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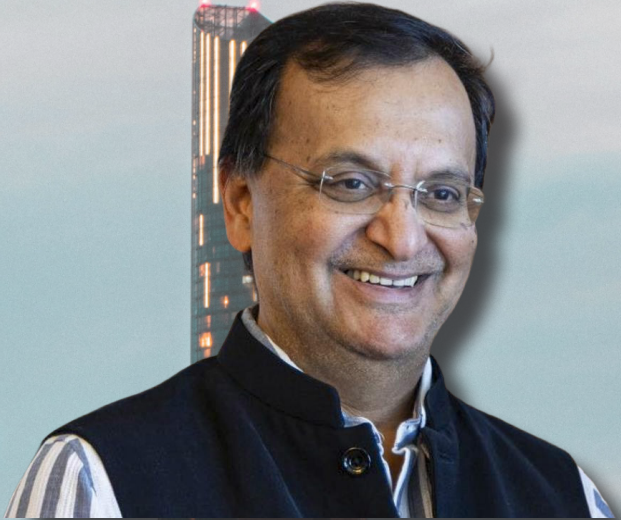
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CANADA-INDIA SPECIAL EDITION



Scoop of Success: Chapman's \$200M Fund to Give Sweet Boost from P



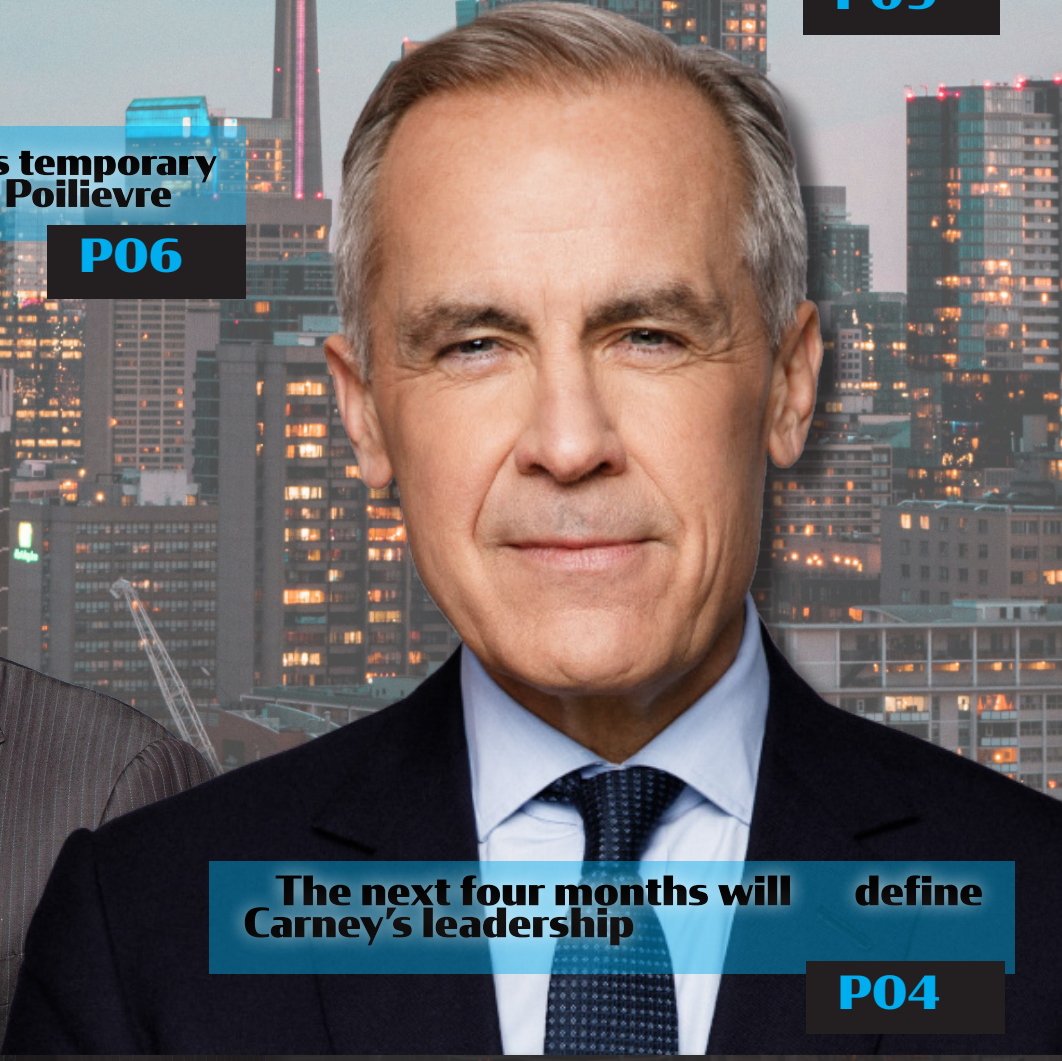
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The next four months will define Carney's leadership

