



Dear Neighbour,

I hope you and your families are doing well and enjoying the last few weeks of summer.

I wanted to write to you following the recent developments in Canada's trade negotiations with the United States, and to speak directly about what they mean for us and our future.

After months of negotiating in good faith, our government made the decision to walk away from a deal that simply did not serve our interests.

Our government has been clear from the beginning: we will always work toward a fair agreement with our closest neighbour and largest trading partner – but never at the expense of our workers, our key industries, our culture, or our sovereignty.

Even in this moment of uncertainty, there is also a great deal to feel hopeful about – we are continuing to build Canada strong.

The Prime Minister emphasized that, "building at home and diversifying trade abroad is not our Plan B. It has been our Plan A from the start."

And we are already seeing that work pay off.

Canada is in a stronger position today than when this trade dispute began. We are attracting record new investments, expanding our exports beyond the United States, creating jobs at four times the rate of the US, and are projected to have the second-fastest economic growth in the G7.

Canadians have also stepped up in their own way. Over the last year and a half, people across the country have chosen Canadian products, supported Canadian businesses, vacationed in our national parks, and found countless ways – big and small – to choose Canada.

That unwavering spirit matters as we become the masters of our own destiny.

We are certainly becoming stronger and more resilient, while our government is making sure that the workers, families, and businesses most affected by these tariffs have support here at home.

There will undoubtedly be challenges ahead. But I remain hopeful and confident about where our country is headed.

As the Prime Minister rightly said:

"Canadians don't submit to the weather – we thrive in it. We don't wait to see which way the wind is blowing. Or surrender ourselves to the waves to be storm-tossed by events. We set our own course. We make our own weather."

That is the Canada that you and I believe in.

We are indeed the masters in our own home. We have the strength, the resources and most importantly, the determination to come through this moment stronger than ever before. And here in Scarborough Southwest, we will continue to do what we have always done: look out for each other and move forward together.



Where we are now

The United States has now imposed 50 per cent tariffs on roughly \$28 billion worth of Canadian goods, from building materials to clothing to hockey sticks. Effective September 8, Canada will impose counter-tariffs of 15, 25, and 50 per cent on products targeted by U.S. Section 338 and Section 232 tariffs, with the Canadian rate matching the corresponding U.S. rate.

What Comes Next

Our government is also introducing a \$7.5 billion package of new and enhanced measures to support Canadian workers and businesses affected by these tariffs, building on the nearly \$25 billion in support the government has provided since the implementation of the United States' unjustified tariffs. This new package is focused on helping businesses manage immediate pressures, protecting jobs, and helping workers through this period of uncertainty.

It includes:

- \$1.5 billion in additional support through the Regional Tariff Response Initiative to help small and medium-sized businesses manage tariff pressures, including their liquidity needs.
- A new \$500 million liquidity stream through the Business Development Bank of Canada's (BDC) Pivot to Grow program to help businesses facing immediate cash-flow pressures.
- Expanded access to BDC's tariff-related programs by lowering the minimum annual revenue requirement for applicants to \$1 million.
- \$2 billion for a new Canada Strong Diversification Fund to support tariff-affected businesses facing funding pressures and help keep investment moving.
- A new \$3.5 billion suite of Rapid Response Supports for Workers and Employers, including measures to strengthen income support, help workers find new opportunities, and help employers retain and retrain their workforce.
- New flexibilities for the Large Enterprise Tariff Loan facility, allowing larger employers to access liquidity for longer as they navigate this period of uncertainty.

As we navigate this period, our government will continue focusing on what we can control: building strength here at home and diversifying our trade so that Canada is no longer reliant on a single trading partner.

And Now I Want to Hear From You

In Scarborough Southwest, we have many small businesses, families managing tight budgets, and workers in manufacturing, logistics, and the trades. And I want you to know that we are here for you.

So I am asking you directly. Take a few minutes to tell me how these tariffs are affecting you, your household, or your business.

[Fill out the questionnaire](#)

If you own or operate a business that has been impacted by the tariffs, please reach out to our office to help you navigate available federal support. My team and I are here to make sure your concerns are heard.

You never need a special reason to contact us. Whether you need assistance with a federal service, have a question about something that is happening, or simply want to share your thoughts, ideas or feedback with me – please reach out.

My team and I are here for you.

Yours Truly, Serving You,



Doly Begum
Member of Parliament for Scarborough Southwest



{{Disclaimer}}

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