

TARIFFS ARE A TAX ON CONSUMERS

What exactly are tariffs?

Tariff is another word for a specific kind of tax - a tax that one country puts on goods coming into that country from another.

Tariffs raise money for the country imposing them, but those tariffs - like all taxes - are paid by the consumer.

Tariffs make goods more expensive, and whether you buy goods at the grocery store, or as a component of a manufactured product, the price goes up because the government has collected a portion of the price of the product.

If the US puts a tariff on Canadian steel, for example, the cost to make a product in the US with Canadian steel goes up. With our highly integrated economies, that finished product is often brought back across the border to sell to Canadians - at a higher price. A tariff was paid as the steel went into the US, and a retaliatory tariff paid when the manufactured product came back into Canada. In the case of oil and gas, the product (unrefined and refined) may cross the border several times. The same is true for much vehicle manufacturing.

Retaliatory tariffs are applied to goods coming into Canada, so when you buy that California head of lettuce, you will pay another tax on top of a price that already reflects many business and consumer taxes (such as the carbon tax on the truck fuel that brought it here). 🍁



◀◀ The always well-attended Silver Springs Community Association AGM.



IN CALGARY ROCKY RIDGE

▶▶ With Rockland Park Homeowner's Association General Manager Carla Nikli and Secretary Karen Shopland at the Grand opening of the Rockland Park HOA Lodge and Park (including hockey rink, skate trail, pool and playground).



▶ Celebrating 100 years with Florence Barry at Rocky Ridge's Manor Village Life Centre.



◀ Candlelight vigil honouring the lives of Ania Kaminski and her father Stanislaw Wardzala, brutally taken from their friends and community.



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CANADA MUST BUILD ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

As I write this in February, Canada has obtained a 28-day reprieve from threatened tariffs on goods we export to the United States. The Canadian government has also temporarily paused its own retaliatory measures that would have resulted in higher prices on US goods sold to Canadian consumers.

Investment is a critical component of insulating Canada's economy from unexpected shocks. But investment has been fleeing Canada due to government policies. Now we learn that the company chaired by the Prime Minister's economic advisor [Mark Carney], a candidate for the Liberal leadership, is moving from Canada to the US.



While it is obviously necessary to fight against US tariffs (and the harm caused to Canadians by our own retaliatory measures), it should never have come to this.

Canada must take responsibility for its national self defence, and enforcing Canada's laws.

Canada needs to insulate our economy from over-dependence on the United States by increasing trade with the over 50 other countries with which Canada has free trade agreements.

Canada must **build pipelines and other infrastructure** so that we can sell our natural resources to countries other than the US.

Canada must **attract investment** so we can make more things here at home, and Canada must **reduce interprovincial barriers** and start

acting more like an economically unified country.

The Liberals could have focused on those measures for the last nine years, but instead they neglected and even blocked those sensible strategies.

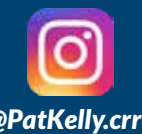
It is time for a new government that will take building economic resilience seriously. 🍁

Pat Kelly



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Canada has neglected our border for far too long, with the predictable result that drugs, guns, stolen goods like vehicles, and criminals (including terrorists) move into and out of Canada with inadequate surveillance and prevention.

Drugs

49,000 Canadians have died of opioid overdoses in the last nine years, with many of the deadly drug ingredients imported from China and Mexico.

In British Columbia, police discovered a superlab containing enough fentanyl and materials to kill 95 million people.

Only 1% of shipping containers are inspected coming into our country, allowing drugs and guns to sneak through in the other 99%.

Guns

Under this government, gun-related crime is up 116%. The Toronto Police Association says that 85% of gun offenders use illegal firearms brought across our border from the United States.

Canadian security services have identified 350 organized crime rings operating within our borders.

Sixty-three of these groups have international connections to China, Mexico, and other nations.