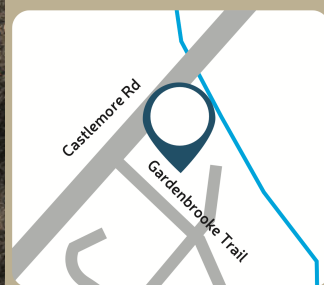
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Welcome to our magazine, a platform created to highlight the important conversations and stories that shape our world today. While our focus is on Canada and India, we also bring to our readers a broader global perspective, covering events, issues, and ideas that influence people everywhere.

Each issue explores current topics - from politics, economy, and social change to cultural celebrations, lifestyle and community voices. Alongside regional coverage, we also feature stories at the world level, ensuring that our readers stay informed about international developments that impact both nations and the global community.

This magazine is created for readers who want knowledge that is timely, relevant, and reliable. Canada and India, though separated by distance, share a strong relationship through culture, people, and values. By reflecting on both the local and the global, our magazine builds a bridge of understanding that connects societies and broadens perspectives.

Through carefully researched articles, inspiring stories, and expert insights, each edition seeks to provide guidance, clarity, and thought-provoking discussions. We strive to ensure that every page adds value - whether it is raising awareness of current issues, encouraging positive action, or celebrating achievements from around the world.

Thank you for being part of this journey. With every issue, we promise to deliver knowledge, awareness, and inspiration that connects Canada, India, and the wider world.

Thank you
Dr. Rajeev Sharma

The Next Four Months Put Mark Carney's Leadership Under the Microscope

**Dr. Rajeev Sharma-
Ottawa**

Canada is at a pivotal crossroads. Economic uncertainty, a fragile coalition government, and rising public expectations are converging to put Prime Minister Mark Carney under intense scrutiny. The next four months may well define his leadership and leave a lasting mark on Canadian politics.

Economic Pressures Mount

The country faces a looming budget deficit, persistent inflation, and ripple effects from global market volatility. For everyday Canadians, this translates into higher grocery bills, rising fuel costs, and mounting mortgage pressures. Dr. Anita Sharma, an economist at the University of Toronto, explains:

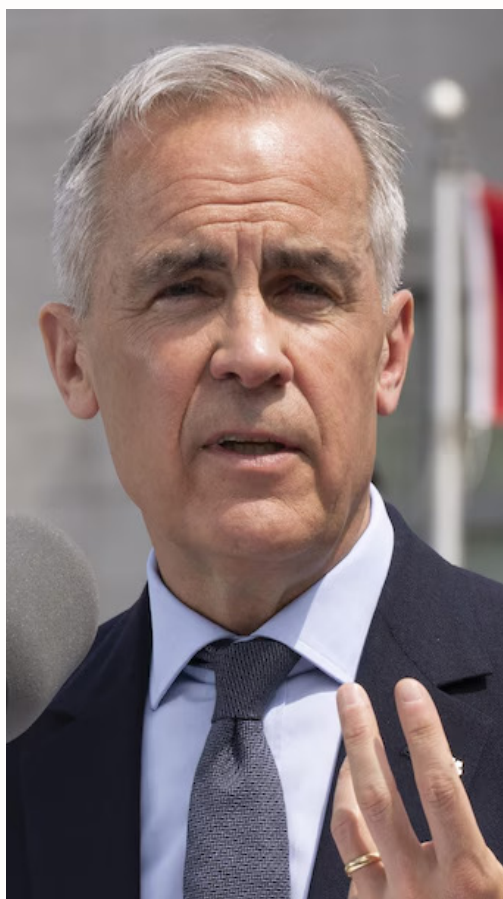
“Carney is walking a tightrope. Balancing deficit reduction with the need for economic stimulus will be one of the most complex tasks any Canadian leader has faced in recent years.”

Every policy decision—whether adjusting taxes,

implementing social programs, or investing in infrastructure—carries high stakes. Carney must act decisively yet carefully to prevent economic instability while maintaining public trust.

Political Tightrope

Coalition dynamics further complicate matters. The Prime



“Leadership is tested not in calm waters, but in the storm.”

Minister's government must reconcile competing priorities, internal dissent, and a vigilant opposition ready to exploit any misstep. Political analyst Robert Lin notes:

“Coalitions are inherently fragile. Carney will need exceptional negotiation skills to align diverse interests without alienating key partners.”

Recent debates over proposed fiscal measures illustrate the challenge. While some cabinet members push for aggressive investment in social programs, others argue for fiscal restraint to rein in the deficit. The PM's ability to unify his team will be critical.

Public Scrutiny and Human Stories

Canadians are watching closely—not just in Parliament, but at kitchen tables, workplaces, and town halls. Citizens want transparency, bold decisions, and tangible results.

For families like the Patels of Calgary, rising costs are a daily reality. “We’re worried about paying our mortgage and covering everyday expenses.

We need leadership that understands our struggles,” says Ramesh Patel, father of three.

Media coverage and social platforms amplify every decision. Carney’s communication style—whether collaborative, authoritative, or pragmatic—will shape public perception and influence policy outcomes.

Opposition Voices

The opposition has signaled readiness to capitalize on any errors. Conservative MP Laura Hwang commented:

“The government must prioritize fiscal responsibility. Any mismanagement now will burden Canadians for years.”

Such scrutiny increases pressure on Carney to balance immediate relief with long-term planning—a challenge requiring vision, foresight, and political dexterity.

Why the Next Four Months Matter

This period is more than a test; it is a crucible. Carney must balance pragmatism with vision, decisiveness with diplomacy. Every decision—from deficit management to coalition negotiations—will influence Canada’s economic trajectory and shape his legacy.

Key Takeaways:

1. Economic Tightrope: Inflation, deficit, and global uncertainty demand careful strategy.

Coalition Chessboard: Political negotiation and compromise are critical.

2. Public Trust: Credibility, communication, and clarity are non-negotiable.

3. Legacy in Focus: These months may define Carney’s place in Canadian history.

For Canadians across the country, the coming weeks will reveal whether Prime Minister Carney possesses the resilience, acumen, and vision to steer the nation through one of its most challenging periods in recent memory.

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Time to re-thinking Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Plan: Pierre Poilievre

Dewangi Kode
Calgary

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre's call to abolish the Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) program has resonated in Canada's ongoing discourse about jobs, wages, and fairness. His argument is straightforward: employers are circumventing Canadian workers, particularly young people, in favour of temporary foreign labour at a lower cost.

In his words, the program is "stealing jobs from our people."

There is merit in Poilievre's criticism. For years, labour advocates have cautioned that the TFW program can suppress wages and reduce incentives for employers to improve working conditions.

If companies can rely on temporary foreign workers at lower pay, why invest in training, fair compensation, or opportunities for Canadians?

The result is a system that benefits corporate elites while marginalizing those already struggling in a tough job market.

Yet, the issue is not so clear-cut. Sectors such as agriculture and hospitality point to genuine labour shortages that cannot easily be filled by local workers. In many rural or seasonal



jobs, Canadians are simply not applying. Eliminating the program without alternatives risks creating new crises – fields without farmhands, businesses without staff, and supply chains under pressure.

The question, then, is not whether the TFW program should

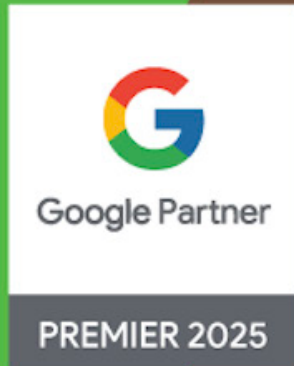
exist, but whether it should exist in its current form. A thoughtful reform could ensure that Canadian workers are prioritized and protected, while still addressing legitimate gaps in industries that rely on temporary labour. Stricter oversight, better wage protections, and a pathway to permanent residency for workers who contribute long-term could be part of the solution.

Poilievre is right to demand accountability, but scrapping the entire program may be too blunt a tool for a complex problem. What Canada needs is a system that puts Canadian workers first, safeguards fair wages, and treats foreign workers with dignity – not one that fuels division or leaves industries scrambling for labour.

