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Davenport Friends and Neighbours / Amis et Voisins de Davenport,

Many of you have questions regarding the tariffs that Donald Trump is imposing on Canada and how we are responding.

This letter provides information in the following order (in case you want to skip to a certain section):

- [Tariffs](#) – How Canada is responding; We are united!
 - Trump wants all manufacturing in the USA
 - This is economic warfare;
 - Communicating our message will be a challenge – my opinion
- [Border Reality Check](#) – Less than 1% of fentanyl and less than 1% of “illegal” immigrants cross from the Canadian border into the USA; \$1.3B invested; huge decrease seen; graph
- [Strengthen interprovincial trade](#) – create a more resilient economy
 - Pushed for this for 6 years
 - Need to get local and regional skills and labour data
- [Mexico](#) – working with our neighbour to bring in fresh fruit / vegetables
- [European partners](#) – they know that they are next; we are working with and talking to them. More to come in the coming days months
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Tariffs

President Trump has announced 25% tariffs, beginning on Tuesday, February 4, on all Canadian products going to the USA (energy at 10%), as well as 25% tariffs on Mexico and 10% tariffs on China. The [Wall Street Journal](#) has called this “the dumbest trade war.” Trump has made it clear that he wants all manufacturing to happen in the USA - and will penalize production outside of the country.

Canada has announced that it will reluctantly [retaliate with counter-tariffs](#). All provinces and territories are onside – we are united. No one province or sector will bear the brunt of the tariffs; and no tariffs will be imposed without provincial signoff.

We are also encouraging Canadians to **buy Canadian** and to reconsider vacations to the USA in favour of the many amazing places to vacation in Canada. Our dollar is also the lowest it has been in almost 10 years so it will be cost-effective to consider vacations here at home.

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Make no mistake — this is economic warfare. President Trump is trying to divide Canada. He continues to offend Canada with his 51st state comments.

Prime Minister Trudeau did an excellent job in his [televised address](#) on Saturday evening. He reminded everyone that we did not ask for this; we have stood by the USA as friends and allies for over a 100 years and what we are being accused of is pure fiction – less than 1% of the fentanyl and less than 1% of the illegal crossings into the United States come from Canada.

In my opinion, one of the challenges now is how to communicate our message to so many Americans who distrust mainstream media and who get their news online. META has been co-opted by President Trump, Elon Musk of X is part of Trump's executive team. So how do Americans access independent, fact-based journalism?

The question also has been raised about how President Trump is [abusing the Emergencies Act](#) and many US Senators have said it should be Congress that is making these decisions on trade. There is talk by some Canadian leader to head to Washington and put it urgently to the courts.

Strengthening the Border

In any case, we are spending [\\$1.3 billion](#) to strengthen efforts and collaboration on border security. I am also sharing [graphs](#) that our Public Safety Minister has shared with Washington counterparts. I was on the phone with him Sunday afternoon. He said the border officers on both sides are collaborating super well and everyone is happy with border security.

After speaking with local police from all four divisions that cover our constituency – **I know that guns coming in from the USA onto our city streets are a big issue.** I can assure you that we are on alert and we absolutely are taking advantage of our increased cooperation and investment at the border to stop guns from coming into Canada. Drugs are another issue; we are using our additional resources to stop drugs from coming across the border into Canada. We have shown some [excellent successes](#) thus far.

Internal Trade Barriers

Part II is to strengthen Canada's internal economy by dropping as many interprovincial trade barriers and regulations as possible – for people and for goods. Up to now, it has been too easy to do business in the USA, so we neglected the state of our internal economy.

Amazing progress has been made. Stay tuned for more news this week.

This is something I have been advocating for ... for over 6 years. In a world that is increasingly more unpredictable and volatile, creating more internal resiliency is paramount.

As well, we have just about everything we need in this country – water, agriculture, resources, minerals, people, etc. With some hard work and political will, we can increase Canada's growth to 4% of our GDP.

I am also pushing for Canada to ensure we have better information about local and regional skills and labour needs. We have data at the national level but need more localized data. It will help ensure that people know where the jobs and skill needs are in the coming weeks and months.

Mexico

Prime Minister Trudeau did speak with President Scheinbaum. We are working on how to support each other in ways that are mutually beneficial. Mexico sends its best produce to the USA – perhaps now we can redirect more of it to Canada.

Hot off the presses as of this morning – President Sheinbaum has indicated that [Trump has agreed to hold off on tariffs on Mexico](#) by one month

European Partners

Prime Minister Trudeau is in touch with many global leaders who are viewing the illogical and unnecessary trade war with deep apprehension and worry.

As mentioned in the [Wall Street Journal](#): *“The hammer blow to Mexico and Canada shows that no country or industry is safe .. This will cause friends and foes to recalibrate their dependence on America’s market, with consequences that are hard to predict.”*

No country is safe. The rules-based international order implemented after WWII that has brought about unprecedented growth to North American, Europe and most parts of the world is under threat.

It will be tough times ahead – and I will be here to respond to Davenport residents. Over the next month, I will be hosting a [series of roundtables](#). The first one is this Wednesday afternoon – I will be hosting a coffee/tea at my office to answer questions about the tariffs or any other topic. Kindly [RSVP](#) if you are attending.

I look forward to seeing you.

My best regards,



Julie Dzerowicz
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