

The Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance

The Honourable Anita Anand
Minister of National Defence

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne
Minister of Innovation, Science, and Industry

The Honourable Helena Jaczek
Minister of Public Services and Procurement

May 26, 2023

Dear Prime Minister and Ministers,

We write to you today, in our role as employers and members of the supply chain for Canada's aerospace and defence sectors, to urge you to move forward with an open, competitive Canadian Multi-Mission Aircraft (CMMA) tender.

Strong, Secure, Engaged calls for open, fair and transparent competitive procurements to ensure our armed forces have the right equipment to keep Canada safe and secure, while supporting opportunities for Canada's aerospace and defence industries. We endorse this procurement strategy and applaud the Government of Canada for its commitment to fostering competition, innovation and security alongside partners in Canadian industry and our global allies.

Sole-sourcing a replacement for the RCAF's Aurora CP-140 maritime patrol aircraft in lieu of an open, fair, transparent competitive procurement does not align with ***Strong, Secure, Engaged***. It will unnecessarily stymie growth and innovation in Canada's world-renowned aerospace and defence industries. It will not ensure we get the most modern and right-sized solution at the best price, while maximizing economic benefits for Canadians.

Canadian aerospace and defence has developed products and solutions that not only compete on the world defence stage, they shine—and win—thanks to our talented Canadian workforce. A CMMA tender open to diverse proposals would be an opportunity for Canada to re-think its surveillance capabilities. Canadian-built solutions should, and must, be considered on equal footing with foreign-built options.

Canada has the skills, the industrial footprint and the technological capabilities to produce a cutting-edge multi-mission platform for the RCAF and to export it to our allies globally, strengthening our economy here at home. This is the ultimate opportunity for Canadians to look to the sky and proudly trust a Canadian-built aircraft to defend our borders and support our allies, while reinforcing our sustainability, innovation and economic values.

Only a fair, open and transparent competitive CMMA procurement can achieve this outcome.

On behalf our employees and the ongoing operations of our companies, we urge you to support an open CMMA tender and publicly commit to said process. Given the importance of this matter, we will follow up on this letter by contacting each of your offices to arrange a meeting time to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Jean-Christophe Gallagher

EVP Aircraft Sales, Bombardier Defense

Brian Chafe

CEO, De Havilland Canada

Andrew Petrou

Chair, Downsvie Aerospace & Innovation Research

Joel Houde

Vice President and General Manager, General Dynamics Mission Systems-Canada

Natasha Gagnon

Interim CEO, Ontario Aerospace Council

Jake Trainor

CEO, PAL Group of Companies

Chris Pogue

CEO, Thales Canada Inc.

Serge Audet

General Manger, A.T.L.A.S. Aeronautik Inc.

Marinko Saric

President, Coordinate Industries Ltd.

Jean-Charles Raillat

President and CEO, DCM Group Inc.

Eric Faucher

President, Hutchison

Brent Patterson

Owner, Kinnear Rembourrage Inc.

Charles Guerin

President, On Board Data Systems

Louis-Martin Tellier

CEO, Plastiques Flexibulb Inc.

Peter Voss

CEO, Shimco North America Inc.

George Sidaros

President, Sidtor Industries Inc.