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LOGIC

By *Joe Ingino*

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— According to AI —
"I live a dream in a nightmare world"
was coined by Joe Ingino, a Canadian editor, publisher, and local media figure based in Oshawa, Ontario. He regularly uses this specific statement as a personal tagline and signature for his published newspaper columns and social media posts.

Joe Ingino

— INGINO MAKES HISTORY —

— ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT —
THE COSMIC BLUEPRINT OF YOUR LIFE WAS WRITTEN IN CODE ACROSS THE SKY AT THE MOMENT YOU WERE BORN.

DECODE YOUR LIFE BY
LIVING IT *WITHOUT REGRET OR SORROW.*

— ONE DAY AT A TIME —

fortunate as suffering from some form of mental illness or, possibly, substance abuse. Whatever the situation, we as citizens are still responsible. Any one of those in need could one day be one of us. As they say during war or disaster, it is too late to prepare once it happens. Well, if my previous statement stands true, what is happening? It is as if the Canadian social and civic mentality is suffering from some sort of neurosis. By definition, neurosis is a general term for a mental and emotional condition that can involve high levels of stress, anxiety and emotional distress without necessarily causing a loss of contact with reality. With this said, we generally know about the problem. We see the problem. Yet, we think we are doing something about it while, in reality, the problem continues to grow. To soothe our psyche, we tend to become more prone to viewing foreign aid as a solution to someone else's problems while ignoring our own. As neurosis implies, doing nothing can contribute to a sense of national frustration and depression. Interestingly, such social conditions may also contribute to problems involving substance abuse, crime and family breakdown. The civic mind is exhausted. Overcoming neurotic tendencies and emotional distress can involve practicing emotional regulation, reframing unhelpful thoughts and building daily resilience. In other words, the old saying, "SUCK IT UP, BUTTERCUP," may appear to some to be the easiest pill to swallow. Sadly, that attitude ignores the problem and redirects our attention toward giving money to wars such as the one in Ukraine, conflicts in Africa and other international causes. But then one has to understand international politics and the complex interests involved in that arena. Bottom line: We are becoming nothing short of modern-day slaves to misinformation, information overload and a general lack of true understanding of society. To justify giving billions in foreign aid to countries involved in foreign wars, while Canadians suffer at home, is something I find difficult to understand. Imagine what we could do in Canada with a billion dollars. But wait. After politicians, administrators and contractors get their hands on that billion, how much would actually reach those in need?

Those in need might end up seeing very little of it. Okay, Joe, if this stands true, then could we also question whether the billions we give to foreign countries are subject to waste, mismanagement or corruption? Take Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Various estimates and claims have circulated publicly concerning his personal wealth to the tunes of millions. How could this be?

Wait a minute. If his country is at war, would you not think that he would invest everything possible in his cause? Instead, he visits countries such as Canada and the United States seeking billions of dollars in support. What is wrong with that picture?

On the other side of that international coin, we are constantly distracted by fears of a possible world war and the threat posed by Russia.

Now, let's get something clear. If Russia has struggled to take over a neighbouring country, what makes people believe it could easily expand a war across continents? We as Canadians need to stop living in fear. We need to seriously address our own social problems. We need to take control of our country. We need educated, knowledgeable and well-versed people to lead. As it stands, no matter the party, too many politicians appear to be in it for themselves. If they suffer from the same political habits and attitudes, how can we expect a different outcome?

You hear talk of elites wanting to create a "global village." I think not. I personally envision a future in which governments could, one day, be assisted or even administered in part by Artificial Intelligence entities. These entities would receive human input from people around the world, while decisions could theoretically be based more heavily on logic, evidence and facts rather than personal interests, ignorance or political bias.

Of course, such a system would raise enormous questions about accountability, ethics, human rights and who ultimately controls the technology. Still, it makes you wonder.

Could AI become part of the medicine for our social neurosis?

What do you think?

The Reality of Homelessness..

By Joe Ingino

One of the greatest aches in my heart is the fact that we live in one of the richest countries in the world. Yet, we have people living on the streets under all kinds of harsh weather conditions. How can this be? Have we lost our civic duty? Have we lowered our social standards to such lows that we have become numb to the pain and suffering of fellow Canadians? I hate to think so.

