

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Flight Attendant Union (CFAU) requests a strike mandate from its members after an impasse with Jazz Aviation LP (Jazz)

TORONTO, ON – September 2, 2026 – The Canadian Flight Attendant Union (CFAU) is seeking a strike mandate from its members who fly under the Air Canada Express brand. After nine months of bargaining talks, members are currently voting on whether to authorize strike action. Voting closes on September 4, 2026, at noon ET.

The CFAU represents over 1,000 flight attendants at Jazz Aviation LP, who have been working under an expired collective agreement since January 1, 2026. The Union served notice to bargain in September of 2025 and began talks in November. Since then, the CFAU and Jazz have enlisted the services of a mediator, and the parties continue to be unable to reach an agreement on the most critical issues.

“Safety does not begin at takeoff, nor does it end at landing,” said Marsha Walters, President of the CFAU. “It begins with fair working conditions, proper rest, and respect for the flight attendants who are responsible for the safety and care of passengers every day. The Union remains committed to reaching a negotiated agreement at the bargaining table.”

The CFAU believes a strong strike mandate from its membership is necessary to ensure Jazz Aviation understands the seriousness of the outstanding issues and the resolve of its members.

The importance of that safety responsibility was brought into sharp focus for our members following the March 22, 2026, accident involving Air Canada Express Flight AC8646 at LaGuardia Airport. “While the investigation remains ongoing, the CFAU will not comment on the incident itself,” Walters said. “Our employer cannot call us safety professionals when there is an emergency and then fail to properly recognize the work and responsibility that come with that role at the bargaining table.”

The CFAU remains committed to reaching an equitable collective agreement with Jazz and avoiding disruption to passengers. However, the Union says meaningful movement from the employer will be necessary to resolve the current impasse.

Walters added: “Our position is simple: **if the work is required, it should be credited. If the time belongs to the employer, it should be compensated. And if flight attendants are safety professionals, they must be treated and compensated accordingly.**”

CFAU is calling on Jazz to return to the bargaining table prepared to make meaningful progress toward an agreement that recognizes the value, responsibilities and working conditions of its flight attendants.

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