

# Protecting Canada



**Over 45,000 Canadians died for freedom, democracy and justice while fighting during World War II. They did so in alliance with a community of nations, united in their resolve to defeat fascism.**

**They died protecting our land, families, values and way of life. Every year since, millions of us have honoured their memory by doing our utmost to live up to the best version of ourselves and improve our country; for ourselves and for generations to come.**

For the love of all that is good, moral and just under the skies, Canadians have never shied away from a challenge. And the challenge is here. It's time to face it, head on and with an open heart.

Eighty years after we defeated it, the spectre of fascism is once more on the rise. There is no sugarcoating it: this calls on us all to mobilize, be ready to fight and endure some sacrifices. We have battled fascism before. We won. Now that it pokes its ugly head out of the dustbins of history, we will battle it again and kick it back into the grave, where it belongs.

Under Donald Trump's presidency, the United States of America - the world's largest economic and military power, our neighbour and longtime ally - is embracing fascism, turning away from the values and freedom our brothers and sisters valiantly fought and died for.

In less than 50 days, Donald Trump's presidential administration - which controls a majority of Congress and retains significant influence over the Supreme Court - has unconstitutionally succeeded in dismantling critical guardrails and institutions within the United States, casting serious concerns about the viability of its democracy.

Domestically, he persists in undermining democracy and projecting himself as an imperial strongman. He is allowing an unelected multi-billionaire gangster to access critical personal data, has pardoned people who attacked Congress, appointed a pro-Russian official to oversee critical intelligence gathering, and hired an anti-vaxxer to regulate health. He has dismantled and continues to undermine the very safeguards that are intended to keep autocratic power in check: removing the Chief of Defense Staff and other officers to appoint people loyal to him, purging the Department of Justice and

Federal Bureau of Investigations of those who lawfully and ethically investigated and prosecuted him for criminal offences. He is implementing plans to deport millions via concentration camps while denying vulnerable US citizens access to key services. His administration is flooding the media, courts and oppositions with so many radically divisive and illegal measures that they struggle to keep pace, drowning any opposition to his single-man rule in the process. Like many other authoritarian figures before him, Trump is swiftly creating the conditions for regime change. Using dog whistles to signal his supporters, he has granted permission for citizens to openly express their racism and hatred for those they consider “others.”

Abroad, his administration is openly supporting neo-Nazis in Germany and the far-right in France and Spain. Meanwhile, he speaks fondly of Russian war criminal Vladimir Putin and North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un. He threatens Greenland and Panama with war, calls Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy an “unelected dictator”, votes with Russia at the UN and lambasts Europe for protecting the rights of women and minorities, with his Vice-President calling such policies offensive to “the sensibilities of most Americans.” In Canada, some of his lackeys, like Elon Musk and Jordan Peterson, endorse Pierre Poilievre for governor of the so-called 51st state he wants to create after annexing us by force. Economic force for now - but who knows for how much longer.

The US is no longer an ally. For the very first time since 1812, the United States is posing a direct threat to Canada, through no fault of our own.

Given our geographic proximity, their military might and relative economic strength, it is impossible, irresponsible, and immoral to dismiss the threat as anything less than existential. Just as it is impossible, irresponsible and immoral to do nothing about it.

We have many things the US now looks for: water, land, raw resources and rare earth minerals. The growing impacts of climate change will soon further exacerbate these pressures. If anyone thinks countries don't invade other countries any more: they should read the news.

The sooner we wake up to this ghastly new reality, the sooner we can prepare for what may come. We will not let the venom of fascism poison our minds, take our homes and destroy what is most precious to us: our land, our futures, our democratic values, our freedoms, our youth.

We must enter this period with our eyes wide open. Only then can we stand strong enough to prevent or resist worst case scenarios.