It is time for Canadians, and policymakers to come together and demand a fairer, smarter approach one that balances economic need with social justice. Reforming the Temporary Foreign Worker program should not be an option; it should be a priority.



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Ottawa Set to Build 151,000 New Homes by 2031 Amid Provincial Housing Push

**Arvind Arvind-
National Times**

The City of Ottawa has been given a critical role in addressing Ontario's housing shortage, with a provincial mandate to build 151,000 new housing units by 2031. This target represents 10 per cent of Ontario's ambitious 10-year goal to expand housing availability across the province.

The initiative aims to ease the province-wide housing crisis by encouraging municipalities like Ottawa to increase residential supply in a sustainable and timely manner. Since the mandate's introduction, the province has allowed a "ramp-up" period with smaller initial targets, gradually scaling up annual construction goals over the next several years.

Balancing Growth with Community Needs

For Ottawa residents, this means more housing options—ranging from new apartments and townhomes near transit hubs to family-friendly developments in growing suburbs. The City is committed to ensuring that growth supports community needs, including investments in public transit.

"People want affordable, accessible homes in neighborhoods that offer

convenience and a high quality of life," said a city planning spokesperson. "Our goal is to meet these needs while preserving the character of our communities."

Business and Market Opportunities

For developers, investors, and local businesses, Ottawa's new housing targets represent significant opportunities. The ramp-up

investment in residential real estate, especially in mixed-use and multi-family housing," noted a local real estate analyst. "This will help meet demand while creating vibrant, walkable neighborhoods."

Looking Ahead

With housing affordability and availability top of mind for



approach allows for a gradual increase in building activity, signaling a healthy pipeline of projects across the city—particularly in transit-oriented developments underutilized sites.

"As the city aligns zoning and policies with provincial goals, we expect to see increased

many Ontarians, Ottawa's role in delivering a significant share of new homes is both vital and complex. As the city ramps up construction in the coming years, residents can expect to see gradual but steady change in the local housing landscape.

Experienced Diplomat Dinesh Patnaik to Strengthen India-Canada Relations as High Commissioner India in Canada

**Dr. Rajeev Sharma-
National Times**

India's diplomatic mission in Canada is poised for a new chapter under the leadership of Dinesh Patnaik, a seasoned Indian Foreign Service officer with extensive international experience. Appointed as India's High Commissioner to Canada, Patnaik brings a strong track record in diplomacy and bilateral relations, positioning him well to enhance the ties between the two countries. Recently, Patnaik met with Sebastien Carriere, the Chief of Protocol of Canada, in a key diplomatic engagement aimed at discussing ways to deepen cooperation and cultural exchange. This meeting highlights the importance of his role in fostering smooth diplomatic relations and collaborative initiatives.

Known for his strategic vision and negotiation skills, he has contributed significantly to India's foreign policy. Dinesh Patnaik is a senior Indian Foreign Service officer with over 30 years of experience in diplomacy. Throughout his career, he has held key positions in Indian missions across Asia, Europe, and North America, specializing in bilateral roles within the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi. Committed to fostering international



cooperation, he brings a wealth of experience to his current position, focusing on strengthening India-Canada ties through enhanced economic partnerships.

As High Commissioner, Patnaik carries the important responsibility of representing India's interests in Canada, facilitating trade, investment, education exchanges, and people-to-people connections. His expertise and diplomatic finesse are expected to play a crucial role in expanding economic partnerships and cultural ties between the two nations.

"India and Canada share a deep

and multifaceted relationship," Patnaik said in a recent statement. "I am committed to strengthening our cooperation in areas such as technology, clean energy, innovation, and education, which will benefit both our countries and our people."

Canadian officials have also expressed optimism about Patnaik's appointment. "We look forward to working closely with High Commissioner Patnaik to further deepen the friendship and partnership between Canada and India," said a spokesperson from Global Affairs Canada.

Under Patnaik's leadership, several initiatives are expected to gain momentum, including enhanced collaboration on clean energy projects, expanded academic exchanges, and increased support for the vibrant Indian diaspora in Canada. Trade ties are also anticipated to grow, with a focus on technology and innovation sectors.

As Patnaik settles into his new role, observers and stakeholders from both countries are optimistic that his tenure will mark a period of increased engagement, strengthened partnerships, and positive diplomatic momentum.

