



**Calgary & District Labour Council**  
The Voice of Labour in Calgary

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MEDIA ALERT

# Conservatives continue attack on Labour

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On October 12, 2011 the Labour Minister Lisa Raitt used to the Canadian Industrial Relations Board to strip Air Canada's flight attendants right to strike.

"This government has injected itself into a private dispute and has fundamentally altered the incentives and disincentives that are built into the collective bargaining process. At the end of the process is an agreement or a strike. A strike focuses both parties because it will cost both the employer and the workers money; it creates an incentive to come to a compromise. This government has stated that there will be no strike. That tells employers they don't have to bargain in good faith with their workers," stated Alexander Shevalier President of the Calgary and District Labour Council.

"Will the Harper government force all federally regulated employers to bargain in good faith, since they seem to have stripped workers of the right to strike?" he continued.

"Canadians have made considerable social gains through the right to strike, without it we would not have the eight hour work day, maternity leave, employment insurance benefits and many others. It should concern all Canadians that the Conservative government is taking such a radically regressive step," he concluded.

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The Calgary and District Labour Council represents 37,000 affiliated union members in both the public and private sector. Our members make Calgary work.