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Joe Ingino

"I live a dream in a nightmare world"

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Disgraceful At Best...

By Joe Ingino BA. Psychology

Editor/Publisher Central Newspapers

ACCOMPLISHED WRITER/AUTHOR OF OVER 800 ,000

Published Columns in Canada and The United States

For those that read this column on a regular basis will note that I have been warning of this for the past 15 years. "GM IS LEAVING OSHAWA". I remember in conversation with Nancy Diamond over this issue. She use to tell me. "Oh don't worry Joe. They always do that to push the government to give them more funding." I remember her telling me that even if they were to leave Oshawa. That city council could do nothing to prevent it.... as if council tried to flex muscle. GM through the union would turn it into a huge political issues and that most on council would suffer. So the resolve was to do nothing and allow GM to do as they pleased. As they had done for ever and a day. Meanwhile I use to get calls from GM management workers worried over the job loss. This week an a pathetic attempt to make it look like he cares:

Mayor Dan Carter responds to GM Oshawa Assembly Plant transition to two shifts

- Jan 29, 2026

With General Motors of Canada's transition of the Oshawa Assembly Plant back to a two-shift operation as of January 30, Oshawa Mayor Dan Carter has issued the following statement: "On behalf of the City of Oshawa, I want to express our heartfelt compassion and support for the GM employees and their families who are affected by this transition.

We understand this is a difficult and challenging time.

I have a suggestion for this token Mayor... stop with the empty words and actually show some leadership and stand up to GM on behalf of Oshawa. It is obvious that both of our local MP and MPP have no character and or leadership qualities to do anything about it. He continues...

GM's presence here has brought innovation, investment and thousands of jobs. We're proud of Oshawa's automotive legacy that spans more than a century. Oshawa Assembly remains a leader in its award-winning operations, producing both heavy- and light-duty Chevrolet Silverado pickups – GM's most important market segment in North America. Our talented workforce continues to play a vital role in meeting demand for these vehicles. Oshawa is also home to GM's advanced research facilities, including the McLaughlin Advanced Technology Track at Oshawa's Canadian Technical Centre.

We will continue to work closely with GM, Unifor and the Provincial and Federal governments to identify new business, partnerships and investments to bring new advanced manufacturing opportunities and pathways to the great City of Oshawa."

What a load of crap.... Words that mean nothing to the person loosing their job. Nothing to the person not affording to pay property tax increases.

I can tell you this. That If I had been graced with winning the last election.

GM. would have been forced to pay. Pay for the environmental mess they created all across Oshawa. From the North along Grandview dumps to the south of Simcoe at the entrance of Lakeview Park. Not to mention the lands of the old stamping plant just north of the court house. Lands that are so putrid that the court house faced compromises in it's building.

An environmental mess. I would have approached the leadership at GM and made it clear that unless jobs came back to Oshawa that the City would file a class action suit on behalf of all citizens of Oshawa to the tune of 5 Billion dollars.

This would also include the fact that GM leaving, has put Oshawa in an economic mess. Look at our downtown. Look at all those living on the streets. NO EXCUSE.

This claim would also include pain and suffering cause to all those 30,000 plus that use to work at GM.

Pensions and special packages do not cut it. Tokens for service will not be accepted. We the people have sacrificed a work force that has contributed to the success of GM world wide. We the people have endured and are enduring the affects of GM manufacturing methods. It is time to stop pretending. Stop expecting the Province and Feds to step up. Make them Pay... Then look who is running the show... A token Mayor. 2 Terms that has ruined Oshawa to the core (literately).

JOE INGINO

Proud Member of :

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MASON LODGE No 649

Oshawa Member since 2016

Moose Lodge 2132

Oshawa Lodge 2132/WOTM

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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 Honorary 2025

2014, 2018, 2022,
City Of Oshawa Mayoral Candidate

2025, Member of Provincial Parliament Candidate for The New Blue Party

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Mark Carney's Canada: A Strategy for the U.S.–Canada Trade War and the Coming CUSMA Test

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The renewed trade and tax confrontation between the United States and Canada has stripped away a comfortable illusion: that North American economic integration is permanently insulated from politics. Tariffs, industrial subsidies, and fiscal threats are no longer exceptional tools. They are becoming routine instruments of domestic politics in Washington. For Canada, this is not a passing squall but a new climate. In that context, the vision articulated by Prime Minister Mark Carney offers a sober and increasingly relevant guide—not just for managing the current trade war, but for navigating the high-stakes review and renegotiation of CUSMA now approaching.

