



## A Message from the Aurora Chamber of Commerce on U.S. Tariffs

Despite the overwhelming support for avoiding a tariff and trade war from businesses on both sides of the border, tariffs were on the table until late yesterday afternoon. At the last minute, the proposed 25% U.S. tariffs were paused for 30 days. Canada must see this as a wake-up call for our country, our economy and our citizens. If the threat has brought any good news, it's the unity that we see among Canadians and our determination to stand up for Canada.

### **What's next?**

Supporting local Canadian businesses whenever possible is the first step. We should all be aware of what we are purchasing and the impact it has on our economy. Our small independently owned businesses who were building back from the devastation that COVID inflicted, are now facing a new set of threats to their businesses. Any time we can support our local shops and business owners, we should be doing so. We should also be looking at the labels on the goods we buy and making the decision to buy Canadian. Check out the Made in Canada website <https://madeinca.ca/> for more information on Canadian products.

Secondly, provincial governments must act urgently to dismantle the interprovincial trade barriers, to make it easier to sell Canadian goods to Canadian consumers. The Chamber often hears that it is easier to sell to other countries than it is to sell interprovincially in Canada. This must change.

Canada must become more self-sufficient by focussing on building our manufacturing sectors, increasing productivity, investing in research & development, and innovation. Our dependency on other countries to complete or support our economy is no longer sustainable in today's economic climate.

Next, we must diversify our trade options beyond North America and the government must play a role in this. This experience has shown that being complacent and loyal to one major trading partner does not protect us from economic shifts.

Lastly, national security must become a key priority for the government, not just to appease the U.S. President, but to ensure that our citizens feel secure and protected in their homes and businesses.

We can do this, Canada has the highly skilled, diversified and well-educated workforce needed to make Canada a global powerhouse.

As always, the Aurora Chamber is here to support your business. If there is any support or help that we can provide please reach out directly to me by email at [s.ferri@aurorachamber.on.ca](mailto:s.ferri@aurorachamber.on.ca) or by phone - office 905-727-7262 or cell 647-920-0675. We are incredibly proud of the rich and supportive business community that we have built in Aurora, and we will all be there to support one another during these difficult times. Please read the response that follows from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Kind regards,

## The Ontario Chamber of Commerce Response

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is a member of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce which represents and advocates on behalf of over 150 Ontario Chambers of Commerce. Here is their response to the Tariff threat.

**Ontario Business & Trade Leadership Coalition:** The OCC has set up a coalition of leaders from Ontario's trade-dependent sectors to advise government and support Ontario business competitiveness – both immediately and in the longer term.  
READ THE MEDIA RELEASE [HERE](#).

**Pan-Canadian Advocacy on Interprovincial Trade:** In January, the OCC coordinated a unified call from every provincial chamber CEO in Canada for the premiers to act with urgency to dismantle interprovincial trade barriers. They are also working at the federal level, coordinating a meeting of business leaders with the Hon. Anita Anand, the federal minister responsible for internal trade, to press this case further.  
READ THE MEDIA RELEASE [HERE](#).

**U.S. Advocacy:** Since last summer, the OCC have been proactive in ensuring U.S. chambers fully understand the importance of their trade relationship with Ontario and Canada. Next week, Daniel Tisch, President and CEO of the OCC will be joining Premier Ford in Washington as he addresses the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and hosts a reception for senior American business leaders.

**Support for Ontario SMEs:** The OCC is ramping up educational content to help local businesses understand how to navigate U.S. tariffs.  
CLICK [HERE](#) - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED AS RECEIVED.

**Ontario Election Advocacy:** Last week, the OCC released Ontario Competes, priorities for the 2025 provincial election. These recommendations are essential to enhance Ontario's competitiveness and ensure our resilience to future geopolitical and economic threats.  
READ THE RECOMMENDATIONS [HERE](#).

---



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 CORPORATE SPONSORS



Aurora Chamber of Commerce | 14483 Yonge Street | Aurora, ON L4G 0P3 CA

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!