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April 24, 2012

The Honourable Denis Lebel, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities &  
Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec  
330 Spark Street  
29th floor, Tower C  
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0N5

Dear Minister Lebel:

I'm following up on my letter dated April 19, 2012 requesting a phone conference to discuss the Aveos issue, with this letter to formally convey British Columbia's position. This letter reinforces the support our government expressed in supporting the motion in the BC Legislature I have referenced with you in previous correspondence.

Our government's top priority is to create and protect jobs for B.C. families. The Government of British Columbia feels very strongly that these 356 family-supporting jobs should remain in the province. I have had the opportunity to meet with union leadership and Aveos workers and was impressed with the years of experience they represent.

I understand that the Quebec government is pursuing legal action against Air Canada under the *Air Canada Public Participation Act*. While the Greater Vancouver facility is not specifically referenced in the *Act*, it is the view of the Province that B.C.'s workers deserve the same protection offered to their colleagues in Winnipeg, Montreal and Mississauga.

I believe that the spirit and intent of the *Act* was to prevent the outsourcing of Canadian jobs and to protect workers in the aviation industry. The federal government has an obligation to defend these Canadian jobs – including the affected workers in British Columbia.

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I understand this is a complex situation. However, I believe we have a responsibility to do everything we can to keep these jobs in Greater Vancouver, Winnipeg, Montreal and Mississauga.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Pat Bell". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Pat Bell  
British Columbia Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation