

**City Council****Motion without Notice**

MM24.27	ACTION			Ward: 6
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**Stating in the Strongest Terms Possible, that Proposed Arbitrary Tariffs on Canadian Exports Entering the United States Will Severely Damage Our Respective Economies and Should Be Reconsidered - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Chris Moise**

*\* Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.  
\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.  
\* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Chris Moise, recommends that:

1. City Council express its objection to the application of arbitrary and draconian tariffs on Canadian exports into the United States and forward this item to the U.S. Consul General in Toronto for information.

**Summary**

The trade relationship of the United States with Canada is the largest in the world. In 2023, the goods and services trade between the two countries totalled \$923 billion. United States exports were \$441 billion, while imports were \$482 billion. This trade cements a long standing historical bond between our two countries. There are current musings of United States President-elect Donald Trump that he will place tariffs of 25 percent of Canadian exports. Toronto, as the economic engine of Canada, would be severely harmed should arbitrary tariffs be placed on Canadian exports to the United States. As this is likely to trigger retaliation by Canada, a stealth trade war could ensue. Said one expert: “The wasteful effects of protectionism eventually lead to a substantial reduction in the efficiency with which labor is used, leading to a decline of about 0.9 percent of labor productivity after five years. Tariffs also lead to a small and marginally-significant increase in unemployment.”

This motion is deemed urgent because the US Presidential Inauguration of January 20, 2025, will be before the next Council meeting.

**Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM24.27