranenburg says, “Mapping is a seasonal

activity requiring clear skies and good weather to support the systematic collection of topographical data. To minimise aircraft downtime, we plan to fly the aircraft in Europe during the spring and summer, and then relocate it to regions where the weather is more suitable for mapping during our winter months.”

PH-ZAZ complements the existing Zeusch fleet of two King Air C90A types of which one is outfitted for broadcast relay missions and the other for mapping. Previously registered in the UK as G-MEDZ, and operated by Zeusch, PH-ZAZ has been repositioned to Lelystad Airport, home of Zeusch Aviation. A second, recently acquired Beechcraft B200 Super

King Air is currently being ferried from North America to The Netherlands where it will join the trio of King Airs to make a total of four aircraft in the Zeusch fleet.

“We are delighted to have placed our first aircraft on our national registry; it’s a real achievement for our young company. We’re

also pleased to maintain our loyalty to the King Airs as there are positive economics associated with keeping a consistent fleet type. The aircraft performance delivers the capabilities needed to support the demanding missions we fly, and we look forward to adding more to our fleet in the near future,” added van Kranenburg.



European Cities Marketing call for an open and permanent dialogue between European institutions and local destinations

Travel & Tourism is one of the world's largest economic sectors, supporting 1 in 10 jobs (330 million) worldwide, and generating 10.3% of global GDP (source: WTTC). In 2019, the sector represented 30% of the world's exports of services (US\$1.5 trillion) and up to 45% of the total export of services in developing countries (source: UNWTO).

ECM, this is the only association in Europe gathering 125 city destinations under one roof. In Europe, cities are the clear leaders of the European tourism Industry and altogether we represent more than 633 million international tourist bednights (source: ECM Benchmarking Report 2019). It is imperative for ECM to enable members to align their own strategic agenda with whatever demands, challenges and opportunities the future will bring.

Europe owns the world's most visited cities and regions as well as leading outbound markets. City tourism is the most dominant and dynamic aspect of European tourism, European cities are highly resilient, and despite political shocks and terrorist attacks, they have remained the most attractive spots for visitors from all over the world. They attract people and encourage them to thrive.

The visitor economy developed in cities benefit the destinations' social inclusion, cultural repertoire and relations,

knowledge societies and local communities. Meetings in cities are a key facilitator of economic development; they are responsible for all of the factors that drive business or professional development and they build the knowledge economy of the future: innovation, product development, knowledge transfer, legacy, and network creation.

Travel, tourism and hospitality are amongst the most affected sectors in this unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, the closing down of entire cities and countries, travel restrictions and bans have brought the tourism and transportation sectors to a standstill. From the biggest airline to the smallest hotel in a rural community, the sector has been halted. The impact is economic and social, affecting the livelihoods of tourism and transport workers and suppliers, as well as their families and whole communities. Destinations are all hit, no matter of size, geographical location, attractiveness... their reputation as safe places are highly challenged.

However, the tourism sector is in a unique position to contribute to wider recovery plans and actions. Therefore, ECM calls the European Union and EU member states to run harmonized and coordinated responses to achieve recovery.

· Restore confidence in travelling and change the negative

perceptions about tourism. It is highly important to re-establish the image of Europe as a safe and accessible destination and build a European campaign to accelerate recovery.

· Reopening borders in a consistent way to enable harmonised leisure and tourism travel between EU member states, foster unity and strengthen European domestic tourism.

· Europe needs destinations to succeed and support the economy. Social and economic cohesion is within cities. We call EU Member States to financially support tourism initiatives which will quickly benefit the destinations' social inclusion, cultural offering, knowledge hubs and local communities.

ECM, together with ETOA, NecstOUR and ICCA ask to establish an open and permanent dialogue between European institutions and local destinations. In the name of European cities, ECM proposes to open this dialogue and lead a task force to bring Europe back on track and strengthen the single market. Travel and Tourism is uniquely equipped to be part of sustainable global recovery efforts going beyond tourism, better for the planet and the people.

