

CANADA'S AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

It's hard to think about much else when you are struggling to pay your rent, feed your family, or fill up your gas tank.

More and more Canadians are being plagued with the inability to afford basic necessities due to the rising cost of just about everything. Sadly, the Trudeau government's unrestrained deficit-spending has driven up inflation and it is having the greatest impact on those who can least afford it.

I am constantly receiving messages and phone calls from constituents who are at their wit's end because they don't know what to do. Winter is coming and many Canadians are concerned about not being able to afford their gas bills or put healthy food on the table for their children.

"More and more Canadians are being plagued with the inability to afford basic necessities due to the rising cost of just about everything."

Remember when the Prime Minister told Canadians, "we took on debt so you wouldn't have to"? Well, it turns out, he didn't have a clue what he was talking about. A report came out on August 17th saying that one in four Canadians are taking on additional debt just to afford higher living costs. The top

reason for taking out a loan this year was to cover bills like one's mortgage and food.

Younger Canadians are losing the dream of home ownership as prices remain through the roof. The REMAX Canada's 2022 Housing Affordability Report showed that a majority of Canadians would be willing to relocate to a more affordable area in order to buy a home. It's important to note that it didn't have to be this way, but just like everything else, deficit spending and excessive regulation have driven up the price of housing. Housing prices have doubled since Mr. Trudeau became Prime Minister.

"It's important to note that it didn't have to be this way..."

The effects of the affordability crisis are devastating. After pleading unsuccessfully for affordable housing to help with her chronic health condition, a Canadian woman ended her life using the Medical Assistance in Dying program put in place by this government in February. Another woman living on disability payments who has been struggling to afford basic necessities is opting to take the same route.

Canadians are desperate, but it doesn't seem like the government is listening. Instead of reducing the impediments to jobs, wealth-creation, and building homes, the Trudeau government is putting more

restrictions in place and even threatening to bring back COVID-19 mandates which have wreaked havoc on Canadians' ability to safeguard their livelihoods.

Prime Minister often tells Canadians that he's there for them, he has their back, and he'll do whatever it takes, but when it comes down to the dark and sinister reality many Canadians are facing, he's nowhere to be seen. Seniors on fixed incomes are going without meals. Single mothers are putting water in their children's milk and families are forgoing extra-curricular activities because they can't afford them.

"What we need is a government that will get out of the way and remove hurdles to advancement and prosperity."

We can do better. Canada has incredible potential because the Canadian people are innovative, creative, hard-working, builders, developers, and wealth-generators. They are caring, generous and compassionate. What we need is a government that will get out of the way and remove hurdles to advancement and prosperity.

We need a government that puts more faith in the people than in itself. This is the key to our success!

CANADA'S ARRIVECAN APP

Since the early Spring, Canada has become internationally renowned, but it is not for the reasons we might desire. Canada's major international airports are ranked worst in the world for flight delays.

You may have seen pictures or videos of long lineups or hundreds of pieces of luggage that never made it on the same flight as their owners. Severe staff shortages are part of the cause, but a significant factor is also the policies of the current government. Namely, the insistence that travellers use the ArriveCan app and the implementation of random COVID-19 testing.

The use of the ArriveCan app is mandatory for all international travellers entering Canada. It forces those coming to our country by land or air to report their vaccination status, along with their destination and a self-assessment.

To say this app has been a disaster is an understatement. There have been glitches in ArriveCan directing quadruple vaccinated individuals, who did not test positive for COVID-19, to quarantine at home for two weeks or face lofty fines. It's ludicrous!

Videos have surfaced on social media of seniors, who either did not have a cell phone or who did not have the app downloaded on their mobile device, being treated extremely poorly by border agents.

The mandated use of the ArriveCan app, in addition to the random offsite COVID-19 testing program, is making Canada a destination nightmare. This is a very bad look for a country that needs a boost in the tourism sector after being shutdown for two years. The federal government should be doing everything in its power to remove the roadblocks to economic recovery, not reintroducing more red tape and restrictions.

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Throughout the pandemic, many have accused the federal government of too swiftly disregarding Canadians' Charter rights and freedoms when imposing COVID-19 mandates and restrictions. Thousands of you have written to me. Limitations on mobility rights is at the top of the list for many Canadians who felt the Trudeau Liberals governed with a heavy hand. The government's own cabinet documents point to the fact that there is no scientific basis for the ArriveCan app or the practice of random COVID-19 testing. It would seem that, at least in part, political science, rather than medical science, is driving the government's decision-making process.

