

March 23, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Government of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

RE: Clarity required regarding non-essential services

Dear Prime Minister and provincial Premiers,

Canada's aerospace sector plays a critical role in Canada's overall economy and continues to do so even during this current COVID-19 crisis. Employing nearly 215,000 people, including jobs in manufacturing, technical trades, and management, we have built world-class capability and capacity when it comes to high-value, innovative aerospace products and series.

AIAC members operate in all regions of the country, offering products and services to Canada and indeed the entire world. Home to leading aviation and space companies, Canada is a world leader in producing and servicing all aspects of the global aerospace, defence and space industry.

It is also a sector that can, and will, play a significant role in Canada's economic recovery, if allowed to do so. The unprecedented Coronavirus (COVID-19) health crisis is resulting in difficult decisions, including shutting down parts of our economy that are not deemed essential. However, Canada's **aerospace industry ensures the safe transport of products and services necessary in times of crises, and also products and services required for maintaining critical infrastructure such as satellite systems in space and defence infrastructure.**

Aerospace businesses must have the option to remain open to support the flow of these goods and services. **Therefore, the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada (AIAC) calls on the Government, and the Provincial Premiers, to declare the aerospace industry as an essential service.**

As this uncertain global situation continues, AIAC and its members are in contact daily with many of your Ministers and their officials. We are in this together and have indicated our full support. We are actively engaging with our members and working closely with officials at the department of Innovation, Science, & Industry and Economic Development and Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade to determine how we can best support the critical need in terms of items and supplies required to combat the virus.

Prime Minister and Premiers, as you take further action to prevent the spread of the virus, please allow aerospace to stand with you and continue our vital contributions to the safety and security of Canadians, and indeed the world.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Quick", is placed below the text "Yours sincerely,".

Jim Quick
President and CEO
Aerospace Industries Association of Canada

cc: The Honourable Blaine Higgs, Premier of New Brunswick
cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
cc: The Honourable François Legault, Premier of Quebec
cc: The Honourable Brian Pallister, Premier of Manitoba
cc: The Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia
cc: The Honourable Dennis King, Premier of Prince Edward Island
cc: The Honourable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan
cc: The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta
cc: The Honourable Dwight Ball, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador
cc: The Honourable Sandy Silver, Premier of Yukon
cc: The Honourable Joe Savikataaq, Premier of Nunavut
cc: The Honourable Stephen McNeil, Premier of Nova Scotia