All of this makes it even more imperative that the global tourism sector is supported both at this time of crisis and as societies enter the recovery phase.

Spain – Meeting between Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne and Spain's secretary of state for tourism (July 1, 2020)

Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, met with Isabel Maria Oliver Sagreras, Spanish Secretary of State for Tourism, on Wednesday, July 1. This meeting follows on from the meeting of EU tourism ministers via video conference on May 20.

The Minister of State and his counterpart discussed developments in the health situation in France and Spain, as well as the strategies to relaunch tourism in each of the two countries.

They reaffirmed the importance of strong coordination between both countries in order to facilitate tourism within the Schengen Area, in the context of the gradual and differentiated lifting of restrictions at the external borders of the European area. They underscored that the harmonization of health standards and practices, notably at the European level, will be crucial in order to regain the trust of tourists and guarantee their safety



as well as that of tourism stakeholders. The Minister of State reaffirmed that President Macron had made the relaunching of the tourism sector a national priority, with an unprecedented support plan amounting to €18 billion. He expressed the hope that the tourism sector would benefit from a European action plan that would pave the way for a sustainable and inclusive digital transformation that would take into account specific regional characteristics, especially for rural, island and outermost regions. The ministers of state welcomed their cooperation within the World Tourism Organization and

the European Commission's proposal to hold a European tourism summit in fall 2020.

[Estonia / Sweden – Visit by Amélie de Montchalin to Tallinn and Stockholm \(July 1-2, 2020\)](#)
[Amélie de Montchalin, Minister of State for European Affairs, attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, is visiting Estonia and Sweden from July 1 to 2](#)

This visit is taking place in the run-up to the European Council from July 17 to 18 in order to establish the conditions necessary for an ambitious agreement on the European recovery plan. The Minister of State will reaffirm the

FEI General Assembly 2020 moves online



The FEI General Assembly 2020, which was due to be held in Johannesburg (RSA) in November, has been cancelled and will now be held online due to Covid-19 social distancing requirements and travel restrictions.

The decision was approved by the FEI Board during its three-day videoconference meeting this week, and the Board also gave its unanimous support to allocate next year's FEI General Assembly to Johannesburg.

“The safety of our community is our highest priority and although it is regrettable, cancelling our in-person General Assembly this year and going online was the responsible thing to do,” FEI President Ingmar De Vos said. “We are very grateful to the National Federation of South Africa for the support and flexibility they have shown, as well as their willingness to host our General Assembly next year when the situation will hopefully have improved for everyone.

“We are lucky to live in a time where it is possible to meet virtually, even though face-to-face meetings and discussions keep us together as a community.”

With the pandemic legally defined as “force majeure” in Switzerland, the country's Federal

government has adopted ad hoc temporary measures to facilitate the organisation of General Assembly meetings for Swiss based associations like the FEI. Under these special regulations, the FEI is permitted to hold its General Assembly electronically. Other large international gatherings, including next month's IOC Session, will also be held online.

The FEI is currently considering a number of electronic solutions for running the General Assembly online and will communicate these to National Federations in due course

“While we are of course disappointed not to be able to hold the FEI General Assembly in South Africa this year, we appreciate the confidence that the FEI has shown to us by giving us the opportunity to host the General Assembly next year,” President of the National Federation of South Africa Adv Willem Edeling SC said.

“It will be the first time that an international equestrian gathering of this scale will be held in South Africa and we look forward to welcoming delegates from around the world to our world class meeting facilities. 2021 is the centenary of the FEI, and we feel privileged that our event will form part of the 100-year celebrations.”

importance of reaching an agreement in July in the face of the economic and social emergency and will underscore the need to include budgetary allocations of at least 500 billion in support of the sectors and regions most affected by the crisis. They will also discuss the next Multiannual Financial Framework, which must contribute to the recovery and make it possible to invest in European priorities, especially through packages promoting European sovereignty in such areas as the Common Agricultural Policy, defense and space. In this context, the budget must also be reviewed to ensure coherence with the EU's political goals through the creation of new own resources consistent with our environmental goals.

