



November 12, 2014

The Honourable Lisa Raitt, P.C., M.P.,  
Department of Transport  
330 Sparks Street,  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5

Re: Proposed Amendment to the Aeronautics Act, Bill C-43

Dear Minister:

The Canadian Airports Council (CAC) would like to express our concern regarding proposed amendments to the Aeronautics Act currently contained in Sections 143 and 144 of Bill C-43.


We understood the intent of these proposed amendments to be to provide the Minister of Transport with additional powers in the area of development and operation of proposed new small aerodromes. However, we are concerned that as currently drafted the proposed amendments capture a far greater array of airport development and activity than was intended.

Furthermore, while there may have been informal discussions between Transport Canada and airports on issues related to new private aerodromes, there was no consultation with industry on the broader language currently being proposed. We contend that this legislation should have been subject to the same process that normally would be undertaken by the Government of Canada on aviation-related legislation so that the implications of it could be properly considered and the language amended, as needed, to better match the stated objectives.

We would be pleased to work with Transport Canada to develop revised language that better corresponds to the stated objectives. If the language cannot be effectively amended we suggest that this part of Bill C-43 be removed until such time as this matter can be given proper consideration through consultation with the aviation industry.

As always, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter in greater detail with department.

Sincerely,



John Gibson  
*Chair*

cc: The Honourable Joe Oliver – Minister of Finance

Christine Lafrance – House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance  
Clerk

Philippe Grenier-Michaud – House of Commons Standing Committee on  
Transport, Infrastructure and Communities Clerk