



Office of the Lord Mayor

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

905-468-3266 • gary.zalepa@notl.com

A Message from Lord Mayor Zalepa Following President Trump's Recent Tariff Announcements

For Immediate Release

March 5, 2025

The recent decision by President Trump to impose a 25% tariff on Canadian imports is concerning for communities across our country, including Niagara-on-the-Lake. While municipal governments do not directly influence international trade policy, we recognize the significant economic implications such measures can have on our local businesses, workforce, and families. Ensuring the resilience of Niagara-on-the-Lake's economy remains a priority as we continue to advocate for policies that support our community's long-term prosperity.

As a member of the Border Mayors Alliance, Niagara-on-the-Lake stands with border cities and towns across Canada and the United States to protect our shared economic and development interests. This alliance serves as a unified voice, advocating for the businesses and organizations that drive economic growth on both sides of the border.

Niagara-on-the-Lake is also active in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, a coalition of over 200 local governments that rely on strong economic and environmental ties between Canada and the United States. This partnership sustains cross-border trade, infrastructure, and environmental stewardship.

Niagara-on-the-Lake is engaged with key municipal advocacy organizations, including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA). These groups provide a strong voice for municipal interests at the provincial and federal levels. Through them, we continue to push for policies that support local businesses, economic growth, and cross-border collaboration.

The Town's Government Relations, Tourism and Economic Development Officer closely monitors updates and actively participates in discussions to help ensure we remain informed, engaged and are working collaboratively to support and develop strategies to mitigate any adverse effects on our community. Additionally, the Town's current Procurement Policy prioritizes locally sourced products and services.

I, along with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, encourage businesses to explore the [Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce website](#), where they have created resources to help businesses navigate this uncertain economic environment.



Office of the Lord Mayor

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

905-468-3266 • gary.zalepa@notl.com

While we cannot control international trade decisions, we can communicate the concerns of the Town. We will continue to work with our partners, advocate for fair trade policies, and stand up for our local economy. We encourage residents and businesses to stay engaged, share their concerns, and support efforts to protect our economic future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Lord Mayor
Gary Zalepa