

**Industry conference call for civil aviation and COVID-19
Friday, 27 March 2020**

Update from Wendy Nixon, Director General – Aviation Security:

An Interim Order (IO) is coming to implement measures domestically that will prevent some of the dissemination of COVID. Health checks in the domestic Canadian environment are being looked at, and the Minister wants to continue the international measures implemented for domestic flights and outbound flight.

Air carriers are to perform a health check of all travelers before boarding a flight based on Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) advice. Boarding can be denied for a period of 14 days unless a medical certificate is provided. Information to passengers will be given to by the air carriers on self-isolation.

The IO is for large and small operators. The measures do not apply to cargo or less than 10 passenger's airplanes. Medevac flights are excluded as well. There is a requirement to have procedures to exempt passengers that need to be transported even with symptoms to go for medical treatment.

TC will share guidance material for the inflight and pre board announcement. Instructions on cleaning protocol and loading and unloading of passengers is available as well. For passengers that are becoming symptomatic during the flight, the air carrier needs to inform PHAC right away and implement their local protocol.

The IO will be coming into force within 48 hours after approval. The Minister could make an announcement today or in the coming days

Questions on the IO:

- If we use the guidance from the inbound international flights that has already been disseminated is that enough?
 - Domestic guidance material is very similar but small tweaks have been done for the in-flight announcements as well as some applications of certain measures for the domestic realm.
- For flights that have under 10 passengers but with a plane that takes more and uses seat packs for cargo...does the guidance take that into account for distancing and weight and balance?
 - Will look at the measures and TC will be happy to work with operations that have special situations. We will look at the draft and get back to you.
- Some operators are getting requests from remote communities to transport patients that can't get a medevac. Need to look into the procedures
 - TC will organize a call with PHAC and the associations to discuss this particular case.

Update from Nicholas Robinson, Director General – Civil Aviation:

- A Pan Canadian Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) will go out when the IO comes into force...and it will be in place for the duration of the IO.
- Guidelines for industry: TC has finalized air industry guidelines for COVID developed with other government departments and Civil Aviation Medicine. They are a set of guidelines to consider and

incorporate to address the spread of COVID. These guidelines will evolve in the coming days and weeks. It is our hope that the guidelines will go out by the end of today (Friday) or early this weekend. It will be shared through CARAC and to those people on this call. It will also be on the TC response landing Webpage and should be considered an evolving document.

- A number of letters were received requesting clarity on essential workers. TC is drafting a global piece on what TC believes is essential transportation and workers. We encourage the industry to practice, when possible, social distancing and measures to decrease the chance of spreading COVID. That letter will go out to associations to disseminate. If your organization is not part of an association, let Nicholas Robinson know (Nicholas.Robinson@tc.gc.ca). TC plans to release it by early next week.

Exemptions Update – Robert Sincennes, Director – Standards:

Exemptions being worked on:

- Flight attendant ratios is being finalized
- Exemption for airports to remove testing for emergency plan
- 704 exemption on training will be issued soon
- Deviation for maintenance related matters was released yesterday to the associations
- IPB document for the FAA bilateral is out to avoid unnecessary paperwork
- 704 for the 24 months extension for training...Unlikely that this will be extended further than the 24 months
- Night training exemptions for the various subparts as well as an Advisory Circular (AC) to provide some relief
- Pilot Proficiency Checks (PPC) as there are a few coming due on April 1; an exemption is being finalized. If the exemption is one day late, operators won't be penalized.

Roundtable

- Any update on the stimulus package for the remote and northern community that could be shared with us?
 - TC does not have any new information to provide at this point. Hoping to share more information in the next few days. Business Credit through EDC and BDC is what's available at this point.
- Essential services definition – Provinces are issuing definitions that are not consistent and do not capture some essential transportation services. We are urging TC to ensure the list be flexible to amendments
 - There were specific requests from different stakeholder to help them define essential transportation and services. TC has provided letters to some industry partners and issued a safety advisory last week CASA 2020-03. The letters sent were attached with the summary sent for Monday's call.
 - There is also a FPT group that is looking into what are essential services, it is a joint initiative. The definition is inclusive enough for industry to consider all essential services. PHAC website has some information on what is an essential service and there is a specific carve out for air industry