This recovery must be part of a project to rebuild Europe, and the Minister of State will therefore speak with her partners about holding the Conference on the Future of Europe as soon as possible, enabling citizens to take part in discussions on the lessons to be learned from the crisis. Also on the agenda is the importance of properly

coordinating border measures—more essential than ever for European countries as we emerge from the crisis—as well as strengthening European mechanisms to protect the rule of law.

In Tallinn, the Minister of State will meet with Foreign Minister Urmas Reinsalu and her counterpart, Märt Volmer. A joint statement on European issues and a specific statement on French-Estonian cooperation on cybersecurity will also be adopted on this occasion.

In Stockholm, Amélie de Montchalin will meet with Foreign Minister Ann Linde and EU Affairs Minister Hans Dahlgren. She will also meet with Economy Minister Ibrahim Baylan and the Swedish business community.

[Hong Kong](#)
[What is your response to the Chinese Parliament's decision to adopt a national security law for Hong Kong on Tuesday?](#)

I refer you to the statement issued by the EU today and the minister's remarks during the hearing before the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee

Canada

Manitoba 

GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT LOCAL COOKING INITIATIVE WITH MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF HOME ECONOMISTS

The governments of Canada and Manitoba will provide up to \$70,000 to the Manitoba Association of Home Economists (MAHE) to provide resources for families to encourage cooking with low-cost, nutritious ingredients readily available in Manitoba, federal Agriculture Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development Minister Blaine Pedersen announced today.

“From farm to table, ensuring that all Canadians have access to affordable and nutritious food is a priority for our government,” said Bibeau. “This project helps give Manitobans the tools and knowledge they need to make healthy meals for their families, while supporting our local food farmers. We will continue to work side-by-side with the province to help shape a healthier and more prosperous future for Manitoban families and communities.”

“This project will help families to stretch their food budgets, while also increasing food security and

resiliency in Manitoba,” said Pedersen. “Learning about food and how to prepare it is something families can do together, and these resources will help give them the information and confidence to make it a part of their daily lives. We are pleased to support an initiative that will encourage healthier diets and contribute to the overall health of our communities, building on the good work that is already happening in our province.”

Funding will be provided to the MAHE through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership to develop and promote printable electronic resources on food literacy and safe preparation of affordable and available food, with an emphasis on Manitoba-produced ingredients. MAHE will collaborate with community-based non-profits working with vulnerable populations, experts in public health and food safety, and the supply chain to ensure their work complements other existing resources and is accessible to

Manitobans.

“With the mission to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities, MAHE has the professional expertise and connections to fulfil this project’s mandate for the benefit of Manitobans,” said Sheila Stark-Perreault, MAHE president.

The five-year, \$3-billion Canadian Agricultural Partnership includes \$2 billion for cost-shared strategic initiatives delivered by the provinces and territories and \$1 billion for federal programs and services. Pedersen noted the Manitoba government has also recently launched the Home Nutrition and Learning Program, which focuses on family-friendly recipes and educational activities. It includes a \$2.5-million pilot program to help connect school-aged children and their families with nutritious foods to make together

MANITOBA RELEASES LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS FOR JUNE

Increase in Employment Shows Positive Growth, Shows Manitoba Leading the Country in Student Employment: Fielding

The latest Labour Force Survey from Statistics Canada shows Manitoba leads the country in student employment and has recorded an increase of 28,900 in overall employment from May to June, Finance Minister Scott Fielding announced today.

“Thanks to the efforts of all Manitobans and based on advice from our public health officials, we continued to move forward in our phased-in approach to restarting our economy and returning Manitobans to work in June,” said Fielding. “With increases in May and June, over 40 per cent of Manitobans who lost employment due to COVID-19 are already back at work.”

