



www.nationalpost.com ONLINE

- MAIN ▾
- NEWS ▾
- FINANCIAL POST ▾
- COMMENTARY ▾
- SCIENCE & TECH ▾
- ARTS & LEISURE ▾
- SPORTS ▾
- ENTERTAINMENT ▾
- FORUMS

- SITE MAP ::
- SUBSCRIPTIONS ::
- ADVERTISE ::
- CONTESTS ::
- NP EVENTS ::
- CONTACT US ::
- USER HELP ::



WEATHER | CAREERS | HEADLINE SCAN | E-MAIL UPDATE

---Shortcuts---

E-MAIL THIS STORY PRINT THIS PAGE

June 11, 2002

CAW, AC to extend work share program

EI pays for fifth day of work week for 1,000 employees

Peter Fitzpatrick

Financial Post

In a sign of continuing softness in the airline industry, Air Canada and one of its largest unions have agreed to extend a shortened work-week program implemented earlier this year to preserve jobs at the carrier.

The company and the Canadian Auto Workers union have jointly applied for an extension of the federal workshare program, which covers about 1,000 employees, the CAW said. Those on the program work four days a week, with Employment Insurance paying for the fifth day.

"The application is more limited than the initial application in terms of numbers," said Laura Cooke, a spokeswoman for the carrier.

Gary Fane, director of the transportation for the CAW, said the union is not worried about the need to extend the program even though the carrier is heading into the peak summer season.

"The business is getting better but it's not as good as pre-Sept. 11," he said, noting the union has contractual job guarantees that run until 2004.

The new agreement would cover CAW workers at call centres and some airports, the union said.

Both sides are asking that the program be renewed for 12 weeks after running an initial 26 weeks.

Air Canada and some of its unions began using the program last February in order to avoid some 9,000 job cuts.

Ultimately, due to improving business and other mitigation measures, including work sharing, the

HAVE YOUR SAY



Would you be willing to pay road tolls to help implement the Kyoto Protocol?

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



TRAVEL

Looking for getaway ideas? Check [POST TRAVEL](#).

» [LET'S GO](#)

number of cuts was reduced. Air Canada's main carrier had 33,700 full-time equivalent employees at the end of the first quarter, compared with 39,600 a year earlier.



In recent months, Air Canada has begun rehiring laid-off workers, especially flight attendants and pilots, as it gears up for the busy summer season. It has also recalled mechanics due to its burgeoning third-party maintenance business.

One of the conditions of the program is that a company produce a plan to show it can return to normal production and hours of employment at the end.

SPECIAL REPORTS

The most recent NP supplements online:

- » [POST HOMES](#)
- » [DRIVER'S EDGE](#)
- » [GOLDEN JUBILEE](#)

» [ARCHIVES](#)

60-DAY SEARCH

sort by: date rank



- Product / Service
- Company Name

pfitzpatrick@nationalpost.com

Other Stories by this Writer

- 6/11/2002 - [CHC shares take off on record Q4 results](#)
- 6/8/2002 - [Air Canada planes full, but may still be flying into loss](#)
- 6/8/2002 - [Surcharge gets time limit](#)
- 6/7/2002 - [Ottawa may let competitors on CN, CPR track](#)

[News](#) | [Financial Post](#) | [Commentary](#) | [Science & Tech](#) | [Arts & Leisure](#) | [Sports](#) | [Diversions](#) | [Forums](#) | [Weather](#)
[Careers](#) | [Subscriptions](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Headline Scan](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Contests](#) | [NP Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [User Help](#)

[Copyright](#) © 2002 National Post Online | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Corrections](#)

National Post Online is a CanWest Publication.