



Dear Friends and Neighbours,

While I cannot be certain, this may be my last opportunity to write to you before the 2025 election. We know Canada will have a new Prime Minister on **March 9th**, which has likely already happened. We've accomplished a lot together, including receiving more national awards than any other office in Canada in 2023 and 2024, and those details are in this mailer. With new electoral boundaries, I will no longer be able to represent the people of Forest Grove, the Cameron area or Lougheed. If I represent Burnaby North-Seymour after 2025, I will continue to work for you no matter what the official boundaries are. You trusted me over the last nine years, and if you call our office, we'll always find ways to help.

The numbers in this mailer are primarily from the US Department of Commerce, and we all must know the facts given the recent conversations with our American neighbours. In addition to addressing the US/Canada relationship, this mailer will provide an update on two of my largest projects, including the Dental Care roll-out for ages 18-64 and the ability for all of us to renew our passports online, meaning that we'll all have the option to never stand in line again.

Dental Care

To date, 3.3 million Canadians have signed up for Dental Care, and 1.5 million have visited the dentist under the plan. This spring, our largest cohort, ages 18-64, will be able to sign up, representing 4.1 million more Canadians. We will also be renewing memberships for children and those aged 65+. Visit Canada.ca/dental for more information.

Online Passport Renewal

In 2012, the Conservative government abandoned online passports. Now after 13 years, Canadians will finally have the ability to renew or apply for their passport online. We launched an adult passport renewal pilot in late 2024 and have been scaling up the number of users as we build confidence in the usability and security of the new system. As part of our digital-first mantra, I am dedicated to ensuring you can access government services when and where you want. This means being able to renew your passport from the middle of the Indian Arm at 10 pm if that is what works best for you. Digital self-serve means less cost, fewer errors, more convenient service and no more standing in line. You can still choose to visit a passport office or use the mail-in option. However, those passport office lines will be significantly shorter as people choose to renew online. This means less time in line and more resources available to those who need in-person service.

eSIN and SIN@Entry

In my first year as Minister of Citizens' Services, I launched eSIN so people could apply for Social Insurance Numbers online. The only problem was that you could get an SIN in person in one day, while it was 5 days online. We are now on track to provide the SIN online automatically soon. In addition, for anyone with a work permit or student visa, we are building a new system called SIN@Entry so that those SINs will be automatically issued when they receive their permit or visa. This can help reduce lines in metro Service Canada offices by more than 50% in many cases.

2023 and 2024 Awards

The last two years have been landmark years for national recognition. I expect this is because we took our customer service approach in Burnaby North-Seymour and applied the same formula nationally when I became a Minister. This put our service standards on display for all MPs and has made an impression. These awards reflect the amazing team we've built locally and nationally and your incredible engagement with our office. We are influencing national policy more today than at any other time in my political career, and that only happens with the surveys, meetings, coffee in the lobby and door-knocking discussions that happen year-round in Burnaby and North Vancouver.



Terry, Ravi, Solar (4) and Nova (6)



Best Politician

Best of Burnaby 2023, 2024



Best Constituency MP in Canada

Voted by Hill Times 2023, 2024



Hardest Working MP in Canada

Voted by Hill Times 2023



Best MP to Work For in Canada

Voted by Hill Times 2024



Belzberg Blaney Award for Exceptional Service

Action Canada 2024

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES

Canadians and the world have been significantly impacted by the start of Donald Trump's second term in office. I can probably rest assured that this is a bit of an understatement. It is my responsibility to share as many facts as possible about what is going on, but I do so with the following cautions. First, this is a fast-moving file that we've been working on since November. We've dealt with President Trump before, and we have a game plan that accounts for all the significant variables, including trade, energy, border security, tariffs, fentanyl, economic security and international diplomacy. We should, however, keep our cards close to our chest. We must prepare diligently and not necessarily rush to a microphone or the media to share our entire strategy. The facts are on Canada's side. Americans and Canadians have a mutual interest in building on the joint prosperity that has developed from the greatest economic and security partnership the world has ever known. I will endeavour to provide some of those facts here to share Canada's value proposition with our neighbours (next door and in America).