Home Prices Decline as GTA Housing Market Continues to Cool, Despite Easing Rates

Anant S I
Toronto

The housing market in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) is showing increasing signs of cooling, with home prices declining amid rising inventory and elevated interest rates. Recent rate declines by the Bank of Canada have provided some relief, but uncertainty—particularly from trade tensions continues to weigh heavily on buyer sentiment and market activity.

Key Data & Trends

1. In the second quarter of 2025, the aggregate price of a home in the GTA dropped approximately 3% year-over-year.

2. Condos saw steeper declines—median condo prices in the GTA fell by 5-6% YoY.

3. Detached homes also experienced price slips, though milder, around 1-2% YoY.

4. Home sales dropped roughly 20-30% in certain months compared to the same period last year.

5. Active listings surged—new inventory has significantly

increased, tipping the balance more toward buyers.

Interest Rate Trends and Their Effects

6. The Bank of Canada has been lowering its benchmark rate, recently cutting to 2.5%, its lowest in about three years.

What Could Derail the Forecast

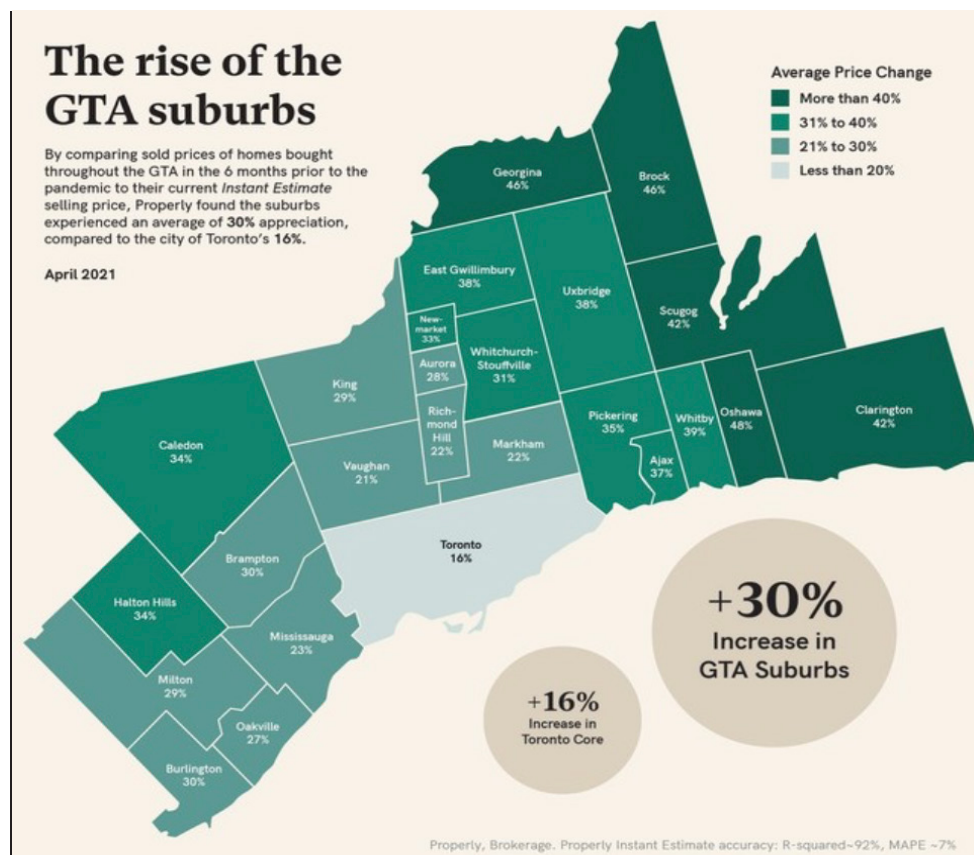
While these projections assume gradual improvement, a few risks could change the picture:

1. If trade tensions escalate or new tariffs are introduced, that could hurt business confidence, jobs, and therefore demand.

2. The labour market remains fragile—if unemployment rises significantly, that could put further pressure on prices and sales.

3. If inflation persists higher than expected, the Bank of Canada might delay rate cuts or even tighten again, hurting affordability

4. Over-construction in some condo-heavy regions could lead to oversupply, dragging down condo prices more steeply than detached or low-rise homes.