The first page of every Canadian passport is the following message: "The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada requests, in the name of Her Majesty the Queen, all those whom it may concern to allow the bearer to pass freely, without delay or hindrance, and to afford the bearer such assistance and protection as may be necessary." It is a message from the government requesting that everyone holding a Canadian passport be allowed to cross a border without obstruction. The irony, of course, is that the federal government is actively creating impediments to those who would like to return to Canada.

With the mandated use of a digital application that not everyone has access to or desires to use, the Liberals are obstructing Canadians who want to pass freely without hindrance into their own country.

If the government truly desires to serve the wellbeing of our nation, the ArriveCan app needs to be scrapped and all travel mandates and restrictions should be dropped—yesterday.

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FALL 2022



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UNITING FOR A FREE AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE

The last few years in Canada have been undeniably tumultuous. The pandemic and the government-mandated restrictions have caused great struggle for many Canadians. Some of the challenges we have faced are the result of a difficult time in global history. Some of the challenges, however, are the cause of ridiculous government policies and poor leadership.

When tensions were high, we had a Prime Minister who chose to pour gasoline on the fire by inciting division and animosity between different groups of Canadians.

But, I believe things are changing. Hope is rising in this country and it has almost nothing to do with politics and everything to do with the strong, vibrant, and freedom-loving Canadian spirit.

One very real indication of this shift is the recent landslide election of our new Conservative Party leader, Pierre Poilievre. From the very beginning of his campaign, Pierre made it clear that he was running to put Canadians back in control of their lives and make Canada the freest country on earth.

This message attracted thousands upon thousands of Canadians to his rallies. More Canadians signed up to vote for Pierre Poilievre than any other leadership candidate in Canadian history. The people who showed up in support represented every demographic imaginable, a true reflection of Canadian diversity.

The focal point of Pierre's leadership campaign was his devotion to restore power back to the people. Recognizing that the federal government has overplayed its hand and exerted an excessive amount of power, limiting the potential of Canadians, he cast a vision of hope where the people were the ones who would get this

I'd like to hear your thoughts.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
EMAIL: _____
 Please sign me up for email updates



Complete the survey online here!

Comments: _____

Return the survey by folding and mailing. No envelope required.

How have you changed your spending habits to offset the rising cost of living?

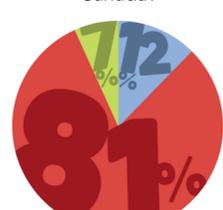
- Cut back on dining out
- Cut back on driving
- Cancelled a monthly subscription
- Switched from brand-name to generic products
- Borrowed money or took on credit card debt
- Delayed a large purchase
- Bought more pre-packaged or frozen food
- Reduced spending on fresh vegetables, fruit, & meat
- Cancelled a trip or vacation
- Other: _____

SUMMER SURVEY RESULTS

Did the federal vaccine mandates prevent you from being able to travel?



Should the government continue to require travelers to use the ArriveCan App to enter Canada?



Should unvaccinated Canadians be required to quarantine for two weeks upon return to Canada?



Do you believe the Liberal government has managed passport processing effectively?



Are the current travel restrictions necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Canada?



YES • NO • UNSURE

COMMUNITY TOWN HALL

Thursday, November 10th
7:00 PM

Parliamentary Update and Open Q&A

RSVP by November 8th

Call 403-320-0070 or visit RachaelThomas.ca



Continued...

country back on the right path. He often made the statement that people fight for power, but they unite for freedom. I believe this will be a hallmark of his leadership and the future of the Conservative Party. We believe in the Canadian people. It is not the government, a political party, or a leader that will bring Canada to reach its greatest potential, it will be those who call this place home.

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The Conservative Party of Canada has never been stronger. Over a half a million new members joined our party to vote in this election, bringing the total to 678,000 members. In this leadership election, 418,000 votes were cast and 70.7% of those went to Pierre Poilievre.

In the new Conservative leader's first speech to party members and Canadians, he outlined his vision for the future stating, "Tonight begins a journey to replace an old government that costs you more and delivers you less with a new government that puts you first – your paycheck, your retirement, your home, your country."