Criminals and Terrorists

This government has let multiple ISIS terrorists into Canada, including a man allegedly filmed cutting up a human body on a crucifix in the Middle East—the same man charged with planning a terrorist attack in Canada.

The government admits it has lost count of the number of people who are here in Canada illegally. One government report estimated it is somewhere between 20,000 and 500,000 people. 🍁



6. Track departures so government officials know which deportees are in Canada illegally.

- ▶ To pay for these measures, Conservatives will scrap the failed gun buyback from legal owners, which despite four years and \$67 million, has not taken a single gun off the streets. Ending this scheme will save \$600 million that will be redirected towards securing our border against illegal guns.
- ▶ There is also money to be saved by cutting some of the \$21 billion a year in pricey outside consultants, and phasing out thousands of back-office bureaucratic jobs through attrition. Under this government, the public service has grown by 110,000 jobs - about 41% - mainly to administer a vast array of new programs and spending. 🍁

Should the Americans proceed with tariffs in March, Conservatives have proposed a six-point plan to respond. These steps could be taken by the current government. If they fail to do so, a future Conservatives government would implement these steps immediately.

Conservative Six-Point Tariff Plan

1. Retaliate with dollar-for-dollar tariffs carefully aimed at maximizing impact on American companies while minimizing impact on Canadian consumers. That means targeting U.S. products that we can make ourselves, buy elsewhere, or do without. For example, we must retaliate against American steel and aluminum tariffs.

2. Put all the tariff revenues into help for affected workers and businesses. Government should not keep a dime of the new revenue.

3. Pass an emergency tax cut to bolster the economy, slow inflation, and save and create jobs. Canada needs a massive tax cut on work, investment, energy, homebuilding and making stuff at home. The carbon tax and capital gains tax hikes must be the first on the chopping block.

4. Immediately scrap anti-resource law C-69 (the "no-more-pipelines" bill), and greenlight LNG plans, pipelines, mines, factories, and port expansions to enable us to sell to overseas markets, not just the USA.

5. Bring in truly free trade within Canada by knocking down interprovincial barriers to help replace lost north-south trade with east-west trade and to make us self-reliant. See column on right for details.

6. 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. See box on left for details. 🍁



Interprovincial barriers to trade cost the Canadian economy - and consumers. It is one of the first places we can and should take action to insulate our own economy from outside threats. Conservatives have proposed the following strategy:

1. Bring the Premiers together to agree on removing as many exemptions as possible that block movement of goods and services from one province to another.
2. Prioritize an agreement on **one standard set of trucking rules** to get billions of dollars of goods moving east-west instead of only going north-south. This move alone would boost GDP by \$1.6 billion.
3. Create a **Blue Seal Professional Licensing Standard** so doctors, nurses and engineers can work in all provinces and territories, and Canadians trained abroad can quickly get certified and working by meeting consistent Canadian standards.
4. Offer **provinces a Free Trade Bonus**: every trade barrier removed will generate more GDP and revenue. This increased tax revenue will go to provinces. As this bonus would only be paid out of boosted government revenues from free trade, it would not add to the massive deficit.

INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE FACTS

- Trade barriers between provinces are more costly than trade barriers with other nations. We trade more with the rest of the world than with ourselves.
- in 2023, international trade was worth 66% of GDP, while interprovincial trade was only worth 36%.
- Economist Trevor Tombe estimated that eliminating all interprovincial trade barriers would boost Canada's economy by as much as 7.9% and generate an economic boost of \$200 billion per year, or \$5,100 per person.

Free trade in Canada would not be enough to displace the U.S. market, but it will bring home more business, and make Canada less dependent on forces and countries outside of our control. 🍁

Conservative Border Plan

1. Call up Canadian Forces troops to the border along with military helicopters and surveillance now.
2. Add at least 2,000 border agents.
3. Extend CBSA powers along the entire border, not just crossings.
4. Install border surveillance towers as well as truck-mounted drone systems to spot border incursions.
5. 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.