

## EDITED HANSARD - March 1, 2007

### Aviation Safety

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**Mr. Mario Laframboise (Argenteuil—Papineau—Mirabel, BQ):** [↘](#)

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Transport is in the process of implementing an aviation safety system that would have airline companies do their own inspections.

How can the minister say that his approach will not affect safety when airline companies will be the ones to decide for themselves what they are not doing correctly and to come up with their own requirements for changing the way they do things?

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**Hon. Lawrence Cannon (Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, CPC):** [↙](#) [↘](#)

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to explain to my honourable colleague that the proposed changes will improve the aviation system and safety nationwide.

The new system is an add-on, an umbrella, that adds to the existing system. It is important to understand that we have not reduced the number of inspectors. On the contrary, we have raised it. We have also found that the number of accidents has decreased.

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**Mr. Mario Laframboise (Argenteuil—Papineau—Mirabel, BQ):** [↙](#) [↘](#)

Mr. Speaker, we heard from the president of the Canadian Federal Pilots Association, and now it is the former aviation security commissioner, Mr. Moshansky's turn to sound the alarm.

In a statement delivered yesterday before the Standing Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities, he claimed that not only is Transport Canada preparing to make cuts to the current inspection system, the department is actively working to destroy it.

Does the minister understand that fewer inspectors means a greater risk of disasters, not greater safety?

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**Hon. Lawrence Cannon (Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, CPC):** [↙](#) [↘](#)

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to review and listen to parliamentarians' deliberations that took place yesterday. This expert's testimony could not have been clearer. He said that the proposed system, the system that is now in place, will improve transportation safety. Personally, I think that safety is the most important thing. We will keep doing what we are doing.

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