The province moved forward to Phase Two of Restoring Safe Services: Manitoba’s Pandemic and Economic Roadmap for Recovery on June 1 and began Phase Three on June 21.

New Manitoba labour force statistics show the province fared better than the national average in key categories. Total June employment in Manitoba increased by 28,900, a 4.9 per cent increase from May, when employment increased by 13,100. The provincial labour

force increased by 23,600 people in June.

Manitoba saw a significant 13.3 per cent increase in part-time jobs, up by 14,200. Full-time employment was up 14,800, a 3.1 per cent increase. Manitoba youth unemployment in particular decreased 3.5 percentage points to 19.3 per cent, the lowest in Canada. This reflects the focus the provincial government has placed on providing opportunities for students to find work. Overall, the provincial unemployment rate edged down to 10.1 per cent, the second lowest in the country and below Canada’s rate of 12.3 per cent. The private sector, which includes the self-employed, increased by 25,600, a 5.9 per cent gain from May to June. The national rate for the private sector increased by 6.9 per cent.

The accommodation and food services sector, along with the wholesale and retail trade industry, saw the largest level changes from May to June.

“Manitoba is weathering the economic storm through our slow and safe plan to reopen businesses and restore services,

and our job market continues to rebound for a second month,” said Fielding. “Our government continues to focus on programs that support employers and employees so even more Manitobans can get back to work.”

To date, the Manitoba Gap Protection Program has provided approximately \$44.6 million to more than 7,400 businesses that are ineligible for federal support. The Manitoba Back to Work This Summer Program has provided more than \$3 million in supports so more than 220 private-sector employers could hire and re-hire 600 employees. The Summer Student Job Recovery Program has encouraged more than 1,800 employers to apply for \$20 million in wage subsidies for more than 4,000 student positions.

More than 1,600 people have applied for the Manitoba Job Restart Program to receive a \$2,000 payment if they safely return to work and voluntarily stop collecting the Canada Emergency Response Benefit or the Canada Emergency Student Benefit.

Embassy of France in the U.S.

THE DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

Statements made by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Spokesperson

Canada

[Canada decided to keep its borders closed to Europeans beyond June 30. Will you apply reciprocity, bearing in mind that it is on the list of 15 countries to which the EU just reopened its own borders?](#)

In accordance with the recommendations of the European Commission and in close coordination with its European partners, France will move ahead with the gradual and individualized opening of its borders based on the health situations of various third countries.

Norway – Meeting between Jean-Yves Le Drian and his Norwegian counterpart (June 29, 2020)

Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, spoke today by phone with his Norwegian counterpart, Ine Eriksen Soreide.

The minister congratulated his counterpart on Norway’s election to the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member for 2021 and 2022. He expressed our country’s desire to cooperate closely with Norway on issues relating to peace and international security in this context. The ministers discussed the situation in the Sahel, Libya, the Gulf and the Middle East - crises regarding which we have converging approaches.

Jean-Yves Le Drian and his counterpart also took stock of the international response to the Covid-19 crisis. They discussed the coordination of the lifting of restrictions of movement at the internal and external borders of the Schengen Area and the establishment of the Inclusive Vaccine Alliance in which Norway has confirmed it wants to participate.

The ministers also decided to continue their discussions on Ukraine and Russia, EU-China relations and the negotiations on the future relationship between the UK and the EU, underscoring the need to preserve our two countries’ reciprocal fishing interests.

[Canada/Quebec – Meeting between Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne and Nadine Girault, Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie of Quebec \(June 25, 2020\)](#)

Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, Minister of State attached to the

Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, will meet via video conference tomorrow with Nadine Girault, Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie and Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration of Quebec.

This meeting follows on from the regular exchanges between French and Quebecois authorities driven by the road maps adopted in 2018 during the most recent rotating meeting between prime ministers and the meeting between Nadine Girault and Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian in November 2018. Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne notably met with Caroline Proulx, Minister of Tourism, in November 2019.

The minister of state and the minister will discuss developments in the health situation in France and Quebec. This meeting will also provide an opportunity to underscore the importance of our cooperation with respect to responding to the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. It will allow for a discussion regarding ongoing cooperation and the prospects for strengthening our partnerships in the economic, environmental, social and cultural spheres.

Indeed, France and Quebec share unique historical and cultural ties. They have a direct and special relationship focused on shared priorities, starting with the promotion and defense of the French language, notably in international organizations, the promotion of gender equality, the Paris climate agreement and the fostering of youth mobility.

[Belarus – Jailing of two presidential candidates \(June 23, 2020\)](#)

The jailing of two candidates running in Belarus’s upcoming presidential election and the arrests of citizens and journalists in recent days on the sidelines of protests supporting those candidates is contrary to the international commitments of Belarus, a member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). France calls on Belarus to abide by its commitments and to guarantee the freedom of expression and right to demonstrate.

WORLD ATHLETICS LAUNCHES 'ROAD TO TOKYO' QUALIFICATION TRACKING TOOL

World Athletics has launched Road to Tokyo ' an online tool to help athletes, media and fans track the qualification process for next year's Olympic Games. Searchable by discipline, country and qualification status, the tool will provide a real time view of each event over the course of the Tokyo 2020 qualification period which ends on 29 June 2021. As announced last month, the Tokyo 2020 qualification system already in force was adapted to fit the new dates of the Games, which were postponed in March. The Games will now be held from 23 July to 8 August, 2021. The qualification principles remain unchanged with athletes able to qualify through entry standards and then the World Athletics World Rankings. Athletes who have already met the entry standard since the start of the qualification period in 2019 remain qualified and will be



eligible for selection by their respective Member Federations and National Olympic Committees, together with the other athletes who will qualify within the extended qualification period. Due to the uneven training and

competition opportunities around the world during the coronavirus pandemic, World Athletics announced on 7 April that the qualification period (for all events) was suspended from 6 April to 30 November 2020.

Ontario Seeking Input on Modernizing Capital Markets

Taskforce Aims to Help Strengthen Competition and Innovation



The Ontario government is continuing to seek advice and input from people and organizations on modernizing Ontario's Capital Markets and supporting economic growth and job creation with the posting of the The Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce Consultation report . "As we plan for Ontario's economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic, competitive capital markets can play an important role attracting global investment and creating good jobs here in our province," said Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance. "Despite rapid changes in the global economy, the Ontario Securities Act has not been updated in over 15 years. More than ever, Ontario needs a modern capital markets system that attracts businesses and

competes for investment and talent worldwide. I created the Taskforce with this goal in mind. I appreciate that they put forward an ambitious and creative set of initial recommendations for consultation." Over the last few months, the Taskforce listened to over 110 stakeholders about the challenges they face, including financial institutions, small and large publicly-listed companies, independent investment dealers, industry associations, law firms and investor advocacy groups. The Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce Consultation report outlines their findings and more than 47 policy proposals to modernize the province's capital markets. "Industry members have been asking for a regulatory approach that supplements the policing function with a public policy imperative of capital markets growth to enable Ontario to compete globally. Responding to this feedback, we are now asking for input to help make sure our

final recommendations to government support our mandate to make Ontario one of the most attractive capital markets in the world," said Walied Soliman, Chair of the Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce. "On behalf of the Taskforce, I'd like to thank the diverse group of over 100 business leaders, investors, associations, and investor advocacy groups for their thoughtful contributions and participation in this consequential work. I would also like to thank my Taskforce colleagues for their tireless efforts over the past six months." The Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce will provide recommendations to the Minister of Finance on how to transform the regulatory landscape for capital markets. Following this consultation, a final report will be submitted to the Minister before the end of the year. The consultation will end on September 7, 2020. Read the consultation report and submit your ideas at [Ontario.ca/CapitalMarkets](https://ontario.ca/CapitalMarkets).

