

April 9, 2020

Ambassador Juan Jose Gomez Camacho
Embassy of Mexico in Ottawa
45 O'Connor St. Suite 1000
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1A4

Dear Ambassador Juan Jose Gomez Camacho,

I am writing to you today on behalf of Canada's aerospace industry, a world-class sector with significant operations in every region of our country, in Mexico, and indeed the world. Canadian aerospace companies have a long history of offering products and services for the global marketplace and we appreciate our positive working relationship with Mexico.

During this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, we have been working closely with Canada's federal government, led by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and his government ministers and officials, on behalf of our aerospace member companies to minimize disruptions in global supply chains.

As you know, the aviation and aerospace industry in Mexico is one of the three largest industries manufacturing in Mexico today. As in Canada, it is an industry that can fulfill a very important role during this time of crisis by ensuring the safe transport of essential medical equipment, ensuring telecommunications systems continue to function, and supplying and servicing critical aircraft, helicopters, engines and component parts required for military relief and emergency operations.

The industry is a true ecosystem in which we all depend on each other. No one aspect can function without the other. Many of our AIAC industry members have operations in Mexico and the recent federal decree has caused some confusion about their ability to continue operations, which impacts manufacturing, maintenance and service support activities that keep supply chains flowing.

Decisions being taken in Mexico regarding the industry are having a global impact. In order for the global aerospace and defence industry to continue the important work ensuring the safe transport of products and services and maintaining defence infrastructure, we respectfully ask that the Government of Mexico designate the industry as an essential service, as has been done in Canada, the United States and other jurisdictions. Ensuring such harmonization will bring much needed clarity and consistency and help stabilize global supply chains.

During this challenging time, it is important that we all work together. Canada's aerospace industry values our mutually beneficial relationship with Mexico. Cooperation between our two countries' industries is now more critical than ever.

On behalf of our member companies, it is imperative that the cross-jurisdictional issues are addressed for the benefit of both our industries.

Sincerely,



Bill Yetman
Vice President
Aerospace Industries Association of Canada

cc: Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Foreign Affairs
cc: Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry
cc: Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade