



End of Summer Bulletin

Jumpseat on Rouge

As announced in the *Move Me News*, effective August 28,2019 Flight Attendants from Mainline will be able to occupy a cabin jumpseat on Rouge aircraft.

LOA and Booking Off

Did you know that even if you have no sick days left you can book off? You do not need to ask for a leave, you can still book off, however you will not receive any credits for the book off and the Company still has the right to request a doctor's note. If you request a Leave of Absence and subsequently book off, you may have your book off denied and find yourself with an unavailable for duty - fault instead! Should this occur, please write a report to office@local4092.ca. It is our position that the Company cannot refuse your book off. If they have questions or concerns about the validity of your book off, they have the ability under Article 9 to request a medical note as substantiation. Please document all efforts and costs associated with any attempt to have the unavailable fault reversed, including if, how and when medication substantiation was requested.

Best Three Years

Did you know that you can see your current best 36 consecutive months used for your pension calculation under your Pension Estimates at HR Connex? Click on Retirement=>HR Connex Pension => Pension => Run Pension Estimates=> Pension Forms of Payment => Calculation detail

Annual Reduced Block Program & SPLOA's

Under Memorandum of Understanding: Reduced Block Program Under LOU 25 of the Air Canada / CUPE Collective Agreement, reduced blocks are available for an eight (8) month period starting October 2019 and ending May 2020, inclusively. The relevant information is available under Tools & References > Crew Scheduling & Planning > Reduced Block Program Information . The bidding closes September 3, 2019 0800 ET with awards published by September 11, 2019 2300 EDT. There are also Special Leaves of Absence for the October 2019 through to January 2020 block month. These leaves are available for both Service Directors and Flight Attendants and will be limited by base, language requirements, qualifications and according to operational needs. Bidding closes on September 3, 2019 800 ET with awards published by September 11, 2019 2300 ET.

Improvements to the Labour Code

In June, the federal government set Sept. 1 as the start date for a series of amendments to the Canada Labour Code for federally regulated workplaces. WestJet is seeking exemptions to changes that would give workers the right to written notice 24 hours before a shift change, the right to refuse overtime to carry out family responsibilities and a mandated 30-minute break within every five hours of work. The company argued some of those Labour Code changes are "entirely impractical" to employees like pilots and cabin crew, with shift changes on short notice often necessary to ensure passengers aren't stranded and WestJet employees are able to



Denis Montpetit President, Local 4092

www.local4092.ca

Contact Information

Tel: (1) (905) 676-4293
Fax: (1) (905) 676-4763
Email:
office@local4092.ca

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm

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return to their home base. CUPE is watching this closely, as National Airlines Council of Canada, which counts Air Canada, Air Transat, Jazz and WestJet as members, has also expressed concern about the incoming changes. We expect soon to be able to release more information about ho these specific amendments may affect our Collective Agreements.

Big Pharma, Government Legislation, Pharmacare & Lawsuits

Five pharmaceutical companies said they have filed a complaint in a Canadian court challenging the constitutionality of new Canadian regulations meant to lower patented drug prices, setting up a fight with the federal government. All five firms said the 10 provinces have always had the authority to regulate the prices of medicines, not the federal government, who may have proposed this legislation to lay the ground work for the creation of a national Pharmacare program. Click here for more info.

Big Pharma, Opioids & Lawsuits

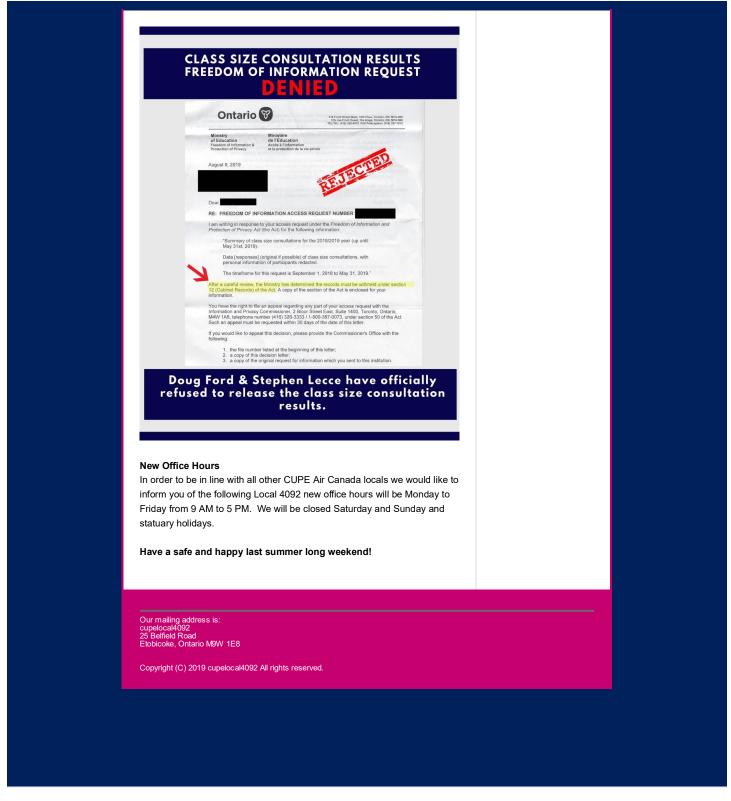
In other ironic news, Johnson & Johnson (whose parent company Janssen is one of the 5 companies party to the above mentioned complaint) was recently ordered to pay the State of Oklahoma over half a billion dollars US for the part it played in flooding the state with opioid prescriptions causing a crisis that killed citizens, destroyed families and wreaked havoc on communities. For more information on that story, click here. In a bid to recoup health-care costs associated with opioid addiction in Canada, the B.C.government-launched-a-class-action-lawsuit last year against dozens of pharmaceutical companies alleging they falsely marketed opioids as less addictive than other pain drugs. A separate \$1.1 billion-class-action-lawsuit was filed this spring in Ontario on behalf of alleged victims. In Canada, the federal government's most recent figures estimate that opioids were related to the death of more than 11,500 people between 2016 and 2018.

CUPE Public Education Workers Prepare for Action

In an open letter to parents and families of Ontario's schoolchildren, the union that represents 55,000 education workers has laid out the reasons that its members are preparing for potential labour disruption in September and asked for families' support and understanding. The letter cites students' right to "a high-quality, well-supported, and well-rounded public education" as one of the primary reasons that CUPE members are taking part in strike votes immediately after students return to class. Click here for more info.

Other unions representing education sector workers may follow suit, given the cuts and layoffs that have taken place since the Ford government took power last year. Many are frustrated over the lack of transparency in the Government, who are refusing to release the results from the largest public consultation on education.

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