- We request that anything that is out for 704 that considerations be made on the impacts on 604. The Internal Process Bulletin (IPB) is a good example. Please put the information out somewhere.
 - Yes, we are considering all subparts and we are using many different communication channels to communicate information. Robert Sincennes: if we seem to have missed anything please let us know, either raise it on the call or send to Robert your concerns (Robert.Sincennes@tc.gc.ca).
- Guidance on the domestic health check. Are there some assessments done for cabin crews/staff and how they interface with passengers
 - Guidelines are mainly for air crew but they can apply to them as well.
- Where is Air Policy on their work on the air travel performance data regulations?
 - TC Air Policy is working actively on that. We are expecting to have an announcement next week for industry.
- Air Inuit: Extensions to Dec 1st 2020? – does it mean that TC will have reissued all documents that are extended to December 2020
 - Robert: We would expect everything to be back to normal by that date, we will revisit over the summer to ensure we can manage workload effectively. Please speak to your region to be deal with specific cases
- Winnipeg airport: we are providing SMS and Emergency Management Services for other airports. Because of travel restrictions we can't get to those sites when required. As well what about the training requirement for live fires?
 - Please work with your region/inspector to deal with those issues. Something will be coming out soon on the training requirements for live fires.
- Summary on the status of the various exemptions?
 - It will come out today through CARAC
- There are a number of companies that are being approached by local health agencies to move people. Not medevac operations but asked to move passengers and patients who have been exposed to the virus, need guidance immediately.
 - These crew guidelines will not address that particularly. TC is going to propose a call with the associations to discuss, as well as reach out to PHAC and discuss and work together to see what we might be able to work out. We need PHAC to be part of that conversation.
- Cargojet: 705 PPC extension. We submitted a request for Crew Resource Management (CRM) for class room training exemption
 - CRM is an advisory circular, no mandated way of doing the training. If you want to do it by other means you can. A summary is being prepared that will clarify that any training that is normally done in a classroom setting can be done by other means. This will follow early next week.
- Fred Jones, HAC - Should associations be lobbying provincial governments to have them line up with federal definition of essential services? Would this help or hurt?

- This is up to your association. Though TCCA can say that for the most part, almost all definition issues have been addressed. If there is a specific issue troubling you or your association, please let us know.
- TC Atlantic Region – When issuing extensions, do we provide the 60-day extension only, or add the extra 30 days on immediately?
 - Issue the initial 60-day exemption with the additional 30 days being added later if needed.
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- Air Inuit: We have one flight dispatcher that expires on May 1st?
 - We did not think that there were any dispatchers that will expire soon. If it is not the case, we can put out an exemption, let us know. Robert Sincennes to follow-up and see what to do beyond April.
- Goosebay: Exemptions for training times expiring on March 31.
 - Any exemptions already in place will be extended. Send an email to Robert Sincennes (Robert.Sincennes@tc.gc.ca) on the specific situation.

Key follow-up:

- Crew guidelines will come out through different channels including this email list.
- Meeting / call for procedures for the transport of COVID passengers on non-medevac flights will be organized by TC with associations.
- General TC page for COVID Measures:
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/initiatives/covid-19-measures-updates-guidance-tc.html>
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/fr/initiatives/covid-19-mesures-mises-a-jour-lignes-directrices-tc.html>
- Interim Order for Domestic and Outbound Flights:
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/mediaroom/interim-order-prevent-certain-persons-boarding-flights-in-canada-covid-19.html>
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/fra/medias/arrete-urgence-visant-interdire-certaines-personnes-embarquer-vols-au-canada-raison-covid-19.html>
- Guidance Material for Air Operators for Flights within and departing Canada
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/initiatives/covid-19-measures-updates-guidance-tc/guidance-material-air-operators.html>
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/fr/initiatives/covid-19-mesures-mises-a-jour-lignes-directrices-tc/document-orientation-pour-transporteurs-aeriens.html>
- Twitter handle:
 - <https://twitter.com/dgaviationcan>
- Send Summary of regulatory work done from this past week.
 - Issued through CARAC Friday.