1 April 2020

Dear Aviation Community Member

Closure of Runway 12/30 due to the impact of COVID-19

As you will be aware that the COVID-19 pandemic has seen a significant decline in aircraft operations across the world. As a result of COVID-19 Canberra Airport has also seen a major decline in aircraft movements.

As a result of the reduction in movements Canberra Airport has made the decision to close Runway 12/30 from 0500hrs (local time) on Friday 3 April 2020 for the foreseeable future. A NOTAM will be published confirming this change of operation to industry.

Runway 17/35 will remain available 24hrs per day, 7 days per week noting Canberra Airport does not have a curfew. The only change to Runway 17/35 operational hours may be as a result of essential works which will be notified to industry in advance via works plans and NOTAM's. Due to the reduced traffic we also believe it is likely that the Air Traffic Control tower hours of operation may be reduced.
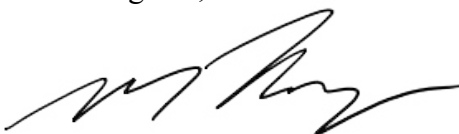
Pilot Activated Lighting (PAL) and Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF) for runway 17/35 will remain available outside Traffic Control tower operation hours for essential and/or emergency flights and recreational aircraft movements.

Essential and/or emergency flights are those flights operated by Royal Flying Doctor Service, Angel Flights, Royal Australian Air Force, medi vac, other humanitarian aircraft operations and any flights that declare a 'May-Day' or 'Pan-Pan'. Standard applicable Canberra Airport charges will apply for these flights.

Any recreational aircraft movements using Canberra Airport outside the Air Traffic Control tower operation hours that require the activation of the PAL/CTAF will incur activation and operation charges which will be invoiced to the owner of that aircraft.

The decision to close Runway 12/30 was not made lightly but reflect the significant fall in aircraft movements at Canberra Airport and these challenging times. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Gary McGivern at G.McGivern@canberraairport.com.au or 02 6275 2222.

Kind regards,

Michael Thomson
Head of Aviation