



TMIA

Fall Conference 2008

Transportation and Logistics

AIR TRANSPORTATION

Attendees have a few choices for flying into Toronto:

- **YYZ is Pearson International Airport in Toronto.** It serves over 130 cities non stop, including all hubs and about 50 cities in the US. This will be the main choice for anyone with a passport.
- As an alternative you can fly to **Buffalo (BUF)** and drive 105 miles to Toronto. Those who reside in the US may want to check out this option as it will be a domestic flight (cheaper) and you do not require a passport to cross the border by land. (See ground transportation). Those wishing to extend their trip should consider Buffalo as its airport is less than a half hour from Niagara Falls.
- For those around New York/New Jersey there is another interesting option. About a mile from our hotel is the **Island Airport (YTZ)**. A discount carrier, called Porter Airlines, which offers six daily flights to Newark. They provide a free shuttle to a drop-off only a block from the hotel.

WHEN TO TRAVEL

The first official TMIA event is the **Welcome Reception, Monday, September 22nd** beginning at 7:30 PM. The conference will end Wednesday at 5 PM with travel any time Thursday, September 25.

As long as rooms are available you may arrive as **early as Friday, September 19th** and depart as **late as Sunday, September 28th**. Note that our hotel is in the outfield of the Rogers Center and the Toronto Blue Jays host the **Boston Red Sox for three games, beginning Friday September 19th**. The **Yankees** will also be in town for three games, beginning Tuesday, September 23rd. Ensure you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible if you want to catch a game before the conference. Some attendees plan to play golf on Monday and Thursday morning so plan your travel accordingly.

OUR HOTEL

Renaissance Toronto Downtown, 1 Blue Jays Way, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5V 1J4. Phone- 416-341-7100, Fax 416- 341-5091.

The Renaissance is a unique hotel – the only four-star hotel built into a baseball stadium. It is next door to one of the seven modern wonders of the world, the CN tower. You can see the hotel at [Renaissance Hotel](#).

We negotiated a great rate, \$175C. **You must make your reservation by Friday August 22nd to receive this rate.** If you must cancel after August 22nd please allow Tom to cancel your room so he can reuse for another attendee if necessary.

IMPORTANT PASSPORT INFORMATION FOR US-BASED ATTENDEES

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative undertaken by the US Homeland Security Department is in place. Essentially this means you will require a valid passport to fly back to the US from Canada. If you do not have a passport and are a US resident, you can cross by land from and into the US. You will need to show proof of US citizenship (birth certificate) and a government-issued picture ID (such as a drivers license). See information for flying into Buffalo.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION FROM PEARSON INTERNATIONAL (YYZ)

Our hotel is 15 miles (24 Kilometers) from the airport, almost all expressway. You have a few choices for ground transportation:

- I do not recommend car rental unless you really need a car, as parking at the hotel will be \$20C per day.
- The cheapest form of transportation is the Toronto Airport Express at \$18.50 or \$30 return. It is a bus that runs downtown every 20 minutes with predetermined stops. The convention centre stop is less than a half a block away from our hotel and is the second downtown stop, so doesn't take much longer than a car ride.
- A flat rate cab ride is \$46 and a limousine service is \$50 (each way).

GROUND TRANSPORTATION FROM BUFFALO

Buffalo Airport is 105 miles from the hotel, almost all expressway. Exit the airport on Genesee/Hwy. 33 for 1.3M. Exit on to I-90E for 1 mile. Take Exit 50, I-290W toward Niagara Falls for 10M. Take I-190N for 15 miles and cross into Canada at Queenston Lewiston Bridge. After entering Canada it becomes 405W for 5 miles. Exit on QEW towards Toronto for 63 miles. QEW becomes Gardiner Expressway for last 8.4 miles. Exit on Spadina Ave. Turn left on Spadina off the ramp for .2M. Turn right on Blue Jays Way. Our hotel is on the east side of the stadium directly across from the CN Tower.

INTERNET ACCESS

We have negotiated free wired Internet access as part of the room rate.

MONEY EXCHANGE/TAXES

The Canadian \$ is about par with the US\$ today. Your best method of exchange is using an ATM in Canada.

You will pay 8% provincial tax and 5% GST on anything you purchase (GST is federal goods and services tax...now you know how we pay for health care!). Non-Canadians can receive a GST refund for expenses, including hotel costs. Forms are available at the airport. To apply, the total refund must exceed \$50.

CELL/INTERNET/POWER ETC.

For US attendees your cell will work just like home with possible roaming charges. Please check with your provider for more details. US cellular providers have roaming agreements with one or more of the Canadian carriers, but you could end up paying more than \$1/minute. I recommend that you research your toll-free access numbers as there is no charge for toll-free calls made from the hotel's phones. Power is same in Canada as the US (yes I have had questions on this).

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

There is no formal on-site registration process. All attendees are pre-registered. If you attend the welcome reception in the Aurora room on Monday night, we will welcome you and provide your attendee badge. If you don't attend the reception, you can pick up your badge at the Northern Lights Ballroom before the Tuesday morning session.

CANCELLATIONS

If you must cancel, please do so by Tuesday September 16th so we do not include you in our meal counts. If you cancel after August 22nd please allow Tom to cancel your hotel room so he can reuse it for another attendee.

DRESS CODE/WEATHER

Dress for all events is business casual. Average temperatures in Toronto: 69°F or 20°C highs during the day, dropping to 48°F or 9°C during the night. Attendees should bring a jacket or sweater for the evenings.

TMIA EVENTS

Attendees are asked not to schedule their own meetings during official TMIA events. In addition to the actual conference sessions, the following networking events are scheduled:

Monday Night Welcome Reception - 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM in the Aurora Room, This will be your first opportunity to meet your fellow attendees. We will have some tasty munchies as well, so please stop by.

Tuesday Night Breakout - 5:45 PM to approx. 9:30 PM in the hotel with a baseball theme. More information in July.

Wednesday night is a free night. You may organize your own get togethers after 5:00 PM.

Note that we will have a golf outing on Thursday morning if you are able to schedule your flight in the afternoon. We will play at one of the courses near the airport to allow for easy travel. There will also no doubt be golf on Sunday/Monday for those getting in early.

TRINKETS & TRASH (SWAG)

Just kidding on the trash part, but this is what we used to call it back in my marketing days. We ask all attendees to check their marketing closet and bring along a gift (whatever promotional items you may have) for the prize table. During the sessions we will draw names for prizes to help us stay on time and have a little fun. If you have a more expensive item (>\$100 value) we will use for special draws and ensure your company gets extra recognition.

- If you do not want to carry it, send it to Tom at the hotel. Below is shipping information.
- If you have a small item to distribute to all attendees, bring or ship 140 pieces.
- If you are shipping items, they should arrive at the hotel by Friday September 19th.
- Ship to: Renaissance Toronto Downtown, 1 Blue Jays Way, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5V 1J4 Hold for Tom Harper, TMIA September 22 to 24; 416-341-7100.