

For immediate release

**NEW AIR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND COSTA RICA
WELCOMED BY NATIONAL AIRLINES COUNCIL OF CANADA**

OTTAWA, August 11, 2011 – The signing today of an Air Transportation Agreement between Canada and Costa Rica will create opportunities to further develop scheduled air services between the two countries, says the National Airlines Council of Canada.

“The new air services agreement, which allows Canadian carriers to operate to Costa Rica without capacity restriction as well as pick up and discharge traffic in third countries in between, is welcomed by Canada’s largest air carriers and represents a significant plus for travellers,” said George Petsikas, President of the NACC. “Ratification of the agreement will also provide Canadian air carriers protection from the long-standing double taxation issue, a development applauded by the NACC.”

The NACC, which represents Air Canada, Air Transat, WestJet and Jazz Aviation LP, strongly supports a balanced air liberalization policy framework for Canada that ensures a level playing field and provides maximum added-value reciprocal benefits for all stakeholders, including consumers, communities, airports, the tourism industry and Canada’s airlines.

- 30 -

For more information please contact:

Brigitte Hébert
National Airlines Council of Canada
Tel.: 613-231-7223
bhebert@airlinecouncil.ca