

## **CANADIAN TERRITORY | TERRITOIRE CANADIEN**

## IAM UNION | IAM LE SYNDICAT

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## **David Chartrand**

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August 16, 2025

## The Honourable Patty Hajdu

Minister of Jobs and Families House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

**Subject:** Condemnation of Government's Use of Section 107 of the Canada Labour Code in the Air Canada Flight Attendants Dispute

Dear Minister Hajdu,

On behalf of the IAM Union – (International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers - IAM), I write to express our deep concern and condemnation of the Canadian government's recent decision to invoke Section 107 of the Canada.Labour.Code to refer the dispute involving Air Canada's flight attendants to binding arbitration.

This action undermines the principles of free collective bargaining — principles that form the foundation of labour relations in Canada. Collective bargaining is not merely a procedural step; it is a fundamental right, protected both domestically and internationally. The ability of workers and their representatives to freely negotiate terms and conditions of employment without undue interference from government is essential to maintaining a fair, balanced, and democratic labour relations system.

By resorting to Section 107, the government has effectively stripped these workers of their right to exert collective economic pressure — a right that exists precisely to ensure that negotiations are conducted in good faith and on an equal footing. Such intervention not only tips the balance of power in favour of the employer but also sets a dangerous precedent for other federally regulated sectors.

Flight attendants at Air Canada, like all Canadian workers, deserve respect for their rights and the opportunity to achieve a freely negotiated collective agreement. The IAM strongly believes that disputes should be resolved at the bargaining table, not through the imposition of binding arbitration dictated by government fiat.

We urge your government to immediately reconsider this approach, to uphold the integrity of the collective bargaining process, and to respect the rights of workers as enshrined in the Canada.Labour.Code and international labour standards.

Our members — and indeed all Canadian workers — expect and deserve a government that safeguards their rights, rather than curtails them.

Sincerely,

**David Chartrand** 

General Vice President

IAM Union – (International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers - IAM)