Ontario Taking Bold Action to Address Racism and Inequity in Schools

New Changes to Advance Equal Opportunity for Black, Indigenous and Racialized Students

The Ontario government announced bold new changes to the education system that will help break down barriers for Black, Indigenous and racialized students and provide all students with an equal opportunity to succeed. As part of this action, the province will move forward with ending Grade 9 streaming into applied and academic courses, proposing to eliminate discretionary

suspensions for students, strengthening sanctions for teachers who engage in behaviour of a racist nature, and providing teachers with additional anti-racism and anti-discrimination training. Details were provided today by Premier Doug Ford, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, and Jamil Jivani, Ontario's Advocate

for Community Opportunities. "To help our young people reach their full potential, we have to start earlier to create equal opportunity for them, whether that's reforming suspensions for primary grades or ending the practice of streaming for Grade 9 students," said Premier Ford. "Above all, our government will not tolerate racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, Islamophobia or hate in any form

in our schools. Through these initiatives to promote equality in education, we will ensure students from all walks of life are set up for lifelong success." Through Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020, the government is proposing to eliminate discretionary suspensions for students from kindergarten up to Grade 3, beginning September 2020. Serious offences will still be subject to mandatory suspensions. The latest suspension data from 2018-19 shows that over 65,000 elementary and secondary students in Ontario were suspended during that school year. Starting in September 2021, the government will begin the process of ending Grade 9 streaming into applied and academic courses. Currently, students enrolled in applied-level courses have multiple negative outcomes and limited opportunities for post-secondary advancement. "Every student — irrespective of the colour of their skin, faith, heritage, and orientation — deserves every opportunity to succeed in the classroom," said Minister Lecce. "The transformational change we are driving forward will embolden a generation of students and unleash their full potential, absent the systemic barriers that hold them back. To racialized students in Ontario: we see you, and we value you. We will stand with all students on this journey to advance respect, dignity, and opportunity." As part of its plan to end early streaming, the government will introduce a new foundational

Ontario Expanding Access to the Modern Digital Economy

Application intake for broadband and cellular program opens today. The Ontario government is expanding access to reliable broadband and cellular service in underserved and unserved parts of the province. The application intake for the \$150 million Improving Connectivity for Ontario program (ICON) opens today. This funding will help drive economic investment and job creation across the province, while allowing more people to work from home more efficiently, engage in online learning, and connect with family and friends. "The outbreak of COVID-19 reinforced the need to improve access to reliable broadband and cellular service as more people work and learn from home in order to practice physical distancing," said Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure. "By making these investments we will help to ensure every region in the province can participate in the modern digital economy, and contribute to Ontario's economic recovery." Any areas across

Grade 9 math course for September 2021 and will work with school boards as they transition students into a de-streamed Grade 9 math program. The de-streaming of the Grade 9 math curriculum is the first step towards further de-streaming in other curriculum areas, which will better support all students in having every opportunity to pursue the pathway of their choice after their K-12 education. "We must recognize that today's changes are the result of our government and community members working together," said Jamil Jivani, Ontario's Advocate for Community Opportunities. "In particular, parents in Ontario's Black communities have been a powerful voice for change, providing their unique insights in how suspensions and streaming have disadvantaged black students. Thank you to every parent and community leader who engaged with us in this process." To ensure students feel accepted in a discrimination-free classroom, the government will be strengthening sanctions for teachers who engage in behaviour of a racist nature. Over the last 23 years, the Ontario College of Teachers reports that there have been 32 instances of teacher discipline for racist or homophobic behavior or remarks. The Ministry of Education has also proposed additional anti-racism and anti-discrimination training before the end of the calendar year. The government is currently consulting with teachers' federations, education workers' unions, and trustees' associations on the implementation of this critical initiative.