Forecast	GTA / Ontario	Canada-wide
Sales Volume	About 76,000 home sales in the GTA in 2025 —a rise of ~12.4% over 2024.	Overall resale activity in Canada is expected to decline ~3.5% in 2025 before recovering somewhat in 2026.
Average Prices	A modest increase in average selling prices in the GTA in 2025—around 2.5-3% growth over 2024.	National composite home price index expected to rise by ~0.7% in 2025, but then decline modestly in 2026.
Condo Segment	Continued pressure: condo resale prices in the GTA are expected to drop further, possibly 15-20% from their 2023-Q3 peaks , with part of that drop occurring in 2025.	Similar patterns in markets with high condo supply.
Affordability & Buyer Behavior	Improving affordability thanks to lower rates, but many buyers remain on the sidelines until economic signals stabilize.	Affordability will remain stretched, especially in regions where prices are high and income growth weak.
Interest Rates	Further modest rate cuts are likely, with some forecasts expecting the Bank of Canada to push policy rates down toward ≈2.25% , then hold steady.	Similar downward drift in rates anticipated, with long-term yields stabilizing or drifting slightly lower.



Scoop of Success: Chapman's \$200M Expansion Gets Sweet Boost from Premier Ford

Gaganjot Singh |
Ajax Ontario
National Times Media

It's not every day that ice cream headlines economic news, but in the heart of Grey County, the beloved Canadian brand Chapman's Ice Cream is doing just that—with a cool \$200 million expansion that's set to change the frozen dessert game in North America.

And who better to mark the moment than Ontario Premier Doug Ford, who showed up in full flavour-loving form—ripping open a box of Chapman's Yukon Bars and biting into one mid-press conference. “I eat these things every night—no, honestly, every night,” Ford told a crowd of reporters and local dignitaries, unfiltered as always.

But behind the creamy indulgence lies a major investment story: one that blends Ontario pride, economic resilience, and a bold strategy to take Canadian ice cream global.

The Big Chill: A Historic Expansion

Chapman's announcement marks its largest expansion project ever, with a 175,000-square-foot production facility planned to rise in Markdale—where the company has been rooted since

1973.

Once completed, it will position Chapman's as the largest single-site ice cream manufacturer in North America, a milestone that underscores not just growth, but strategic independence in a turbulent global trade environment.



Ashley Chapman, the company's Vice President, stood beside Premier Ford to lay out the company's future.

“This isn't just about making more ice cream. This is about protecting Canadian supply chains, strengthening domestic production,” he said.

Chapman emphasized the company's decision to “decouple” its supply chain from the U.S., citing economic instability of the border. “With the Trump administration weaponizing tariffs and undermining fair trade, it's critical that Canadian

companies protect their autonomy,” he added

INVESTING IN MORE THAN ICE CREAM.

Backing Chapman's bold move is a \$27 million contribution from the Invest Ontario Fund, part of a broader provincial effort to bolster manufacturing and job

creation.

Premier Ford hailed the project as a “massive vote of confidence” in Ontario’s economy:

“We’re cutting red tape, keeping costs down, and making this province the best place in the G7 to invest and grow,” Ford said. “Whether it’s ice cream or hospitals, we’re building Ontario up.”

The expansion will bring Chapman’s workforce to over 1,000 employees, solidifying its status as Markdale’s largest employer and a regional economic engine.

From Markdale to the World

While the company’s roots are firmly Canadian, its eyes are set on global shelves. “There are only so many Canadians in Canada,” Ashley Chapman quipped, nodding to plans to expand the brand’s reach overseas. With new products and increased production capacity, Chapman’s is positioning itself as a player in international markets—all while keeping its identity proudly Canadian.

Beyond Business: Building Communities

Chapman’s expansion is part of a wider investment wave in Grey County. Premier Ford highlighted several other major provincial projects, including:

\$55 million invested in the new Markdale hospital Over \$31 million toward a 735-seat elementary school in Southgate, including licensed childcare.

\$47 million allocated for the new St. Mary’s school in Owen Sound Ford was joined by top provincial leaders, including Economic Development Minister Vic Fedeli, Agriculture Minister Trevor Jones, and multiple local MPPs, reinforcing the government’s commitment to rural growth and

regional infrastructure.

