



**ST. JOHN'S**  
*International Airport Authority*

**For Immediate Release**

## **News Release**

Contact: Marie Manning, St. John's International Airport Authority  
Telephone: 709-758-8564; 709-690-9319  
Email: [mmanning@stjohnsairport.com](mailto:mmanning@stjohnsairport.com)  
Website: [www.stjohnsairport.com](http://www.stjohnsairport.com)

### **No Settlement to Airport Strike**

*Authority to make plans to ensure the premier gateway to province is not disrupted*

ST. JOHN'S, NL, Wednesday, June 19, 2013 – Negotiations have broken off again between the Airport Authority and PSAC following ten days of exploratory talks that took place in both Ottawa and St. John's over the past month. The parties agreed that proposals exchanged would not be binding on either party unless there was an agreement on all issues. This was not achieved.

The Authority remains committed to negotiating a settlement that offers a fair package to its employees, while ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of the Airport. The Authority's objective is to offer a wage package that is competitive with relevant local and industry comparators. Throughout recent talks, the Authority continued to offer meaningful proposals to the union on all outstanding issues. However, PSAC continued to make unreasonable wage demands and refused to agree with the contract language changes required for the Authority to operate its business effectively.

“We are disappointed that these meetings did not result in a negotiated settlement. Although we demonstrated our flexibility on all the issues, we determined that we could not reasonably and responsibly satisfy all the demands of the union,” said Keith Collins, President and CEO of St. John's International Airport.

Airport employees have been on strike for more than nine months, and they continue to receive a

level of strike pay that is equivalent to their take-home pay. The Authority believes that this reflects PSAC's intention to prolong this strike indefinitely.

“We now assume that our employees will not be returning to work in the near future. As a result, we will explore all resourcing options to continue to provide safe, reliable Airport operations at our province's premier transportation gateway. Our Airport plays an important role in facilitating the economic growth of our region, and we will not permit the union to disrupt our Airport and the important service it provides to our community,” added Collins.

*St. John's International Airport Authority is a private, not-for-profit organization with the mandate to provide the region with a safe, cost-efficient transportation facility that is a catalyst for economic growth. Under the provisions of a long-term Ground Lease with the Federal Government of Canada, the Airport Authority is responsible for the airport's operations on behalf of the community it serves.*