## The threat landscape emerging from the hostile Trump administration includes:

- Direct or indirect interference in upcoming Canadian federal and provincial elections;
- Attempts to turn provincial leaders against one another and against federal leadership;
- Flooding Canada with disinformation, through Trump-aligned media companies and conglomerates such as X, Meta, Fox News and US-owned Canadian media editorials such as the Toronto Sun or the National Post;
- Maintaining the threat of tariffs and moving the goalposts as they please, forcing our economic actors into a state of constant insecurity;
- Undermining our economy, costing Canada tens of thousands of jobs and provoking a potential recession;
- Weaponizing anger at economic circumstances caused by tariffs to create a domestic political movement in favor of annexation. This tactic could be similar to the Pierre Poilievre-supported Freedom Convoy, which sought to undermine and attack Canadian institutions and leadership with the financial backing of US actors;
- Lifting critical safety regulations on domestic food production that endanger consumers of US-produced food items on both sides of the border;
- Suspending public health support for vaccination and other preventative health measures that endanger Canadians traveling to the United States or those coming in contact with US residents visiting Canada;
- Responding to Canadian counter-tariffs (dollar for dollar) by creating a US domestic narrative casting Canada as an attacker and a threat to the United States;
- Mobilizing additional US support for an annexation of Canada;
- Responding to strong Canadian positioning with further tariffs or disturbing, directly or indirectly, Canadian IT, banking and supply infrastructure;

- Making unreasonable demands on our fresh water, critical minerals, energy, or border as a quid pro quo for lifting up tariffs or other economic measures they may take in the future;
- Mobilizing existing US-produced, designed or controlled IT support systems, databases and goods, from Facebook to iPhones and Teslas into illegal mass surveillance and disinformation and misinformation tools;
- Direct or indirect mobilization of violent official or non-official US actors to violate Canadian sovereignty and attack institutions and citizens, as he did on January 6, 2020, this time in order to advance his annexation agenda.

The above is but a small sample of existing, identifiable vulnerabilities and risks. These are by no means novel means of exerting power on foreign nations - the US has done so in countless countries in the past. We will not allow ourselves to be next.

We believe it is essential to not only communicate such risks but also provide a clear pathway to deter, protect against and counter any further attacks on our sovereignty.

The US president will never dictate what Canadians do and who we vote for. We will stand on guard, strong and free, to protect the true North.

To do so, we urge the current Canadian government to do the following and pledge to work after the next election to advance these items that are key to our national security and independence:

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## Internationally

- Create a common diplomatic and economic front - an economic NATO of sorts - with other like-minded democracies such as the EU, UK, Japan, Australia, South Korea, New Zealand, South Korea, Norway, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, South Africa and ASEAN nations to establish red lines and put the US administration and key US economic actors on notice about joint retaliatory economic measures against the US to any further encroachments on the sovereignty of any member of the economic bloc;
- Reengage significantly in the UN system, offer the UN an alternative HQ if needed and create a coalition with European and Pacific partners to increase engagement and funding in places and programs now abandoned by Trump's destruction of USAID;

- Explore all available options to deepen economic, political and defence links with the EU;
  - Sustain the creation of such a diplomatic effort with a public relations offensive that enrolls well-known Canadian personalities and cultural ambassadors to remind key international partners of our long history with them and the undeniable need for an independent Canada in world affairs;
  - Ensure Canada is following international law and is endorsing and supporting both the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice. We cannot expect protection under international law if we decline to support it or only support its application haphazardly;
  - Recognize the State of Palestine, not only because it is the right thing to do but because doing so is in alignment with international law, which Canada has sadly failed to do for over 30 years
  - Bar Donald Trump and key US officials from visiting Canada, including in the context of the “G7” summit in Kananaskis.
  - Stand strong with President Zelensky and the people of Ukraine, demonstrating economic and moral support.
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## At the border

- Ramp up CBSA and CAF patrols and surveillance at the border to protect Canadians, prevent the entry of illegal firearms, drugs, and other threats from the US and dissuade human traffickers from exposing vulnerable people to dangerous crossings;
- Suspend the Safe Third Party Agreement with the US and urgently work with the provinces and territories to build the infrastructure needed to screen, process and dispatch new arrivals;
- Expand refugee provisions to extend to US scientists, activists, civil servants, journalists, judges, lawyers, doctors, and other categories of US citizens and permanent residents targeted by Trump;
- Ban certain US food and drug imports that may be affected as a result of the Trump administration’s evisceration of the US Food and Drugs Administration.

