



CUPE Air Canada Flight Attendants Strike / Lockout Update #4 Tentative Agreement Reached

Certainly by this time you have seen / read / heard that CUPE and the Company have reached a tentative agreement early this morning and the strike has come to an end. Past experience tells me that this will take pretty much the rest of the summer for the flights to return to normal and the affected people to get to where they need to be. (Many may have postponed their travel for a couple of weeks.)

Any details of the agreement are rumours at this point as even the members of CUPE have not been officially told. Take what you see with a grain of salt. The details will be conveyed in the coming days at ratification meetings where they will vote on the deal. Once the ratification votes are tallied the details will be shared.

I believe what we witnessed over the past week was a master class on Collective Bargaining. Ultimately a deal was reached AT the Bargaining Table – not in a court room. It showed us what can be achieved if both sides put their minds to it. No one wants a strike. It was really evident that the Company didn't for they went running to Mommy and Daddy Government to put an end to it. The workers too didn't. They would have much preferred flying, serving our customers – the people who pay our wages. But at the end of the day, the old adage, "Put your money where your mouth is" prevailed. They showed they could not be bullied.

I bring attention to this because our contract will expire soon. Our Bargaining Committee will be reaching out to see what we want. Whether that is in the form of better wages or pensions, benefits such as glasses or chiropractic treatments or getting a 3 course meal with fine china paid for at the Fairmont every day we work, we must be united. The flight attendants showed what they can achieve with a strong mandate of 99.7%. They tell me 100% is impossible so please prove me wrong.

Until then, please work safely. Take your breaks and stay hydrated. Respect SOPs even if you have to take a delay. Remember, Safety First – Always. Dot all your I's and cross your T's. Keep your carts slower than the slowest person walking.

In solidarity,

Eric

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Eric', written over a white background.