

Submitted by email to the Canadian Transportation Agency

Subject : Please stop the nonsense

Hello,

I heard about the consultations late, but I wanted to give you my opinion as well.

I have extremely bad allergies to animals. Medication doesn't work for me with some animals, e.g. cats which will send me into a hospital level asthma attack and if I touch something that has been touched by someone who has a dog or a horse I break in hives with blood shot eyes. This is equivalent to a disability and in some case it is worse - when asthma pumps don't work, a bad asthma attack can kill you!

So now when airlines are forced to choose between competing disability they generally choose the person who needs an emotional support animal and tell the allergic person that they cannot board. This is crazy! Unless the person who has an emotional support animal cannot travel with medication and their animal in the hold, why are they prioritized over patients with strong allergies? Who decided that their emotional welfare was more important than our physical welfare?

I am fine with the fact that some people need service dogs because they are blind, or some autistic children need their dog for support. What I do have a problem with is that just about anyone who love their pet and don't feel like letting them travel in the hold now need "emotional support" of some sort. Apparently you can get an "emotional support" animal license without even visiting a psychiatrist. How is that possible? If you have an emotional problems that requires an emotional support animal this should be checked by a psychiatrist. You definitely need help!

The other craziness that your ministry has to stop is the airline requirement to provide them with proof that I have an allergy EACH time I travel. They have a 5 pages form that takes forever to fill out and costs \$75 for my doctor to fill. The form must be filled out just before I fly and sent to them 48 hours so that the airline accommodates my allergy. That accommodation will likely mean that I'll get kicked out to a later flight if someone has a dog on board. Great!

They should ask you for the form ONCE, put a notice with your name in their systems that automatically lets the system know not to book a person with cats to the same flight. The same, if you want to book a flight which already has a seeing eye dog booked on, it lets you know so that you can decide to book another flight, or take a chance with gloves to be seated at the back of the plane. Allergies are not changing from one flight to another. They are a permanent disability and providing the airline with a ONE time proof of disability should be sufficient.

The crazy Noah's Ark in the sky has to stop.

Chantale
(Removed)