A Scoop of Canadian Resilience

Chapman’s expansion is more than a story of corporate growth—it’s a reflection of Canadian values: resilience, innovation, and loyalty to homegrown roots. In an era where global supply chains are fragile and international politics volatile, this Ontario-based company is doubling down on self-reliance—while keeping its freezers full of the good stuff. So the next time you unwrap a Yukon bar or dip a spoon into Chapman’s vanilla, remember: you’re not just enjoying a treat. You’re tasting a piece of Canadian economic tenacity.



Borderlines & Trade Wars: PM Mark Carney Navigates Canada Through Turbulent U.S. Relations

National Times Bureau

When Mark Carney took the oath as Canada's 24th Prime Minister in March 2025, he did so amid a volatile international climate, with trade tensions rising and political

Carney faced a growing crisis with Canada's largest trading partner. The United States, under President Donald Trump, had imposed sweeping tariffs on Canadian goods—citing emergency powers related to border drug trafficking. While energy and potash faced a

and auto parts were slapped with a 25% levy. Most USMCA-compliant products remained exempt, but the shock to bilateral trade was palpable.

Carney's First Moves: Calm, Calculated, and Canadian



alliances shifting. A former central banker with a reputation for precision and pragmatism, Carney's arrival marked a turning point—not just in policy direction, but in tone. Within days of assuming office,

10% duty, most other exports were hit with 25%, which later climbed to 35% by August.

Additionally, Section 232 tariffs were re-imposed on Canadian steel, aluminum, and copper—reaching as high as 50%—while vehicles

Rather than escalate further, Carney adopted a measured yet assertive approach. In his first months, his government rolled back retaliatory tariffs on U.S. goods that adhered to USMCA

standards, restoring free trade access to more than 85% of bilateral flows. However, Ottawa kept 25% duties on U.S. steel, aluminum, and automobiles in place—leaving room for leverage in ongoing negotiations.

This balancing act was part of a broader realignment. Domestically, Carney's team emphasized economic resilience and diversification. He oversaw the creation of Build Canada Homes to address the housing crisis, cut income taxes for the lowest bracket, and eliminated GST on homes under \$1 million for first-time buyers.

In international policy, he directed efforts to reduce reliance on the U.S. by investing billions in port, rail, and trade corridor infrastructure, while simultaneously building closer ties with Mexico and other global partners.

A Break in the Clouds—or the Eye of the Storm?

Carney's approach has drawn praise for its clarity and confidence. His administration reaffirmed Canada's position as a sovereign economic power and expressed strong opposition to any suggestion of subordination to American interests. In public statements, the Prime Minister emphasized that Canada "will never be part of the United States," a remark met with standing ovations and widespread domestic support.

Meanwhile, retaliatory sentiment among Canadian consumers has emerged organically, with reported declines in U.S.-bound travel and rising preference for local or non-U.S. products. Though exact figures remain fluid, some airlines reported significant drops in cross-border bookings over the summer.

Despite a recent softening of rhetoric between Ottawa and

Washington, the path forward remains uncertain. The trilateral USMCA review, scheduled for July 2026, is expected to become a key moment in redefining North American trade dynamics.

Sovereignty Over Subservience

What's clear is that Carney's administration is positioning Canada not just as a junior partner in continental affairs, but as a self-assured, globally minded nation capable of charting its own course—even when the political winds from the south turn cold.

This new chapter in Canadian foreign and economic policy isn't just about managing a tariff dispute. It's about reshaping a country's identity in a turbulent global environment—and ensuring that when the next storm hits, Canada is ready to weather it, its borders and principles intact.



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Punjab's 2025 Floods: Reckoning with Nature, Infrastructure, and What Comes After

**Gurpreet Singh
Mohali | Punjab**

In late August 2025, Punjab—India's agricultural heartland—was hit by what many are calling the worst floods in nearly four decades. Torrential

preparedness laid bare.

What Happened: Rain, Rivers & Ruptures

Between August 1 and September 1, Punjab recorded extraordinary rainfall that pushed rivers like the Sutlej, Beas, Ravi, and many

many areas that had seen warnings earlier found roads cut off, homes inundated, and critical infrastructure compromised.

The Human & Agricultural Toll

By early September, all 23 districts had been declared flood-affected.



rains, swollen rivers, and dam overflows combined to wreak havoc across all 23 districts. By early September, thousands of villages were submerged, lives disrupted, crops destroyed—and once again, the limits of

seasonal streams well beyond their banks. Heavy downpours upstream in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir worsened inflows.

Villages flooded, embankments failed, and drains overflowed—



Over 3.5 lakh (350,000+) people were impacted.

