



**PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE USE**

**March 19, 2008**

## **Airport Opening on April 19**

An open day is to be held to mark the completion of the Te Anau Airport at Manapouri on Saturday April 19.

Southland District Council Group Manager Assets and Services Cameron McIntosh said the airport has been upgraded at a cost of \$7 million and is a culmination of a project to consolidate the two airports in the area.

The open day will run from 12 noon to 3pm at the new Airport Terminal, and will include a display of local aircraft, a ribbon cutting ceremony officiated by Mayor Frana Cardno and invited guests, refreshments and entertainment.

A bus will be put on by Real Journeys, and will depart from outside their office on Lake Front Drive in Te Anau. Passengers are asked to make a gold coin donation to the Te Anau Events Centre Equipment Fund. The bus will leave Te Anau at 11.45am, 12.30pm and 1.15pm and leave the airport at 1.45pm, 2.30pm and 3.15pm.

The upgrade comprised of extending the existing main runway, building a crosswind grass runway, terminal apron, fuel storage and dispensing area, stormwater and waste water disposal systems, and a new terminal building, Mr McIntosh said.

The terminal building includes an historic area, a commercial kitchen, lounge area to seat 45 people, a manager's office, toilets, and a check in baggage and booking area.

“The terminal building is set into the landscape as a gateway statement to the region and incorporates recycled Southland District bridge trusses, which gives a rustic look both inside and outside the building.”

Detailed design was carried out through 2006 with construction contracts let in 2007. The entire redevelopment project was completed in March 2008.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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