Carney's core insight is disarmingly simple: economic stability can no longer be assumed. For much of the post-Cold War era, Canada built prosperity on a rules-based trading system anchored by the United States. That system still exists on paper, but in practice it is being distorted by security claims, domestic political cycles, and a revival of industrial policy. Carney does not romanticize the old order, nor does he propose retreat. Instead, he argues that Canada must adapt to a world where trade friction is structural, not episodic. This matters profoundly for CUSMA. The agreement was designed to provide predictability, yet predictability is precisely what has eroded. Tariffs imposed outside the spirit—if not always the letter—of the agreement, threats of tax retaliation, and the use of national security exemptions have all demonstrated the limits of legal texts when political incentives shift. Carney's response is not to abandon free trade, but to make it credible again by grounding it in enforcement, resilience, and domestic legitimacy.

One pillar of that approach is realism about power. The United States will always have greater leverage in bilateral disputes. Canada's mistake, historically, has been to oscillate between moral suasion and symbolic retaliation. Carney's vision rejects both. He insists that Canada's leverage lies in being indispensable, not indignant. In practice, this means investing at home so that Canadian supply chains, energy systems, and industrial inputs are deeply embedded in North American production. The more disruption hurts the United States as well as Canada, the more restraint returns to policy.

This logic should shape Canada's posture in the coming CUSMA negotiations. Rather than framing talks defensively—as an effort to preserve what already exists—Canada should approach them as a durability exercise. Which parts of the agreement are most vulnerable to political weaponization? Where can clearer standards, stronger compliance mechanisms, and faster dispute resolution reduce the temptation to bypass the rules? Carney's institutional mindset points toward tightening the agreement where ambiguity invites abuse, even if that requires uncomfortable adjustments at home.

A second pillar of Carney's vision is the integration of economic security into trade policy. Washington has been explicit that trade is now inseparable from security, whether the subject is critical minerals, advanced manufacturing, or energy systems. Canada has often resisted this framing, preferring to defend the purity of free trade. Carney would argue that this is a strategic error. Refusing the language of security does not prevent its use; it simply excludes Canada from shaping how it is applied.

In the CUSMA context, this suggests a reframing of Canada's negotiating stance. Rather than contesting every U.S. security-based measure as illegitimate, Canada should demonstrate where its own capabilities directly advance American security objectives. Reliable electricity grids, trusted mineral supply chains, nuclear expertise, and low-carbon manufacturing capacity are not peripheral assets; they are central to North American resilience. A Canada that can credibly present itself as a security partner is harder to target with blunt trade instruments.

Nowhere is Carney's thinking more distinctive than on environmental and industrial policy. He has long argued that the climate transition is not a cost centre but a competitive strategy. In the context of a U.S.–Canada trade war, this is not an abstract argument. As Washington deploys subsidies and border measures to favour domestic production, Canada faces a choice: treat climate policy as a moral position to be defended, or as an industrial advantage to be leveraged. Carney's answer is clear. Climate alignment should be woven directly into trade negotiations. Canada should press for North American standards that reward low-carbon production, recognize clean electricity advantages, and integrate energy systems across borders. Done properly, this turns climate policy from a vulnerability into leverage. It also aligns with American industrial priorities, reducing the political appetite for punitive measures against Canadian exports.

Another central element of Carney's vision is credibility. Markets, allies, and even adversaries respond to predictability. Countries that maintain disciplined fiscal policy, independent institutions, and stable regulatory frameworks borrow more cheaply, attract investment more reliably, and negotiate from a position of confidence. In a trade war environment, this matters as much as tariffs or counter-tariffs.

For CUSMA, credibility is Canada's strongest card. A reputation for enforcing rules consistently—whether they favour or constrain domestic interests—strengthens Canada's hand in disputes. It signals that retaliation, if necessary, will be lawful, proportionate, and sustained. Carney's approach favours patience over theatre, and law over spectacle. That may be less satisfying politically, but it is more effective strategically.

Critically, Carney does not promise an end to trade conflict. His vision assumes volatility will persist. The objective is not to eliminate friction, but to manage it without undermining long-term prosperity. This is a middle-power strategy for a harsher North America: absorb pressure without panic, invest domestically to reduce exposure, and negotiate agreements that are resilient enough to survive political swings.

As the CUSMA review approaches, Canada faces a defining choice. It can cling to a nostalgic view of continental trade, hoping that appeals to partnership will override domestic pressures in Washington. Or it can adopt a more disciplined, strategic posture—one that accepts power realities while quietly increasing Canada's leverage. Mark Carney's vision points firmly toward the latter.

In an age of trade wars and tax threats, a serious, professional approach is itself a form of power. Canada's task is not to outmuscle the United States, but to make itself too valuable, too reliable, and too embedded to sideline easily. That is not a dramatic strategy. It is, however, the one most likely to endure.

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