


Timeline – U.S. Initiated Tariff Related Activities (current to April 3, 2025)



Jan. 20, 2025

-  U.S. presidential memo, “America First Trade Policy,” suggests introduction of tariffs as means to address “unfair and unbalanced trade” and to support economic and national security interests. Memo also directs government departments to complete various studies by Apr. 1, 2025



Feb. 1, 2025

-  U.S. executive order imposes 25% tariff on products of Canada, except for energy products being subject to 10% tariff, effective Feb. 4, 2025
-  Canada order-in-council imposes countermeasure of 25% tariff on \$30 billion worth of “Phase 1” goods from the U.S. (e.g., orange juice, peanut butter, wine, spirits, beer, coffee, appliances, apparel, footwear, motorcycles, cosmetics, and certain pulp and paper products), effective Feb. 4, 2025, stating intention to keep them in place until U.S. tariffs against Canada cease


Feb. 3, 2025

-  U.S. executive order postpones Canadian tariff implementation date for 30 days (until Mar. 4, 2025)
-  Canada announces similar pause on tariff countermeasure


Feb. 10, 2025

-   U.S. proclamations announce 25% tariff on steel and aluminum goods from all countries effective Mar. 12, 2025, in the interest of national security. These targeted tariffs are expected to be cumulative with other tariff measures (i.e., those expected to commence Mar. 4, 2025)


Feb. 12, 2025

-  City Council directs staff to review current procurement policies on feasibility of integrating “Buy Local and Canadian” policies and position tendering and purchasing processes to build in the priority of sourcing steel and steel products from local companies first, and Canadian companies when necessary


Feb. 13, 2025

-  U.S. memo announces plans for reciprocal tariffs starting Apr. 2, 2025, on any country that implements tariffs/taxes on imports of U.S. goods


Feb. 21, 2025

-  U.S. memo imposes tariffs on countries that levy digital service taxes on U.S. technology companies (e.g., Google, Facebook, Apple, Amazon). Canada, alongside Britain, France, Italy, Spain, Turkey, India and Austria, have applicable digital service taxes




Feb. 26, 2025

-  City Council defers FCS25015 Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats to Council Mar. 5, 2025


Mar. 3, 2025

-  U.S. executive order confirms 25% tariff on products of Canada (except for energy products, which will be subject to a 10% tariff), beginning Mar. 4, 2025



Mar. 4, 2025

-  U.S. tariffs against Canadian goods commence
-  Canadian countermeasure of 25% tariff on \$30 billion worth of "Phase 1" goods from the U.S. commences alongside public consultation process on possible introduction of tariffs against \$125 billion worth of "Phase 2" goods (e.g., passenger vehicles and trucks, steel and aluminum products, certain fruits and vegetables, aerospace products, beef, pork, dairy, recreational vehicles and recreational boats)
 - Public consultation process originally set for 21-days (until Mar. 24, 2025) but later extended until Apr. 2, 2025
-  Ontario announces: (1) ban on U.S. companies from bidding on Ontario procurement contracts (Ontario spends approx. \$30 billion annually on procurement), (2) removal of U.S. alcohol from LCBO, and (3) cancellation of \$100 million broadband internet contract with U.S. company, Starlink
 - *[Note: majority of other provincial and territorial governments have taken similar action to remove U.S. alcohol from liquor stores]*

Mar. 5, 2025

-  City Council approves, as amended, FCS25015 Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats






Mar. 6, 2025

-  U.S. executive order provides an exemption to tariffs on Canadian goods compliant with the *Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement* (CUSMA) and decreases the tariff on non-originating potash to 10%, effective Mar. 7, 2025. There are reports that this measure is a pause until Apr. 2, 2025 (the expected date of the reciprocal tariffs); however, there is no end date in the executive order
 - Exemption applies to approx. 40% of Canadian goods exported to U.S., according to the New York Times, and was viewed as a response to complaints received from auto companies including Ford and General Motors
-  Canada announces a delay of the tariffs on Phase 2 goods until at least Apr. 2, 2025



Mar. 10, 2025

-  Ontario announces a 25% surcharge on electricity exported to U.S.