I am incredibly optimistic about the next few months as we build and strengthen our party solidifying our core values and principles, and I am equally as optimistic about the future of this country as we unite for freedom.

TWO SUPERPOWERS: AGRICULTURE & ENERGY

Canada has two superpowers for which the world is desperate: energy and agriculture.

Instead of promoting and enabling production of these invaluable resources, we have a federal government that has chosen to kneecap both and hang up the country's cape. It's a travesty.

Due to Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, Europe is in a frenzy over how it will secure energy in the immediate future. Germany is talking about the need for families to take turns heating their homes in the winter and having community warming houses because gas supply could be limited. Many experts are talking about food shortages and the possibility of mass starvation in the developing world in the next few years.

Canada has the ability to be the solution to many of the world's problems. We could be stepping up and taking our place as a leader on the world stage by supplying food and energy to countries in need of what we have to offer. We could displace their reliance on dictators for energy and bring food stability to nations that cannot produce it for themselves.

It begs the question: why does the government insist on attacking Canadian farmers and why aren't we approving pipeline projects and investing in export capabilities for our oil and gas?

In addition to the ever-increasing carbon tax, which has made farming an even more costly endeavor, the Trudeau Liberals are targeting fertilizer use. In December 2020, the Prime Minister announced plans for "a national target to reduce absolute levels of GHG emissions arising from fertilizer application by 30% below 2020 levels by 2030."

In response to the forthcoming assault, Fertilizer Canada commissioned a report from the accounting firm, MNP. The report concluded that the mandated fertilizer reductions would result in a \$48 billion loss in farm incomes over the next eight years.

What's worse, this loss in income and food production will do absolutely nothing of significance to reduce worldwide GHG emissions. Fertilizer Canada issued a statement saying, "Because Canadian farmers are already among the most sustainable growers in the world, they have less room to lower fertilizer emissions without compromising their food production than those in other countries."

The federal government's attack on farmers is virtue signaling at its finest. In other words, it might sound good, but it does almost nothing to benefit the environment. The government's mandate is simply about maintaining a certain appearance.

Canadian agriculture producers are among the most sustainable growers in the world. Fertilizer is expensive, and just like any profit-driven business, farmers do not want to expend unnecessary expenses, so they use fertilizer sparingly. In fact, farmers hire agronomists to help them care for the soil, water, and crops in a sustainable manner. Their goal is to produce the greatest yield using the smallest amount of fertilizer possible. For the federal government to assume it knows more than farmers about fertilizer use, food production, or even environmental practices is foolish.

This ridiculous policy will not only fail in its claim to save the planet, but it will also cause significant food shortages, make Canadians pay more to feed their families, and cause increased poverty and starvation in Canada and other parts of the developing world that depend on us.

This is not a solution to the record high food prices and supply chain shortages we are experiencing because of the government's inflation-inducing deficit spending and Putin's war against Ukraine.

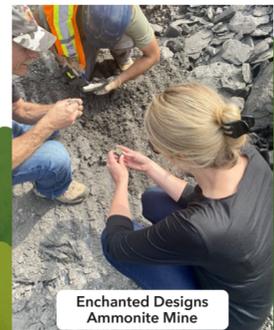
Politically motivated policies like this are crippling Canada's economy and hurting Canadians. The Trudeau Liberals need to stop their attack on farmers and allow them to function as experts in food production so they can continue to feed Canada and the world.

Furthermore, Canada has the third largest oil reserve in the world. There is tremendous potential to supply more energy to the world and boost our GDP. What an amazing superpower! It is appalling that the Prime Minister is turning away energy deals and working to kill the industry.

During German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz's, visit to Canada in August, he expressed his desperation to find new sources for liquified natural gas (LNG) in light of Russia's curtailing exports to punish supporters of Ukraine.

Mr. Trudeau's response to this request was that there has "never been a strong business case" for shipping natural gas directly from Canada to Europe because we lack the pipelines and LNG conversion plants to transport our resources. So, instead of working toward a mutually beneficial solution, he just sat back and said, "no." The fact of the matter is, there is an incredible business case for increasing production and transportation capabilities, but we happen to be dealing with a Liberal government that has a climate action agenda that trumps economic prosperity, safeguarding humanity, and common sense.

★ ★ ★ PANCAKE BREAKFAST 2022



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