

Parks, Forestry & Recreation
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To Whom it May Concern:

I'm writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Zimmer Air Service regarding the provision of aerial pesticide spray services over urban areas.

In 2007, 2008 and 2013, Zimmer Air Services (ZAS) executed highly successful aerial pesticide spray operations to control European gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar* L.) infestations in the City of Toronto. These sprays were conducted over populated residential, commercial and parkland areas within the city.

The quality of service provided by ZAS was excellent with all three sprays completed safely and effectively within the identified spray windows. Post-spray analysis showed that the product, Foray 48B (*Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *kurstaki*) (*Btk*), was evenly applied to the target foliage with little or no over-spray or drift. These sprays required months of planning and co-ordination and ZAS held all required insurance certificates and operating licenses. ZAS also obtained a Ministerial Exemption from Transport Canada which allowed the sprays occur.

In addition to dealing with the regular air traffic in and around Toronto, the 2007 spray utilized an operations base located in close proximity to Pearson International Airport (YYZ) which required co-ordination with the airport in order to complete sprays in Toronto and Mississauga. The 2013 aerial spray in Toronto was over 392 hectares in size and included an approximately 100 hectare spray block on Toronto Island located directly adjacent to Billy Bishop Airport (YTZ). Regularly-scheduled domestic and international flights are flown from this airfield. ZAS successfully completed 2 separate sprays of this block on different dates without incident or disruption to other air traffic.

Zimmer Air Services provided safe, excellent service of good value to the City of Toronto and we would not hesitate to utilize their services again, if required.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Kristjan Vitols

Supervisor, Forest Health Care & Special Projects
(kcv)

cc: Paul Zimmer, Zimmer Air Services