The death toll by then stood around 45-50, according to different reports.

Standing crops on more than 1.75 lakh hectares were destroyed,

the brunt falling upon paddy fields and other kharif harvests just weeks from maturity. About 1,900–2,000 villages were inundated.

What Went Wrong: Built-in Weaknesses & Missed Signals

The severity of the floods could be traced not only to extreme weather, but also to infrastructural and policy lapses:

- Dam water releases were necessary, but downstream preparedness lagged, especially in flood-plain villages.
- Early warning systems, though in place, struggled to keep pace with rapidly rising water levels and flash floods. Many ground drains and small embankments failed under pressure.
- Encroachment on floodplains and low-lying areas, lack of maintenance of drainage networks, and overreliance on ageing infrastructure compounded the human and economic loss.

Interim Relief & Challenges

Relief efforts have mobilized fast:

- Thousands evacuated and housed in temporary camps.
- State and central governments initiated compensation for crop damage; surveys (such as girdawari) are underway to assess losses.
- Medical camps deployed across affected areas to treat flood-related disease risks; route restoration, water supply, and power lines are being prioritized.

Yet, the scale of devastation means full recovery will take months if not years—especially

for small farmers, displaced families, and communities cut off from basic services.

If there is a silver lining, it lies in collective action and possible policy shifts.

Here are steps that observers believe are essential:

Improved Flood Forecasting & Real-Time Alerts

Investing in more robust upstream weather sensors, satellite data integrations, and community-level alert dissemination can save lives.

Strengthening Infrastructure

Repairing and raising embankments, clearing flood plains, restoring natural drainage, and ensuring dam release protocols are transparent and well-communicated downstream.

Agricultural Adaptation

Crop insurance scaled up; resistant crop varieties; better flood-tolerant farming practices; improved drainage in fields.

Decentralized Disaster Readiness

Empowering panchayats/villages with resources for early evacuation. Community training in rescue first-aid protocols.

Policy & Funding Reform

More timely compensation for farmers, robust disaster funds, and inter-departmental coordination between water resources, agriculture, health, and rural development.

A Call to Action

Nature exposed very real vulnerabilities—many of them human-made. As floodwaters recede, the task before Punjab is not just rebuilding what was lost, but rethinking what should have been done better.

The measure of resilience will lie not just in how fast homes are repaired or crops replaced—but in how deeply institutions learn, how immediately systems change, how truly communities unite.

The Law of Change: A Path to Betterment

Amarjit Singh Khajuria
Ajax | Ontario

Change is the law of nature, and the only unchangeable reality is change itself. Baba Sheikh Farid speaks to this truth: “The old branch has ripened and changed colours.”

The old order yields place to the new. As the famous English poet Lord Tennyson wrote, life suggests that this change is not random but part of a divine plan.

Nowadays, with the Fall season upon us, we witness this universal change very vividly. The deciduous trees transform—the leaves shift from green to red, to yellow, to orange, and finally dancing down towards the ground. These soul-touching changes unfold before our very eyes, as if The Creator Himself is present within the creation. Then we recall the words of Guru Nanak:

“Balhari Kudrat Vassia,” meaning “I am a sacrifice to Your Almighty creative power, which pervades everywhere.” The divine perspective teaches us to look upon all existence as one, without any differentiation. As we participate in this transition of the seasons, we are reminded that our stay on this planet is also short-lived. Our thinking and planning for years ahead—as though we will remain here



forever—are abruptly humbled by the reality of impermanence. This realization urges us to take steps that are beneficial to humanity, for there is always room to become better.

The poet Hairat Allahabadi expressed this truth beautifully:

**“Agah apni maut
se koi bashar
nahin
Saman sau baras
ka hai, pal ki
khabar nahin.”**

No one is unaware of death; one may make provision for a hundred years, yet has no certainty of the next moment.

Let us, then, enjoy the vibrant Fall season while remembering the Lord at all times.

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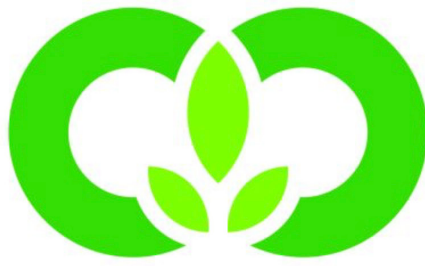
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