

October 20, 2020

Mr. John Ossowski  
President  
Canada Border Services Agency  
John.Ossowski@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca

Re: Official interpretation request "Flight Crew"

Dear Mr. Ossowski,

We are writing to you directly to urgently request a clear and nationally consistent interpretation relating to essential transportation workers quarantine status upon returning to Canada.

We have been seeking this clarification since our first contact with CBSA Traveller Directorate on May 29<sup>th</sup> and subsequent calls to your escalation 1-800-461-9999 line. Despite continual communications we have heard nothing back. This is causing unnecessary hardship and additional costs for flight managers, pilots and crew.

As you are aware, transportation workers are considered essential employees who have been identified by Transport Canada and PHAC in roles that have economic consequence. However, upon arrival into Canada our operators are experiencing varying interpretations of the exempt essential category by local CBSA agents.

As an example, transport workers are required to attend training in order to exercise the privileges of their license. Upon return to Canada whether in commercial flights or as passengers aboard their corporate aircraft, random determinations are having them quarantined. The same can be said for aircraft returning to Canada after completing maintenance which could only be completed in the United States.

Mr. Ossowski, we have taken the unusual step of contacting you directly as the matter is of great urgency to our operator members and there seems to be no defined ability to have concerns escalated for timely review and determination.

Thank you for your attention. We look forward to resolving this issue quickly.

Sincerely,



Anthony Norejko  
President and CEO

c.c. Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety  
Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport