

Transport Canada Civil Aviation Industry Conference Call – COVID-19Tuesday, April 14th, 2020**Update from Nick Robinson, Director General, Civil Aviation, TC**

- Regarding public health authorities stating that cloth mouth coverings may help prevent the spread of COVID-19, TC has taken this advice into consideration and has been looking at how this may improve safety in aviation.
 - TC is currently deliberating how it may implement this guidance into the current measures that are in place. A decision is expected within 24hrs.
 - To be clear this is by no means a replacement for social distancing and shouldn't be perceived as personal protection.
 - Version three of the guidance materials on COVID-19 will be released later this week to reflect these developments.
- Regarding the modification of the passenger decks to transport cargo, TC will be issuing a CASA this week. It will be very similar to the guidance provided by EASA on this issue.
- Two weeks ago, TC issued a number of PPC 90-day exemptions. By the beginning of next week, TC will be in a position to inform the industry as to how it will extend these exemptions.

Update from Marcia George, Director, Regulatory Affairs, TC

- In the coming week, there will be exemptions regarding:
 - Incapacitated flight attendants (CAR 705)
 - Survival equipment (CAR 604)
 - Fee exemptions (CAR 104)
- TC is also looking at all exemptions that are set to expire in April or May, any exemptions that were put on hold, as well as one-offs as they arise.

Update from Wendy Nixon, Aviation Security, TC

- On Thursday, the Minister of Transport re-signed the Interim Order on domestic and inbound travel.
- An international exemption for medivac was also issued.
- There is additional guidance material coming today:
 - Includes changes regarding provincial/territorial requirements (approved isolation plans for international travelers).
 - Clarifications have been made regarding travel following the mandatory self-isolation period.

Update from Vincent Millette, Senior Policy Advisor, Policy, TC

- The Prime Minister issued a press release today, which announced \$17.3 million to help sustain northern air carriers and support supply networks to northern communities.
 - These funds will be distributed via the territorial governments.

Roundtable

- Has the newly developed one-hour test kit been discussed at TC?
 - With respect to essential workers, TC is looking at key items regarding the supply of PPEs and testing equipment.
- In helping protect flight crews, a number of manufacturers are coming out with kits, including barriers, to better protect flight crews. Has TC looked at allowing symptomatic passengers to board, if these measures/barriers are in place?
 - Not currently. TC is sticking with Canadian health officials' recommendation that symptomatic passengers should not be allowed to board flights.
- Recommendation that TC work closely with industry regarding the upcoming CASA on cargo on passenger decks.
 - TC is receiving feedback from all stakeholders on this CASA. Similar to the department's actions thus far, this issue will be revisited and updated as the situation develops and further recommendations from industry is received.
- The Manitoba Aviation Council is seeing a series of CAT 1 medicals that are in need of being renewed. Is there any consideration to extend seasonal CAT 1 medicals such as these?
 - TC Medical is looking at particular cases such as this. Please reach out to Dr. Brooks directly to discuss this issue (Tyler.Brooks@tc.gc.ca).
- On the issue of non-medical facemasks, will TC's guidance apply to provincial marine traffic as well?
 - This current guidance is focused on aviation, though TC's positions on COVID-19 are being applied consistently across all of the modes.
- Any update on NAV CANADA's proposal to reduce their services at certain sites?
 - Not at this time. NAV CANADA has been reaching out to operators and airports and is receiving feedback to assess risks. If there are any safety issues that are brought forward regarding any proposed sites, those sites will be taken off the list.
- Harbour Air (BC) process is to have passengers sign a declaration based on TC's questions, then providing them with facemask (N95 masks from China) and gloves in a Ziplock bag for the entirety of their journey.
 - Thank you for this information.
- With support of its air carriers, Government of Northwest Territories is distributing simple face masks for any flights where "out-of-territory" travelers will be transitioning onto another flight to one of the four main hubs (Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith and Inuvik) and thereby mixing

with local NWT travelers boarding these flights. These are being handed out at check-in if starting journey at the hub, or in boarding line-up if continuing on. They are supplied to air carriers by the Government of Northwest Territories.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Next call is currently scheduled for Thursday, April 16th at 1pm EST.