I look around and see many people running for council. I do not see disassociation or social numbness. On the contrary, I see a lot of passion, but no resolve. As new candidates, many do not have the experience and/or knowledge of how the political machine works. Therefore, they may be unaware of many of the realities involved. We look at all those elected, and you tend to wonder how they can sleep at night knowing a fellow citizen is suffering on the street.

Many quickly dismiss those less



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-  **Royal Canadian Legion #43**
Member since 2014
-  **MASON LODGE No 649**
Oshawa Member since 2016
-  **Moose Lodge 2132**
Oshawa Lodge 2132/WOTM Chapter 1759 Member since 2015
-  **WING 420**
Member since 2017
-  **WE ARE OSHAWA**
Member since 2015
-  **Wheeling and Area Chamber of Commerce**
Member since 2000
-  **Weirton Chamber of Commerce**
member since 2000
-  **Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce**
member since 2000
-  **Former Kiwanis Westmount (Oshawa)**
-  **Former Kinsmen of Oshawa**
Member 2015 - of Courtice 2015, Secretary 2017
-  **Former Courtice Lions Club**
 - Member 2015 (Director)
 - Member of fundraising committee 2017
 - Chair of Membership 2017
 - Vice President - 2017-18
-  **Oshawa Naval Veterans Club**
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-  **C.O.P.A. Canadian Owners and Pilots Association**
Member Since 2026
-  **City Of Oshawa Mayoral Candidate**
2014, 2018, 2022,
-  **City Of Oshawa Mayoral Candidate**
2025, Member of Provincial Parliament candidate for The New Blue Party

JOE INGINO IS A PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST & ACCOMPLISHED WRITER/AUTHOR OF OVER 800,000 Published Columns in Canada and The United States



From Investment Summit to Global Strategy: Canada Must Deliver

by Maj (ret'd) CORNELIU, CHISU, CD, PMSC FEC, CET, P.Eng.
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The first Canada Investment Summit, held in Toronto on September 14 and 15, was more than an investment conference. Combined with Prime Minister Mark Carney's subsequent diplomatic activities in Europe and at the United Nations, it revealed an emerging national strategy: attract capital, accelerate major projects and diversify Canada's economic relationships during an escalating tariff conflict with the United States. The summit produced an impressive headline, nearly \$500 billion in investment and financing commitments. Investors from almost 30 countries, managing more than \$100 trillion in assets, attended. Canadian pension funds, insurers and institutional investors committed almost \$100 billion. Canada's major banks promised nearly \$325 billion in financing. Bell and Saskatchewan proposed a \$52.5-billion artificial-intelligence infrastructure hub, while other funds pledged billions for Canadian technology and infrastructure. These numbers are encouraging, but they require careful interpretation. Bank financing is not the same as direct investment. Money available for lending has not necessarily been allocated, and some projects remain conditional on customers, regulatory approvals, electricity supplies and supporting infrastructure. The summit's success must therefore be measured by what happens next. The government should report regularly on how much capital is actually invested, which projects reach construction, how many permanent jobs are created and how much Canadian ownership and intellectual property are retained.

Prime Minister Carney also introduced the Productivity Mega Deduction. It will allow businesses to deduct immediately the cost of a wider range of investments, including mining properties, pipelines, software, fibre-optic cables, aircraft, railways, roads and research. The government estimates that the measure will reduce Canada's marginal effective tax rate on new business investment from approximately 13 per cent to 6.4 per cent, less than half the corresponding American rate. That could become a significant Canadian advantage as tariffs disrupt established North American supply chains. However, tax incentives cannot compensate for regulatory paralysis. Investors need predictable decisions, sufficient electricity, skilled workers and reliable transportation. Carney's proposed standard of "one project, one review, one year" is therefore essential. Faster reviews must not mean abandoning environmental protection, constitutional responsibilities or meaningful Indigenous participation. It means coordinating governments, eliminating duplication and reaching clear decisions within reasonable timelines.

