

August 14, 2025

The Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Jobs and Families
patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister,

On behalf of [CIFFA Corp](#) and our 500+ member companies representing Canada's freight forwarding, warehousing, trucking, freight and customs brokerage sectors, we are extremely concerned with the escalating labour situation playing out between Air Canada and CUPE 4091 (Air Canada component.) As it stands, Air Canada has served notice to lock out CUPE 4091 and all flights will cease as of Saturday, August 16 at 1 a.m. EST. On behalf of CIFFA members and Canada's supply chain, we are asking you to exercise decisive leadership towards an immediate resolution.

This is a pivotal moment in Canada's history, and we are about to witness yet another work stoppage impacting billions of dollars in economic activity at a time when Canada's reputation as a reliable trading nation is at stake. Canadian families, workers, businesses and those around the world who trade with Canada are hoping to see strong leadership from you on this file. At CIFFA Corp. our membership remains strongly committed to doing their part to support the national supply chain, and we offer our expertise and guidance on this file.

In addition to the immediate threat against perishable goods, the work stoppage presents many other dire scenarios that we must address; air freight is a particularly critical mode of transport, especially for time-sensitive products. These include vaccines, isotopes used in very serious applications, medical equipment, and numerous other healthcare products that require specific handling and have extremely short shelf lives. In addition, many agricultural products—such as salmon, lobster, cherries, and beef—rely on air transport to remain competitive in international markets. Many regional communities are heavily dependent on these exports, which would come to a standstill in the event of a work stoppage at Air Canada. Based on these realities, the cascading impact across Canada will in fact be quite severe.

Another labour disruption – this time harming our air freight capacity, means more bad news for Canada's perceived global reliability as a trading partner. This is something you have been working hard on in your Ministerial travels to address trade diversification. The loss of air freight capacity within Canada's logistics sector, particularly on the heels of the numerous port and railway disruptions that have already greatly damaged our reputation, would deal a serious blow to Canada at the worst possible time. We view this as a serious threat to our members,

their clients, and the wellbeing of the broader Canadian economy.

In closing, it's important to note that while CIFFA Corp. does not take a formal position on the negotiations between Air Canada and CUPE 4091 (Air Canada component) and further to that we encourage the parties to reach a mutually agreed-upon settlement, we also strongly feel that elected officials hold a very real public responsibility to prevent disruptions that could have such far-reaching consequences.

We would hope that you, in your official capacities as Minister, could strongly convey to CUPE 4091 and Air Canada that our country simply cannot afford another labour disruption in this crucial sector at this time. We therefore strongly encourage you to use all available tools available to you as the Minister, through the Canada Labour Code, to facilitate an immediate resolution.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bruce Rodgers

Executive Director, CIFFA



Julia Kuzeljevich

Director, Policy and Regulatory Affairs, CIFFA

CC:

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland – Minister of Transport-TC.MinisterofTransport-
MinistredesTransports.TC@tc.gc.ca

The Honourable François-Philippe *Champagne* - francois-philippe.champagne@parl.gc.ca
Minister of Finance

The Honourable John Zerucelli - john.zerucelli@parl.gc.ca
Secretary of State (Labour)