

CANADA Daily News and Updates April 2nd 2025

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U.S. Senators Push to Pass Bill Aimed at Undoing Tariffs Against Canada

As U.S. President Donald Trump's planned reciprocal tariffs loom this week, U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine is among Democrats pushing to pass legislation that aims to revoke them.

Kaine of Virginia, along with fellow Democratic senators Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota and Mark Warner of Virginia, filed the bill March 12 to undo the tariffs on Canadian goods. Kaine was expecting the vote from the Senate either yesterday or today.

The resolution challenges Trump's emergency powers, which Kaine said the president is using to justify imposing the massive tariffs on Canadian imports into the United States. "It (the resolution) is a little used procedure that enables even one senator to force a vote on the Senate floor to challenge a presidentially declared emergency," said Kaine.

The legislation is aimed at cancelling the tariffs by terminating the emergency powers Trump invoked under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, which is normally used against foreign threats and adversaries.

Even if the legislation passes, it won't immediately stop Trump from imposing any tariffs on Canada, Kaine said.

Read more in an [article from CTV News](#).

U.S. Companies Say Canadian Retailers Are Turning Away Products

The "Buy Canadian" movement is sending new ripples of concern through the executive offices of U.S.-based consumer companies that banked on selling their products on Canadian retail shelves.

A dramatic reshuffling of Canada's retail shelves illustrates the impact of patriotic consumerism in Canada, which imported nearly US\$350 billion of products from the United States in 2024, making it its largest trading partner.

U.S. President Donald Trump's jabs to annex Canada, the imposition of a 25 percent levy on steel and aluminum from Canada and threats to tax all other imports from the country have prompted a rallying cry among many Canadian shoppers to eschew U.S.-made products.

Read more in an [article from Global News](#).

Reciprocal Tariffs Will Overturn Decades of Trade Policy

President Donald Trump is taking a blowtorch to the rules that have governed world trade for decades. The "reciprocal" tariffs that he is expected to announce April 2 are likely to create chaos for global businesses and conflict with America's allies and adversaries alike.

Since the 1960s, tariffs – or import taxes – have emerged from negotiations between dozens of countries. Trump wants to seize the process.

"Obviously, it disrupts the way that things have been done for a very long time," said Richard Mojica, a trade attorney at Miller & Chevalier. "Trump is throwing that out the window. ... Clearly this is ripping up trade. There are going to have to be adjustments all over the place."

Pointing to America's massive and persistent trade deficits – not since 1975 has the U.S. sold the rest of the world more than it has bought – Trump charges that the playing field is tilted against U.S. companies. A big reason for that, he and his advisers say, is because other countries usually tax American exports at a higher rate than America taxes theirs.

Trump has a fix: He's raising U.S. tariffs to match what other countries charge.

Read more in an [article from Transport Topics](#).

Nationwide Strike Paralyzes Belgium's Ports, Airports and Services

Upset by Belgium's new coalition government's plans for budget cutting, public and private workers walked off their jobs on Monday, March 31, for a 24-hour strike that stopped many parts of Belgium for the day.

The European Transport Workers' Federation announced it was standing in solidarity with the Belgium Trade Union Confederation, which led the call for the 24-hour nationwide strike. The union cited planned cuts to pensions, reforms to the labour market, and cuts to the public-service sector.

The Port of Antwerp-Bruges, which manages the country's two busiest ports, Antwerp and Zeebrugge, reported "very strong obstacles for ships." Monday ended with a backlog of about 50 ships.

"The disruption will continue until tomorrow morning (Tuesday). Afterward, we will see how we can quickly and safely clear the backlog. This is expected to take one to two days," the authority said in its update at 2015 Monday evening.

Brussels Airport canceled all 244 outbound flights for Monday.

Read more in an [article from The Maritime Executive](#).