

Friday, May 9, 2025

RE: Notice of Motion – Town of Goderich Rejection of President Trump’s Rhetoric Regarding the Annexation of Canada and Trade Tariffs

To Whom It May Concern;

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, March 17, 2025, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Petrie
Seconded By: Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS President Trump's rhetoric about the annexation of Canada is both offensive and unacceptable, undermining Canada's sovereignty and the respectful relationship between our two nations;

WHEREAS the Government of the United States, under President Trump, intends to impose unjustified trade tariffs on Canada that will cause harm to both nations' economies, local businesses, and workers;

WHEREAS the above noted actions contradict the principles of diplomatic dialogue and fair trade that Canada has long championed in our international relations;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Goderich has a responsibility to defend the values of peace, cooperation, and mutual respect, and safeguard the interests of our community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich condemns divisive and harmful rhetoric regarding the potential annexation of Canada, and categorically rejects trade tariffs imposed by President Trump;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich send the attached letter to American municipal and business leaders that the town has had longstanding friendly relationships with expressing our concerns and

advocating for the return of a constructive and positive relationship between our countries:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich encourages other Ontario municipalities to adopt similar resolutions, advocate to their municipal and business partners in the United States and join us in a collective voice to preserve the dignity and sovereignty of our nation.

CARRIED

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 519-524-8344 ext. 210 or afisher@goderich.ca.

Yours truly,



Andrea Fisher
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
/mp

Friday, May 9, 2025

We are writing today to advise of the Town of Goderich's deep concern regarding recent rhetoric from the American federal government including threats to annex Canada, and American tariffs on Canadian goods. As a community that values the long-standing cooperation between our nations, we appeal to you as leaders in your community to advocate for the end of such damaging rhetoric and policies.

Canada is a proud nation with our own democratic system, values, and identity. As Canadians, we hold a deep commitment to our sovereignty and independence, and we are overwhelmingly opposed to President Trump's annexation rhetoric. American threats to annex Canada disregard the liberty, democracy, and self-determination that both of our nations hold in high esteem. They undermine the peace and respect that have long defined the relationship between our two countries, they are an affront to Canadian values and destabilize our cooperative future.

American tariffs on Canadian goods present significant economic problems for both our countries. Canada is the United States' largest trading partner with over \$700 billion in goods and services exchanged annually (*Government of Canada*, 2024). American and Canadian businesses rely on our integrated supply chains to thrive. Tariffs will disrupt this flow of goods, raise prices for consumers, and hurt local businesses on both sides of the border. In fact, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has estimated that American tariffs on Canadian goods could result in up to \$40 billion in losses for American businesses and consumers (*U.S. Chamber of Commerce*, 2023).

Like many other municipalities in Canada, the Town of Goderich shares strong ties with the United States through trade, tourism, and business. These connections have fostered economic development, supported jobs, and created a robust relationship that benefits communities on both sides of the border. We ask that you, as local leaders, urge your federal government to end the rhetoric of annexation and any other threats or economic actions that disrupt our strong, peaceful, and mutually beneficial relationship. The economic and social consequences of continued tensions are felt in all communities that depend on cross-border trade, tourism, and cooperation.

We urge you to advocate for policies that foster collaboration and mutual respect. As community leaders, we have a unique role to play in building bridges between our nations. We are at our best when we work together, and it is crucial that we continue to nurture the strong, cooperative relationship we have built to foster peace and prosperity between our countries.

The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca



Yours truly,



Trevor Bazinet, Mayor
Town of Goderich
tbazinet@goderich.ca
/mp