



OGDENSBURG BRIDGE & PORT AUTHORITY

1 Bridge Plaza, Ogdensburg, New York 13669
Phone: 315-393-4080 Fax: 315-393-7068

**STATEMENT FROM VERNON “SAM” BURNS, CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OGDENSBURG BRIDGE & PORT AUTHORITY
RECOGNIZING THE 100,000TH PASSENGER AT THE ENLARGED OGDENSBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OCTOBER 13, 2018.**

As a member of the Board of Directors during 1980-1989, the cost of operating the airport was a major concern that was always in the forefront of our yearly budget discussion. The OBPA consistently lost money at the airport no matter what we tried to fix the situation.

Fortunately, just a few years ago, OBPA Board Members took a gamble that with an expansion of the runway; a rerouting of a NYS highway; a new terminal along with a low cost carrier, our airport could change the opportunities our local residents and the nearby Canadian consumers could enjoy at reasonable cost, a quick flight to the sunshine and warmth of Florida! This new airline, Allegiant, along with Cape Air has opened a new chapter of flying for our residents of the North Country and our Canadian friends from the greater Ottawa area.

We are here today to recognize and celebrate a milestone with the 100,000th passenger to go through our airport since the expansion! It is indeed a proud moment for the OBPA! As a representative of the Board, I would like to thank all of the employees of the OBPA, the staff of Allegiant; Cape Air; the TSA and all local workers that have made this possible.

The present Board of Directors understand that we must continue to increase flights and destinations from our airport and work with our elected officials to keep upgrading and improving our airport operations. Our airport will become the regional economic engine we all hope for! We thank everyone who flies out and into our airport and we hope to continue to serve the needs of the North Country and Canadian public.