

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 12, 2021

The Honourable Mélanie Joly, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Foreign Affairs
House of Commons
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Joly:

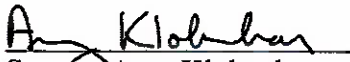
As the northern U.S. border opens to vaccinated travelers and tourism this week, we commend the Canadian government for its early and consistent efforts to fully reopen the U.S.-Canada border. While there is much to celebrate, we ask that the Canadian government help address the challenges created by coronavirus (COVID-19) testing requirements that could slow travel between the U.S. and Canada.

We have heard from constituents that the testing protocols required by the Canadian government to enter the country will make it very costly for individuals to travel between our two nations. Currently, the Canadian government requires vaccinated travelers entering the country to take a pre-arrival molecular COVID-19 test, which can be costly. This expense could discourage tourism and will be prohibitively expensive for individuals who regularly travel across our northern border, including those in Minnesota, Maine, Idaho, and New York.

While some travelers may have access to free or discounted tests, the timing of test results will prove challenging to navigate. We applaud the steps Canada has taken to ease cross border travel restrictions and urge the Canadian government to now remove testing requirements for vaccinated travelers and to engage with U.S. authorities regarding any concerns. It is important for both of our nations' economies that fully vaccinated individuals are able to travel between Canada and the U.S. with ease.


Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,


Senator Amy Klobuchar
U.S. Senator


Senator Susan Collins
U.S. Senator


Senator Mike Crapo
U.S. Senator


Senator Charles E. Schumer
U.S. Senator