



January 13, 2021

Good day,

This is a reminder with respect to the pre-departure testing requirements for a negative COVID-19 molecular test on all flights into Canada, as set out in the *Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 18* (IO#18). You will recall that IO#18 supports important COVID health requirements made by the Minister of Health under the *Quarantine Act*.

Effective at midnight tonight (00:00 EST or 05:00 UCT on January 14, 2021), travellers from **all last points of departure** (with the exception of Barbados, Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Haiti for those reasons outlined below) will require a valid negative COVID-19 molecular test that was **administered within 72 hours** of the flight's scheduled departure to Canada.

With respect to **Barbados, Bahamas** and the **Dominican Republic**, Transport Canada, in consultation with Global Affairs Canada and other Government of Canada partners, is issuing a special exemption until January 21, 2021, to allow testing to be done within 96 hours instead of the required 72 hours. This is in recognition of the challenges being faced with respect to testing availability and laboratory processing in those locations.

Jamaica: Exceptionally, and in order to deal with the unexpected challenges of a COVID-19 molecular testing supply shortage there, travellers departing from Jamaica who were not able to obtain a COVID-19 test may be allowed to board their flight, if they acknowledge and confirm in advance the necessity to take a COVID-19 test at the Toronto Pearson International airport immediately upon their arrival in Canada. This exemption expires at 23:59 ET on January 18, 2021. During that period, travellers getting tested for COVID-19 on arrival should expect to remain at the airport until the COVID molecular test has been administered, which could result in extended delays to onward travel. Until a negative result has been confirmed, travellers will not be permitted to use any forms of public transportation, including taking connecting flights.

Haiti: Although travellers should continue to be encouraged to obtain a negative COVID-19 molecular test prior to boarding a flight to Canada, travellers will not be required to do so up until 23:59 ET on January 20, 2021. Upon arrival in Canada, however, travellers will be directed by a Quarantine Officer to obtain a test. During that period, travellers getting tested for COVID-19 upon arrival should expect to remain at the airport until the COVID molecular test has been administered, which could result in extended delays to onward travel. Until a negative test result has been confirmed, travellers will not be permitted to

use any forms of public transportation, including taking any connecting flights. An extension beyond 23:59 ET on January 20, 2021 will only be considered based on extraordinary circumstances.

Finally, I would like to confirm that travellers from **St. Pierre et Miquelon** to Canada will require a valid negative COVID-19 molecular test prior to boarding flights to Canada. Air operators must verify before boarding that the traveller has a valid test matching their traveller identification that was administered within 72 hours of the flight's scheduled departure to Canada effective at the same time (00:00 or 05:00UCT on January 14, 2021).

Thank you,

Aviation Security