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# Defence

- Urgently revise the Canadian Military Doctrine to account for the US' threatening new positioning towards Canada and Europe;
- Ramp up domestic artillery and ammunition production capacity and increase investments in the creation of strategic ammunition reserve;
- Explore options to uncouple CAF from US-owned or US-reliant weapon and IT systems;
- Train Canadian Armed Forces and affiliated paramilitary and civilian bodies to defend the territory from occupation and secure key domestic infrastructure;
- Increase exchanges and joint trainings with French, UK, Scandinavian, and Ukrainian forces;
- Assist Europe and the UK in defending Ukraine from the unlawful Russian aggression;
- Suspend the \$80 billion US-owned-Lockheed Martin F35 acquisition process and consider the acquisition of French Rafale or Swedish Gripen instead, and secure production and maintenance jobs in Canada;
- Join the Norwegian-German Type 212CD submarine development process and secure production and maintenance jobs in Canada;
- Ramp up investments in shipyards to increase rapid production capacity as part of the National Shipbuilding Strategy
- Coordinate with allies within the Five Eyes - Australia, New Zealand and the UK - to review all joint intelligence-gathering and sharing with the US;
- Create 100,000 new well-paid jobs for a civilian Federal Home Guard to respond to infrastructure needs, natural disasters and foreign threats, with a focus on resisting any foreign military occupation;
- Engage in public awareness campaigns about emergency preparedness, reliable sources of information and what is expected of civilians in times of national emergency.

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# Economy

- Establish a Federal Strategic Reserve of raw resources, including aluminum, steel, lumber, rare earth, potash and other key resources to safeguard jobs, retain our critical industrial capacity, and supply key federal and provincial housing, infrastructure, IT, and energy infrastructure investments with the necessary raw materials needed to protect Canada;
- Guarantee strong financial support for Canadian-owned small and medium businesses that may be impacted by tariffs or other measures of economic warfare by the US administration;
- Free Canadians from US-dictated, Conservative-backed IP laws to allow Canadians to jailbreak US-manufactured products and facilitate repair and modifications domestically;
- Invest in Canada Post to further recruit delivery capacity, build retail e-commerce capacity to provide faster, cheaper delivery options for Canadian-made products and from Canadian-owned businesses that meet certain requirements, and replace Amazon's Canadian market share;
- Build on the Quebec expertise and know-how to create and build a strong East-West electricity grid to connect the country and redirect excess production to parts of Canada that could benefit from affordable access to electricity for manufacturing purposes;
- Create a multi-billion investment fund to foster Canadian entrepreneurship and ventures through small and medium size loans;
- Increase our industrial production capacity through significant federal investments in IT-system productions, Canadian alternatives to Apple and Microsoft products, modular and prefab house-building plants and battery production
- Suspend all federal subsidies and tax incentives to Canadian corporations with majority US-ownership and redirect the money into Canadian-owned Corporations;
- Given that 70% of the "Canadian" oil and gas industry is owned by foreigners, most of them US-based, explore the possibility of nationalizing our oil and gas industry.



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## Media

- Increase public funding for quality Canadian-owned media and provide stable, sufficient funding to CBC—Radio-Canada;
- Provide additional support for local regional news services to compete and prosper among the conglomerates suffocating local media;
- Explore all legal avenues of restricting foreign ownership of key Canadian media assets and exposition to Trump-linked propaganda;
- Establish and enforce drastic data privacy protections to secure Canadians against pernicious use of their private information by malicious foreign corporations;
- Enforce publishing regulations to social media content and render social media companies liable for content they publish on their various platforms.

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## Law

- Review the Treason and Sedition sections of the Criminal Code to ensure that Canada is able to protect itself and its citizens against attempts to advocate or manufacture consent in favor of annexation under the duress of economic warfare.

Canada can emerge stronger, freer, and altogether better from our current predicament. One way or another, Canadians must know that whatever the threats, we will prevail, just as we did in 1812 and during World Wars I and II. To do so, however, it is critical to not only recognize and acknowledge the threat, but take the steps needed to deter it and fight it off should it cross any red lines.

It is time to be brave and show our US friends what it means to be the True North, Strong and Free.

As for us, we will unequivocally always stand with Canadians and be on guard for them. We call on all other federal political parties to do the same.