

**ALEX  
RUFF** MP  
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

# Community Newsletter



February 2025

Dear Constituent,

I hope that you and your family are in good health during this winter. I am sure many of you will be relieved to know that Wiarton Willie predicted an early spring, which we could certainly use given the amount of snow we've been hit with. In Ottawa, Parliament continues to be prorogued as the Liberal party seeks to select the next Leader of their party and Prime Minister of Canada, which unfortunately comes at the same time the US regime continues to threaten us with tariffs on essential goods with constantly moving goal posts.

This past month, my Conservative colleagues have put forward a number of policy proposals that will protect Canadian sovereignty, improve Canada's Arctic Defence, secure our border, and knock down trade barriers so we can reduce our reliance on the US. I will outline each of the policy announcements below and I encourage you to watch Mr. Poilievre's "Canada First" rally and policy announcement which goes into more details on each of these:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/WjXn6x1vf4s?si=l2DrJy6GL5HrUhzs>.

On 01 February, Mr. Poilievre put forward the following to deal with Trump's tariff threat:

1. Retaliate with dollar-for-dollar tariffs carefully aimed at maximizing impact on American companies while minimizing impact on Canadian consumers. That means targeting U.S. products that we can make ourselves, buy elsewhere or do without. For example, we must retaliate against American steel and aluminium, as Canadians can make those vital products at home.
2. Put all the tariff revenues into help for affected workers and businesses; Government should not keep a dime of the new revenue.
3. Pass a massive emergency Bring It Home Tax Cut to bolster the economy, stop inflation and save and create jobs. Canada needs a massive tax cut on work, investment, energy, homebuilding and making stuff at home. The Liberal carbon tax and capital gains tax hikes must be the first on the chopping block.
4. Immediately scrap the Liberal anti-resource law C-69 and greenlight LNG plans, pipelines, mines, factories, and port expansions to overseas markets.
5. Bring in truly free trade within Canada by knocking down interprovincial barriers to help replace lost north-south trade with east-west trade and to make us self-reliant.
6. Rebuild our military and take back control of our borders to regain the confidence of our partners, assert our sovereignty, protect our people, and put Canada First.

For too long, the Canada's Arctic defence has been overlooked. Recently, Mr. Poilievre proposed an Arctic Defence plan which includes doubling the size of the 1st Patrol Group of the Canadian Rangers, acquiring two additional polar icebreakers for the Royal Canadian Navy, and building at least one permanent Arctic military base within two years: CFB Iqaluit, Canada's first permanent Arctic military base since the Cold War.

You can find more details in these videos: <https://youtu.be/vPoCjTUiGB8?si=Ju1CTiHiZAh4XQRP> and [https://youtu.be/XDs0\\_nmxDHA?si=4upy2-0SV6dbfPxY](https://youtu.be/XDs0_nmxDHA?si=4upy2-0SV6dbfPxY)

The border has also been a contentious issue with the Trump administration; however, we should be protecting our border not to appease a foreign leader, but also to keep Canadians safe. This is why my conservative colleagues have put forward the following to secure our border:

- Call upon the Canadian Armed Forces to support border security with military helicopters and surveillance;
- Add at least 2000 border agents;
- Extend CBSA powers along the entire border, not just crossings;
- Install border surveillance towers as well as truck-mounted drone systems to spot border incursions;
- Install high-powered scanners at all major land crossings and shipping ports; and
- Track departures so government officials know which deportees are in Canada illegally.

You can watch the announcement here: <https://youtu.be/SoV7q5MhQEQ?si=7vE0V5wvxB3FgA3a>

With recent uncertainty regarding the Canada-US trade relationship, many Canadians are looking inwards at what we can do to make our country more self-reliant. Currently, trade barriers between Canadian provinces are more costly than trade barriers between Canada and other nations as there are over 130 pages of "exceptions" in the 340-page Canada Free Trade Agreement which is supposed to allow commerce between provinces and territories <https://www.cfta-alec.ca/canadian-free-trade-agreement>.

Canadian Economist, Trevor Tombe, estimated that eliminating all interprovincial trade barriers would boost Canada's economy by as much as 7.9% and generate an economic boost of \$200 billion per year, or \$5,100 per person.

Free trade between Canadian provinces will not be enough to displace the US market; however, it is one option to start bringing home more business and make Canada less dependent on forces and countries outside of our control. Mr. Poilievre has promised that if elected Prime Minister, he would bring together the Premiers within 30 days of forming government to agree on removing as many interprovincial trade barriers as possible. On top of this, Poilievre will prioritize finding an agreement on a standard set of trucking rules to get billions of dollars of goods moving east-west and offer provinces a Free Trade Bonus to get a deal done. You can learn more here: [https://youtu.be/ev9tZTlnAjU?si=kYhf7UMndBTJtP\\_X](https://youtu.be/ev9tZTlnAjU?si=kYhf7UMndBTJtP_X)

As always, feel free to reach out with any federal concerns or to share your feedback on the policy proposals outlined in this newsletter.

