

Thursday, February 6, 2025

STATEMENT: Vaughan Chamber of Commerce's Responds to U.S. Tariffs

Good Morning,

The recent 30-day pause in the imposition of U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods provides businesses with a temporary reprieve, but uncertainty remains. This window offers a critical opportunity for negotiations to resolve trade disputes that threaten businesses across all sectors of our local economy.

As the largest economy in York Region, Vaughan accounts for more than 35% of the region's employment and economic output. Our businesses, from advanced manufacturing to retail, construction, finance, and professional services, depend on stable trade relationships to thrive. With 90% of York Region's exports going to the U.S., potential tariffs could disrupt critical supply chains, drive up costs, and place immense strain on both businesses and consumers.

The Vaughan Chamber stands with our business community. Through our national partners at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, we are advocating for strategies to mitigate the impact of potential tariffs, strengthen trade partnerships, and reduce internal trade barriers. Supporting local businesses is more important than ever, and we encourage Vaughan residents to shop local and invest in Canadian-made products to help sustain our economy.

Our team remains committed to supporting our members through these uncertain times, providing resources, advocacy, and guidance to help businesses navigate this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer Coletta-Rashty".

Jennifer Coletta-Rashty
President & CEO
Vaughan Chamber of Commerce