Immediately following the summit, Carney travelled to Liverpool and Strasbourg. In an address to the European Parliament, he proposed an "alliance for the future" between Canada and the European Union, one extending beyond the existing Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. The proposed alliance would include critical minerals, energy, defence production, artificial intelligence, advanced computing, space, digital trade and financial services. Canada would contribute resources, energy and technological expertise. Europe would offer manufacturing strength, research capacity, investment capital and access to a market of approximately 450 million people. The initiative is strategically important, but it remains a proposal. Some European governments have responded cautiously, preferring fuller implementation of CETA to an undefined form of Canadian associate membership. Several EU members have still not fully ratified CETA, while agricultural regulations and differing standards continue to restrict trade.

Canada should therefore concentrate on achievable objectives: completing CETA ratification, recognizing compatible standards, facilitating digital commerce, securing critical-mineral agreements and expanding opportunities for Canadians to study, work and conduct business in Europe. In Liverpool, Carney met British Prime Minister Andy Burnham. Canada formally applied to join the Joint Expeditionary Force, while the two leaders discussed energy, artificial intelligence, critical minerals and defence-industrial cooperation.

Canada is also participating as an observer in the Global Combat Air Programme and considering modernization of British military training at CFB Suffield. These initiatives demonstrate that defence and economic policy are increasingly connected.

Canadian defence spending should not simply purchase finished equipment from foreign manufacturers. It should help develop Canadian engineering, aerospace, shipbuilding, cybersecurity and advanced-manufacturing capacity. Participation in European defence programs could give Canadian companies access to larger markets while strengthening national security.

Carney subsequently met French President Emmanuel Macron in Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon. Their discussions covered aerospace, energy, critical minerals, satellites, quantum technology and supercomputing. He also met Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, emphasizing energy, Arctic security and strategic cooperation. France and Norway are natural partners. France is a major European power with strong cultural and defence connections to Canada. Norway, like Canada, is an Arctic democracy and important energy producer. Both relationships could support Canada's attempt to become a more significant energy, technology and security partner for Europe.

At the United Nations General Assembly, Carney continued presenting Canada as a dependable international partner and stable destination for investment. His agenda included meetings with political leaders and investors, international cooperation and reform of the United Nations. Canada's diversification strategy is also expanding toward Asia. Trade negotiations with the Philippines and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are reportedly more than 90 per cent complete. Ottawa hopes to conclude agreements by November.

Southeast Asia offers rapidly growing markets for Canadian energy, agriculture, critical minerals and technology. Canada's developing Pacific liquefied-natural-gas industry could provide Asian countries with greater energy security while reducing Canadian dependence on the American market.

Diversification, however, does not mean abandoning the United States. Geography, shared infrastructure and deeply integrated industries ensure that the United States will remain Canada's largest trading partner. Canada should be ready to resume negotiations when a fair agreement becomes possible. However, it should not accept terms that weaken its sovereignty or sacrifice strategic industries simply to recreate yesterday's relationship. As Carney said following the summit, "nostalgia is not a strategy."

Neither are counter-tariffs a permanent strategy. They may be necessary to demonstrate resolve and defend Canadian producers, but tariffs ultimately increase costs for businesses and consumers on both sides of the border.

Canada's most effective response is to become more productive, develop alternative markets and reduce the leverage of any single foreign government.

The government must also protect the national interest as it pursues investment. Public incentives should not become unlimited subsidies for private corporations. Proposed airport concessions must preserve public ownership, national security and reasonable passenger fees.

Critical minerals should not simply be extracted and exported. Canada must develop domestic refining, processing and manufacturing. Artificial-intelligence data centres must create Canadian jobs, companies and intellectual property—not merely consume Canadian electricity while foreign firms capture the profits.

Trade diversification also requires physical infrastructure. Canada needs expanded Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic ports, improved railways, new pipelines and energy corridors, stronger electricity grids and additional nuclear generation. International agreements accomplish little if Canadian products cannot reach global markets competitively.

Internal trade barriers must also be removed. Canada cannot credibly seek freer commerce with Europe and Asia while maintaining unnecessary restrictions on goods, services and professional qualifications between its own provinces.

The Investment Summit and Prime Minister Carney's subsequent diplomacy represent an encouraging change in direction. Investment, infrastructure, defence and foreign policy are beginning to form a coherent national strategy.

However, commitments are not completed projects, and diplomatic declarations are not commercial results. Canada must now move from announcements to execution. Our future will not be secured by choosing Europe over the United States. It will be secured by building sufficient economic strength to cooperate with both while remaining subordinate to neither.