Alex Ruff, MSC, CD, MP  
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

# Monthly Survey Question



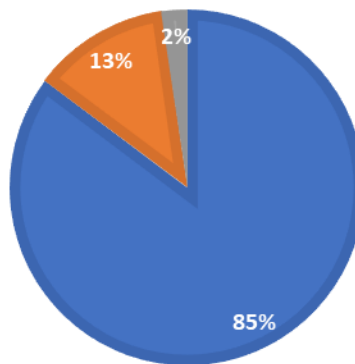
Have your say on my website: [www.alexruuffmp.ca](http://www.alexruuffmp.ca)

**NEW:** Do you support removing interprovincial trade barriers?

Last month's response:

DO YOU PRIORITIZE BUYING CANADIAN PRODUCTS  
OVER CHEAPER ALTERNATIVES?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure



# Constituency Mailbox



Here is a list of some of the issues among many, that I received correspondence on from the community during the past month (in no particular order):

Carbon Tax	Support for Farmers
Foreign Interference	Prorogation
Firearms	Seniors on fixed incomes
Food Price Inflation	The environment
Israel-Hamas War	Federal Election
Interprovincial Trade Barriers	US Tariff threats

# Alex in the Media



To check out my interjections in the House of Commons, other videos, and local news, see below and click [here](#).

Rogers TV Politically Speaking (14 February 2025): <https://youtu.be/205yXC0cJb8?si=OJqq-79y4tt2TFWu>

560 CFOS Open Line (14 February 2025): <https://www.560cfos.ca/2025/02/14/the-open-line-with-claire-mccormack-166/>

Discussed: timing for the next federal election, inter-provincial trade barriers, Made in Canada, possible US tariffs, Russia, foreign aid, Arctic sovereignty to incl the Conservative Canada First plan for the Arctic, National Flag Day and more.

My website features my previous press releases, videos, and CFOS 560 Open Line podcasts. Check it out [here](#).

To view all my interjections in the House of Commons, [click here](#).

Follow me on social media!



# Community Outreach





It was an absolute pleasure to share a bit about my military career, my role now as the MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound and answer questions from the Owen Sound Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (11 February 2025).



Visiting École Saint-Dominique-Savio to receive cards from the students advocating for First Nations children to have the same education opportunities as others in memory of Shannen's Dream (12 February 2025).



Visiting the Warton Salvation Army (19 February 2025).

# Environment and Conservation



Forestry Management is important for maintaining healthy ecosystems by promoting biodiversity. Proper management practices help maintain the balance between human needs and environmental health, supporting both local economies and global ecological well-being. Additionally, it protects water quality, soil stability, and wildlife habitats, ensuring long-term ecological resilience. You can learn more below.

Bruce County Forestry Management Information: <https://www.brucecounty.on.ca/services/transportation-and-environmental-services/resource-management>

Grey County Forestry Management Information: <https://www.grey.ca/things-do/county-forests-and-trails>



Touring Ice River Sustainable Solutions in Feversham, a family-run company that is consistently one of Canada's greenest employers (21 February 2025)

## Additional Resources



### Canada Greener Homes Affordability Program

The new Canada Greener Homes Affordability Program (CGHAP) will start to be delivered in the first half of 2025 through our partners in provinces and territories. When in place, CGHAP-funded programs will provide low-to-median-income homeowners and tenants with no cost home retrofits, such as insulation and heat pumps, to help reduce monthly energy bills, while reducing energy use and cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information, visit: <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/energy-efficiency/homes/canada-greener-homes-initiative/canada-greener-homes-affordability-program/26486>

## Warton Service Canada Outreach

The 2nd Thursday of the month at Soothing Soles Foot Clinic (556 Louisa Street, Warton, ON)  
from 9:30-12:00, 12:30-3:30.

For more information, visit: <https://offices.service.canada.ca/en/Office/ON-SCU>

## AgPal Program and Service Finder

AgPal helps farmers and agri-businesses find relevant resources by gathering agricultural information and presenting it all in one place. Search and navigation tools make it quick and easy to find exactly what you are looking for. Find programs, services, market intelligence, research and more!

Visit AgPal here: <https://agpal.ca/en/home>

## Canada Service Corps (CSC)

If you know of an organization that is interested in providing meaningful volunteer service opportunities for youth between the ages of 12 and 30, you can encourage them to apply for funding under the [CSC](#) for youth beginning in October. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/youth/canada-service-corps.html>

## Government of Canada Seniors Programs

Learn more here: [www.canada.ca/seniors](http://www.canada.ca/seniors)

## Government of Canada Retirement Hub

Learn and plan for your retirement and get the most out of your Canadian public pensions.

Learn more here: <https://retraite-retirement.service.canada.ca/en/home>

## Passport Status Checker

Service Canada launched a new digital tool to support the passport system. The Passport Application Status Checker enables Canadians, who recently applied for a passport, to check the status of their passport application online at <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/canadian-passports/check-passport-travel-document-application.html>.

## Bruce County Housing Services

Bruce County has rolled out a new website experience for their housing services. It can be found here: <https://www.brucecounty.on.ca/housing-services>

## Grey County Housing Services

<https://www.grey.ca/resident-services/community-services/housing-programs-and-services>



If you think your neighbours or friends would like to receive this newsletter, please direct them to [alexruffmp.ca](http://alexruffmp.ca) or [alex.ruff@parl.gc.ca](mailto:alex.ruff@parl.gc.ca) where they can request to be added to our mailing list.

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