Mar. 11, 2025

-   U.S. announces tariff on Canadian steel and aluminum goods, set to take effect Mar. 12, 2025, will be 50% instead of 25% in response to Ontario surcharge on electricity exported to U.S. announced on Mar. 10, 2025
 -  In response, Ontario confirms it will no longer proceed with 25% surcharge on electricity exported to U.S. while awaiting outcome of bilateral negotiations scheduled for Mar. 13, 2025
 -   U.S. subsequently agrees to forego 50% tariff against Canadian steel and aluminum products while remaining committed to 25% tariff on steel and aluminum goods from all countries effective Mar. 12, 2025



Mar. 12, 2025

-   U.S. targeted tariff of 25% against steel and aluminum goods commences


Mar. 13, 2025

-   Canada commences 25% tariff on additional \$30 billion worth of U.S. goods (part of Phase 2 list), including \$12.6 billion of steel products, \$3 billion of aluminum products, and \$14.2 billion of other products including tools, computers and servers, display monitors, sport equipment, and cast-iron products
 - Additionally, Canada reconfirms intention to proceed with tariffs on additional \$100 billion worth of U.S. goods if U.S. goes ahead with Apr. 2nd reciprocal tariffs
-   Bilateral discussions occur (few details released)


Mar. 22, 2025

-   Canada launches public consultation process on possible introduction of tariffs on steel imports (consultation period expected to close Apr. 21, 2025)



Mar. 26, 2025

-  U.S. presidential proclamation and fact sheet states a 25% tariff on vehicle imports from Canada will commence Apr. 2, 2025. The tariff will be applied to imported passenger vehicles (sedans, SUVs, crossovers, minivans, cargo vans) and light trucks, as well as "key" automobile parts (engines, transmissions, powertrain parts, and electrical components)
 - Importers of automobiles under CUSMA will be given the opportunity to certify the value of U.S. content within the automobile so that the 25% tariff only applies to the value of non-U.S. content
 - Importers of CUSMA -compliant automobile parts will remain tariff-free until the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, establishes a process to apply tariffs to their non-U.S. content


Apr. 1, 2025

-  U.S. departments report back to President as requested through Jan. 20, 2025, presidential memo


Apr. 2 and 3, 2025

-  U.S. announces commencement of reciprocal tariffs effective midnight (Apr. 3, 2025), which are largely targeted at other countries but include vehicle imports from Canada, as previously announced on Mar. 26, 2026.
 - Other previously instated tariffs against Canada remain in place and unchanged. This means CUSMA-compliant goods will continue to see a 0% tariff, non-CUSMA compliant goods as well as steel and aluminum will see a 25% tariff, and non-CUSMA compliant energy and potash will see a 10% tariff.
 - In announcing the reciprocal tariffs, the U.S. signaled that further tariffs may come, specifically for copper, semiconductor, lumber and pharmaceutical industries. President Trump’s speech also referenced unfair dairy industry practices in Canada.
-  On Apr. 3, 2025, Canada announces 25% countermeasure tariffs on U.S. automobiles imported into Canada that are not compliant with CUSMA. Canada confirms it will not commence similar countermeasure tariffs on automobile parts.
-  Conclusion of public consultation process on list of “Phase 2” U.S. goods (some of which are already subject to tariffs effective Mar. 13, 2025)


Apr. 9, 2025

-  U.S. announces a 90-day pause (until July) to the reciprocal tariffs enacted Apr. 3, 2025, for many countries around the world, shifting to a new minimum 10% tariff rate. Simultaneously, the U.S. increased tariffs on Chinese goods. There were no changes to tariffs on Canadian goods.



Apr. 15, 2025

-  Canada announces new supports for businesses affected by U.S. tariffs:
 - Remissions (reimbursement of tariffs incurred) for automakers. Funding will be performance-based and contingent on these automakers continuing to produce vehicles in Canada and on completing planned investments.
 - Remissions (reimbursement of tariffs incurred) for 6-months for goods imported from the U.S. that are used in Canadian manufacturing, processing and food and beverage packaging, and for those used to support public health, health care, public safety, and national security objectives. This support is time-limited to provide businesses and entities with time to adjust their supply chains and prioritize domestic sources of supply, if available.
 - The Government’s new Large Enterprise Tariff Loan Facility is now accepting applications. This program supports eligible large businesses — including those that contribute to Canada’s food security, energy security, economic security and national security — that are facing difficulties in accessing traditional sources of market financing by providing access to liquidity to help them sustain operations and return to financial stability. Companies will be required to make efforts to maintain jobs and sustain business activities in Canada.

April 16, 2025

-  Ontario introduces new legislation, "*Protect Ontario through Free Trade within Canada Act*" to support economic integration across Canada by unlocking free trade and labour mobility.

Expected Apr. 21, 2025

-   Conclusion of public consultation process on possible introduction of tariffs on steel imports