

March 26, 2020

Ladies and Gentlemen:

These are truly extraordinary times. I have had multiple calls from Operators and Associates who have expressed their concerns for the health and welfare of their workers, but also for the financial future of their own companies. Many operators are under extreme pressure at time of the year when they are focusing on training, and on preparations for what would traditionally be, the busiest time of the year.

Your association has been communicating with

government at the Ministerial level in order to ensure that the financial assistance that is made available to the commercial aviation community takes into account the difficult and unique circumstances of the helicopter industry. The Federal Government has made some public statements about the availability of short-term financial aid to employees and businesses in the face of this crisis and HAC is pressing them to live up to that commitment – and soon, because many operators are experiencing extreme hardship.

The government's current response to the financial hardship for businesses and employees is outlined [HERE](#).

HAC is focused on convincing government that the level of assistance outlined at the link above, for employees and businesses is woefully inadequate to ensure the welfare of our employees – significant lay-offs are virtually certain for all operators. The response is also inadequate to ensure the welfare – or even the survival of some operators in the Canadian commercial helicopter community.

Our challenge is to ensure that the government, as it prepares further Economic Stimulus plans, recognizes the harm – and the need for financial assistance - in all in segments of the aviation community, and not just for the airlines. HAC is arguing that our transportation industry segment is one of the most adversely affected, owing to our reliance on summer seasonal work, and the timing of this crisis in our annual business cycle.

Our HAC staff are now working remotely, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. We have cancelled our Annual Spring Reception and suspended in-person meetings, but remain available to connect with members by phone, email or video conferencing. We welcome you to contact myself or

Barbara Priestley, Member Services barb.priestley@h-a-c.ca and assure you that we will be able to assist you in a timely fashion.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me on my cell at any time.

Fred Jones, President & CEO