



# What Now?

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The election of Donald Trump in the United States has had a profound impact on what has traditionally been a stable trade relationship between our two countries.

President Trump has promised to aggressively use tariffs to force American trading partners into accepting objectives of the American government. This has resulted in unprecedented instability in the Canada-US trading relationship and has threatened our sovereignty and our economy.

I know the ongoing uncertainty regarding the trade relationship with the United States has caused a lot of anxiety in our community as people wonder how it will impact them, when and how long those impacts will last.

Federally, the Canadian government's response has been complicated by Liberal Party infighting and the fact that Parliament is prorogued until late March.

I believe that we must have an election so that Canada can send a Prime Minister with a strong mandate to Washington to negotiate. We need to solidify a long-term solution to this uncertainty.

In the following pages, I will share with you some of the many suggestions Canada's Conservatives and Pierre Poilievre have been putting forward as constructive approaches to dealing with these challenges.

If we fail to find a good solution to these American concerns, Canada risks significant economic problems, widespread job losses and permanent damage to a relationship that has worked well for two centuries.

Canada did not start this conflict, but we will need to find a solution to it. At the same time, the aggressive approach of the Trump administration is not typical of the Americans I know and the America I know. It is important that we take these concerns seriously, and work hard to maintain the underlying relationship that has worked well for both nations for so long. When all is said and done, they will always be our neighbours.

I will continue to work to defend my country, my province and my city. Canada has a lot to be proud of and a lot to defend. We will never be the '51st State'.

Canada will always be strong and free!

Proudly Canadian,

Len Webber, MP  
Calgary Confederation  
Alberta Caucus Chair

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**A**fter President Donald Trump announced he would start a tariff war with Canada, the Honourable Pierre Poilievre released his *Canada First* plan to indicate how a Conservative government would respond to these threats by bolstering internal trade, rebuilding our military, and retaliating if necessary.

## FIX INTER-PROVINCIAL TRADE

Trade barriers between Canadian provinces are more costly than trade barriers between Canada and other nations. In 2023, international trade was worth 66% of GDP, while interprovincial trade was only worth 36%.

The *Canada Free Trade Agreement* is supposed to allow commerce between provinces and territories; however, as the *Globe and Mail* put it: "It is noted more for the number of exemptions it allows than for the number of barriers it actually eliminates". The *Montreal Economic Institute* counted a total of 245 trade barriers across all provinces and territories.

Eliminating inter-provincial trade barriers would boost Canada's economy by up to 7.9% which amounts \$200 billion per year, or \$5,100 per person per year.

As Prime Minister, Pierre Poilievre will:

- Bring together the Premiers to remove as many inter-provincial trade barriers as possible within 30 days of becoming Prime Minister.
- Create a *Blue Seal Professional Licensing Standard* recognized in each province so doctors, nurses and engineers can work in all provinces and territories and Canadians trained abroad can quickly get certified and working in Canada.

- Standardize trucking rules to get billions of dollars of goods moving east-west instead of north-south. This move alone would boost GDP by \$1.6 Billion.
- Offer provinces a *Free Trade Bonus* to get a deal done. Every trade barrier removed will generate more GDP, and more revenue. Pierre Poilievre will give this increased tax revenue back to provinces to spend on schools, hospitals, and whatever else Premiers choose. As this bonus would only be paid out of boosted government revenues, it would not add to the massive NDP-Liberal deficit.

As Pierre Poilievre stated, "President Trump's tariffs are a wake-up call to all political leaders, who are now forced to put the national interest ahead of special interests. Canadians will expect all political leaders to do what it takes to make our country more self-reliant and less dependent on the Americans. It starts with trade at home."

Free trade in Canada will not be enough to displace the U.S. market, but this move by Pierre Poilievre will help bring home more business, and make Canada less dependent on forces and countries outside of our control.

## REBUILD OUR MILITARY

We must rebuild our military and take back control of our borders to regain the confidence of our partners, assert our sovereignty, protect our people and put Canada first. Our border needs to be taken back into our control, not to please the President, but to protect our own people. This plan will stop fentanyl, guns, human traffickers and terrorists from ever entering our country, and protect Canadians.

As Prime Minister, Pierre Poilievre will:

- Call up Canadian Forces troops to the border to immediately bolster surveillance now.
- Add at least 2000 border agents and extend CBSA powers along the entire border, not just crossings.
- Install border surveillance towers as well as truck-mounted drone systems to spot border incursions.
- Install high-powered scanners at all major land crossings and shipping ports. These scanners can see through walls of containers or vehicles to spot drugs, guns and stolen cars.
- Track departures so government officials know which deportees are in Canada illegally.

# RESPOND TO TARIFFS

There has not been much coverage of what Canada's Conservatives would do if we were the government, and so constituents continually are asking, "How will you respond to tariffs?"

As Prime Minister, Pierre Poilievre will:

- **Retaliate dollar for dollar if tariffs are put on Canadian goods.** Application of tariffs should be done carefully to maximize the impact on American business, while minimizing the impact experienced by the Canadian consumer. That means targeting American products that we can do without, buy elsewhere, or best of all, that we can make here in Canada. For example, we produce the highest quality steel and aluminum, under strict environmental standards, and it would be ideal to see more Canadian projects using our own products.
- **Immediately repeal Liberal anti-energy laws such as Bill C-69 and green light job-creating projects now.** That includes LNG plants, pipelines, mines, factories, and port expansions, so that we can get our products to overseas markets without going through the United States. Never again can Canada be in such a weak negotiating position.
- **Give revenues from tariffs back to Canadians in the form of tax breaks.** If Canada imposes tariffs, none of that money should stay in government coffers or be spent on unrelated government priorities. All of it should go back to the workers and businesses that are affected, and most of it should go back in the form of a tax cut.
- **Knock down interprovincial trade barriers to have truly free trade across our country.** Part of the reason we are in this state because we sell twice as much to the Americans as we sell to ourselves. This can and should be easily changed.

To help pay for this plan, we will scrap the failed Liberal gun buyback, which, despite spending four years and \$67 million, has not taken a single gun off the street. Ending this scheme will save \$600 million, money that will go towards securing our border against illegal guns. We will also cut millions in pricey consultants and phase out thousands of back-office bureaucratic jobs through attrition.

Recent events have shown how unprepared Canada was to assert our sovereignty. Never again can Canada take a trade relationship for granted or assume our trading partners will be 'honest brokers'. We need to put Canada first — now and always. That means a common sense Conservative government that puts *Canada First*.

Do you agree with Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre's plans in response to American tariffs?

Yes       No       Unsure

Do you expect President Trump to keep using tariff threats to push it policies on other countries?

Yes       No       Unsure

Would you like to see Canada's Premiers focused on eliminating inter-provincial trade barriers?

Yes       No       Unsure

Have you made an effort to increase the amount of Canadian products you buy?

Yes       No       Unsure

SURVEY RESULTS ARE PRINTED IN THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. SUBSCRIBE AT LENWEBBER.CA

## When it comes to addressing the concerns of Canadians...

What do you think of the job the Conservative caucus is doing?

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 POOR

What do you think of the job the Liberal caucus is doing?

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 POOR

What do you think of the job the NDP caucus is doing?

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 POOR

What do you think of the job your Member of Parliament Len Webber is doing?

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 POOR

**W**hen you support the Canadian economy by 'buying local' or 'buying Canadian', it is important that you understand the difference in the terms used.

Buying Canadian products and services means your money stays in Canada and supports Canadian jobs. In turn, those businesses and employees pay taxes in Canada which help fund the many government programs and services Canadians cherish — like healthcare. Once you spend money on a foreign product or service, that money leaves the country forever.

There are some strict labelling standards to help you be an informed consumer.



**Product of Canada** — Anything labelled *Product of Canada* means 98% of the product is Canadian content. This is the 'gold standard' to look for. (The remaining 2% is often imported ingredients like spices.)



**Made In Canada** — Anything with this label means that at least 51% of the product is Canadian content and it was last processed in Canada.

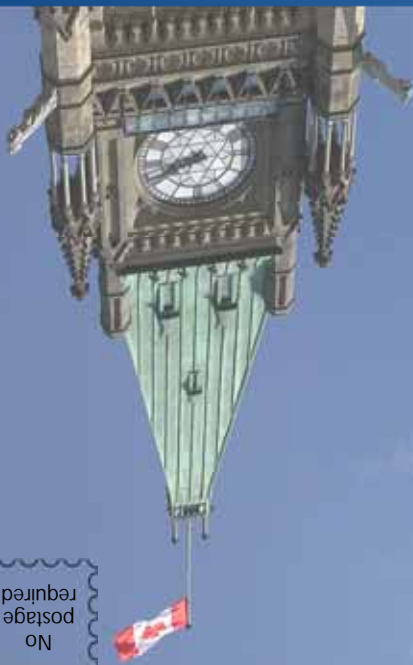
**Locally Produced** — This is for items produced and sold in the same province or territory.

Other terms that may be used:

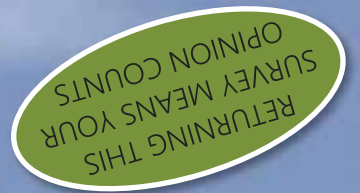
- "Processed in Canada" to describe a food which has been entirely processed in Canada.
- "Prepared in Canada" to describe a food which has been entirely prepared in Canada.
- "Packaged in Canada" to describe a food which is imported in bulk and packaged in Canada.
- "Roasted and blended in Canada" (coffee beans are always imported)
- "Refined in Canada" (used to describe imported cane sugar which has been refined in Canada)

Return the survey by detaching this page along the center dotted line. Then refold so that the address panel is facing out. Tape shut on the long side and return postage-free.

2025-1



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