TRADE

NAFTA 2.0 is the "largest, fairest, most balanced and modern trade agreement ever achieved."

-President Donald J. Trump, January 2020

Despite the President's new narrative, his position in 2020 still holds today. If you include energy exports, the US has a \$91.2B deficit with Canada, but without energy, the US enjoys a \$40.6B trade surplus. Canada's energy fuels American manufacturing. In fact, of their five largest trading partners, Canada is the only country with a manufacturing trade surplus of \$46.8B. This surplus has existed since 2007. Europe, Mexico, Japan and China all have manufacturing trade deficits. Canada's \$3.6B in daily trade with the US is not the problem; we account for 8 million trade-related jobs in the US.

TARIFFS

In response to a 25% tariff threat on Canadian goods, we published a list of \$30B of US goods to be immediately tariffed and a further \$125B of goods to be tariffed in a few weeks. We spoke directly to Americans, advising them that we didn't want to do this, that tariffs were inflationary and hurt both of us and that while we would not escalate, we would certainly not back down. This led to a 30-day reprieve. In the days that followed, further tariffs were announced on steel and aluminum worldwide, as well as reciprocal tariffs. If this sounds familiar, Trump did the same thing in Canada in March 2018 during NAFTA trade negotiations. Tariffs came into effect on May 31st, and we retaliated with \$16.6B in tariffs. In early 2019, we signed NAFTA 2.0, and the tariffs were lifted. This was even though the Conservative position at the time was to capitulate to President Trump's demands. Canada has the critical minerals, dependability, ingenuity, geography, energy, water and temperament to be a world-class ally, partner and friend to our American neighbours. We should also not be naive or apathetic. We have diversified our trading relationships and partnerships over the last 10 years, including with the EU, effectively reducing our trade dependency with the US from 80% to 70%.

BORDER SECURITY

Canada and the US share a strong and secure border. The largest undefended border in the free world. I outright disagree with the Conservative position to militarize the border. I also disagree with their position to agree with President Trump that the border is "broken." Here are the facts. Despite having the strongest and safest border in the world, our \$1.3B border policy is adding sixty new drones and two Blackhawk helicopters. It is increasing information sharing, and we have developed a Canada-US Enforcement Strike Force with the US. The US is the largest market for drugs and guns in the world. Despite that, less than 1% of fentanyl and illegal crossings come from Canada. Data shows increasing net drug, gun and immigration heading south to north, giving us good reason to invest in a stronger border package. In 2022, we seized six times more guns from the US than all other countries combined. Our tightened immigration measures have also been working. In 2024, we had 3500 irregular asylum claims in Canada, down from 40,000 in 2022. We have also appointed Kevin Brosseau, a former RCMP Deputy Commissioner, as a Fentanyl Czar to coordinate with the US and all levels of government. I know Canadians are not used to terms like "Czar" and "Strike Force," but we are utilizing the language of our partner for good reason. Our "Czar" is a Commissioner, which was clarified recently.

DEFENCE

Finally, everyone needs to know that Canada has more than doubled our defence spending in the last 10 years. Conservatives had reduced defence spending to less than 1% of GDP by 2015. Despite doubling the expenditure, we have not yet reached our 2% NATO target because our GDP has increased significantly. By the time we hit our NATO target in the next few years, we will have effectively tripled defence spending since 2015.

I hope these facts are helpful for everyone in our community. Facts matter, especially when rhetoric is at an all-time high. You can count on us to continue to act in a measured and calculated way to protect Canada's sovereignty and prosperity for generations to come.



This summer, we participated in the 33rd annual Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Summit, an event focused on bringing together government, business, industry, and community leaders to strengthen our economy. In these times, building strong relationships is more crucial than ever. To learn more about our cross coastal work, visit PNWER.org



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