



**Julia Connolly**  
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**Candidate for Base VP YVR**

I am thrilled to be nominated for the position of YVR Base Vice-President. I have long supported our need for legal representation, starting with WPFPA and continuing through our CUPE drive. I am proud to have the chance to represent my fellow YVR-based flight attendants and know that I will be hard-working and effective in this role.

**Quick Facts:**

- **12+ years as an FA**
- **Multiple airline experience**
- **Vocal against the CCA**
- **10 years of commuting (YVR-YYZ, YVR-YYC, IAH-YVR)**
- **FT and PT experience**
- **Line Indoc experience**
- **Honours BA in Political Science**

I began my flying career back in 2007 as a mainline cabin crew member with Air Canada. This experience afforded me the opportunity to experience the benefits of being represented by CUPE, as well as exposed me to the challenges we will face as we negotiate our first legal contract. I've been a flight attendant with WestJet for 11 years, and I've seen firsthand the struggles all our FAs are facing. I am facing the same challenges as all FAs as we attempt to balance our new working reality (less efficiency, more time away from home, more unpaid hours) with our obligations at home.

As a senior WestJet, I have been around to see some big changes. Some of the changes are amazing and exciting, from our first Hawaii layovers, to our

European expansion and now the adding of Dreamliners to our fleet. But I've also witnessed some major failures such as the Sabre transition, Plus roll out, the failed lead program and Refresh, to name just a few. Throughout all those times, I have always been an active and strong voice for our cabin crew members. I wasn't afraid to speak out about the inconsistencies and vague-wording of the Cabin Crew Agreement, and I championed loudly for everyone negatively impacted by that agreement (part-timers, juniors, internal transfers, reserve holders etc.).

I also truly "get" the struggles our flight attendants are facing. While I am now lucky enough to be living back in YVR, I was a commuter for years, so I truly understand the need for a supportive commuting program. I've been both a full-time and a part-time flight attendant, and I have a strong understanding of the unique challenges faced by both groups. I've been on medical leave, unpaid leave and modified duties so I truly comprehend that we are facing serious support issues with our health insurance providers and return to work program. The negative impact of the maintaining hours program and the renewed Attendance Support program is not lost on me. I've been and will continue to be vocal about the need for a supportive sick policy, that accounts for the challenges we face and that is not disciplinary in nature. I've never been afraid to stand up for what is right and fair.

Like most you, I have experience balancing the demands of flying with providing care for family members at home, and I see the need for increased flexibility for parents. I've been on reserve for 11 years, so I truly get the reserve struggle and the need for a real plan to address it. In short, I've been flying a long time, in a variety of circumstances, and I feel strongly that my experience makes me the best person to represent our needs.

My educational background provided me with the tools and knowledge needed to balance the needs of the flight attendants and the demands from the company. I have strong communication skills, am a logical thinker, and a representative you can count on!

I look forward to answering any questions you have for me. If I elected, I promise to fight for the needs of YVR and all flight attendants.