

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS  
AND AEROSPACE WORKERS

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES MACHINISTES  
ET DES TRAVAILLEURS ET TRAVAILLEUSES DE L'AÉROSPATIALE

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL VICE-PRESIDENT  
BUREAU DU VICE-PRÉSIDENT GÉNÉRAL  
CANADA



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February 19, 2016

The Honourable Marc Garneau  
Minister of Transport  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

I am writing you on behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. We are the largest union at Air Canada, representing Air Canada's maintenance workforce. We also represented the workers at the now-defunct AVEOS, Air Canada's spun-off heavy maintenance division.

We are greatly concerned by reports that your government is planning to amend the Air Canada Public Participation Act to remove Air Canada's statutory obligation to perform its heavy maintenance work at facilities in Montreal, Winnipeg and Mississauga.

This would allow Air Canada to circumvent the recent decision of the Quebec Court of Appeal on this issue, based only on Air Canada's vague promise to have some of its maintenance work performed in Quebec at some point in the future, if it proceeds with its order to purchase Bombardier C-Series aircraft.

Such an amendment to the Act would be particularly troubling in light of the former federal government's refusal to enforce the provisions of the ACPPA, abandoning this sector and thousands of Canadian workers, and forcing the Quebec and Manitoba governments to litigate the issue.

We urge you not to proceed with any changes to the ACPPA at this time, but to require Air Canada to move ahead immediately and do its part to rebuild the Canadian aircraft heavy maintenance sector.

We would be pleased to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss this issue further.  
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Ritchie". The signature is stylized with a large, circular flourish at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

Dave Ritchie  
General Vice President

cc: Prime Minister  
Leaders of Opposition Parties  
Fred Hospes  
Hassan Yussuff