



Protecting Mississauga Jobs: Bonnie Crombie's Tariff and Trade Resilience Plan

U.S. tariffs and continuing trade uncertainty pose a serious challenge to Mississauga's businesses, workers and families.

Mississauga cannot set tariffs, and City Hall cannot negotiate trade agreements. But that does not mean a Mayor should sit on the sidelines.

The City controls hundreds of millions of dollars in purchasing every year. It controls how quickly local suppliers get paid, how efficiently new investment moves through municipal approvals, and how aggressively Mississauga competes for new jobs and investment. And the Mayor has a responsibility to make sure Mississauga has a strong voice with Queen's Park and Ottawa.

Bonnie Crombie's economic response will focus on four objectives:

Protect local businesses and jobs.

Buy Canadian and local wherever possible.

Build the next generation of investment in Mississauga.

Sell Mississauga to new markets around the world.

1. Protect Mississauga Businesses and Jobs

Interest-free property tax relief for tariff-affected businesses

Businesses directly and materially affected by U.S. tariffs will be eligible to defer the City portion of qualifying commercial and industrial property taxes interest-free, beginning with the next tax bill.

The program will be targeted and time-limited, with clear eligibility requirements based on demonstrated tariff exposure.

Bonnie will also call on the Region of Peel and the Province of Ontario to provide comparable relief on their portions of the property tax bill.

The purpose is simple: keep cash in businesses so businesses can protect jobs.

Pay local businesses faster

Small and medium-sized Mississauga businesses supplying the City should not have to finance City Hall.

Bonnie will establish a 15-day payment standard for qualifying Mississauga-based small and medium-sized suppliers.

When businesses are facing pressure on their cash flow, government should pay its bills quickly.

One door for businesses facing tariff pressure

A Mayor's Tariff Action Team will provide one senior point of contact for tariff-affected employers.

Businesses requiring assistance with government relief programs, export markets, procurement opportunities, workforce issues, approvals or supply-chain changes will have one person responsible for moving their file through City Hall and coordinating with other governments.

For major employers facing significant job losses or investment decisions, the City will commit to responding within 48 hours.

2. Buy Mississauga. Buy Ontario. Buy Canadian.

Mississauga directs enormous purchasing power into the economy. The City reported more than \$730 million in procurement in 2024.

Those dollars should work as hard as possible for Canadian businesses and workers.

Ontario's Municipal Buy Ontario Procurement Directive establishes additional Canadian and Ontario preferences for municipal procurement. Bonnie will make that approach permanent, local and measurable.

A Crombie administration will:

- embed Buy Canadian and Buy Ontario principles in the City's procurement by-law wherever legally permitted;
- create a Made-in-Mississauga procurement strategy so local firms have a fair opportunity to compete;
- review large procurements to determine where contracts can reasonably be structured so qualified local small and medium-sized businesses can bid;

- require purchasers to identify available Canadian alternatives before eligible purchases are sourced internationally; and
- publish an annual procurement scorecard showing how much City purchasing goes to Mississauga, Ontario and Canadian suppliers.

The principle is straightforward: when taxpayer dollars can competitively purchase Canadian products and services, those dollars should stay in Canada.

3. Build and Reshore in Mississauga

Trade disruption is forcing businesses across North America to reconsider where they manufacture, assemble, warehouse and distribute their products.

Mississauga should compete aggressively for that investment.

Tariff Investment Fast Track

Companies investing to bring production to Canada, expand a Mississauga facility, retool operations or protect significant numbers of local jobs will receive:

- a single senior City contact;
- an approvals roadmap within 10 business days;
- coordinated planning, building and economic-development review; and
- priority processing, with a target of completing qualifying City-controlled approvals within 90 days wherever possible.

The City will also examine deferring eligible municipal planning and development fees for qualifying tariff-driven investments until construction or production begins.

If a company is ready to invest millions of dollars and protect Mississauga jobs, City Hall should move at business speed.

Protect strategic employment lands

A Crombie administration will protect strategically important employment lands needed for advanced manufacturing, logistics, research, life sciences and other high-value industries.

The City will also maintain an inventory of investment-ready sites and industrial properties so employers considering Mississauga can move quickly.

4. Turn Pearson Into Canada's Trade Advantage

Toronto Pearson is not simply an airport. It is one of Mississauga's greatest economic advantages.

Approximately 45 per cent of Canada's air cargo moves through Pearson, connecting businesses to roughly 200 destinations around the world.

At a time when businesses need to diversify beyond dependence on the United States, Mississauga should use that advantage aggressively.

Bonnie will make the Pearson Economic Zone a trade and investment hub, working with the airport, governments and the business community to:

- attract aerospace, logistics, advanced manufacturing and life-sciences investment around the airport;
- connect Mississauga exporters with new markets in Europe, Asia, the Gulf and Latin America;
- work with federal trade commissioners and Export Development Canada to help businesses diversify;
- identify infrastructure and transportation bottlenecks limiting trade around Pearson; and
- position Mississauga as a preferred Canadian location for businesses restructuring North American supply chains.

Mississauga sits beside Canada's largest international gateway. That should be an economic strategy, not simply a geographic fact.

5. Build the Next Economy on Mississauga's Waterfront

Mississauga also has an opportunity to build a major innovation and employment hub along the Lake Ontario waterfront.

The Lakeview Innovation Corridor is planned as a research, development and high-tech employment district, with significant employment space and thousands of potential jobs.

Bonnie will make the Innovation Corridor a central part of Mississauga's investment-attraction strategy, targeting life sciences, clean technology, advanced manufacturing, research and high-value Canadian headquarters.

Tariff disruption should not simply be something Mississauga survives. It should also be an opportunity to win investment looking for a stable Canadian home.

6. Help Mississauga Companies Sell to the World

Buying Canadian is only half the equation.

Mississauga businesses also need more customers outside the United States.

The City will expand its trade-diversification work by:

- establishing a searchable Mississauga supplier and exporter network;
- matching local suppliers with major Mississauga purchasers;
- partnering with federal and provincial trade agencies on targeted export missions;
- helping small and medium-sized firms access Export Development Canada and federal trade programs; and
- actively promoting Mississauga companies in new international markets.

The goal is to reduce exposure to any single market while increasing the number of Mississauga companies selling globally.

7. Put Mississauga Back at the Table

Canada's seventh-largest city and one of its most important economic centres needs an active Mayor advocating for it.

Bonnie previously chaired Ontario's Big City Mayors and has experience working directly with Premiers, Prime Ministers and governments of different political stripes.

The current Mayor has missed important opportunities to advocate directly with senior governments and has not led a trade mission.

As Mayor, Bonnie will personally represent Mississauga at major municipal, provincial and federal economic tables whenever Mississauga jobs are at stake.

She will also establish a Mayor's Economic and Trade Council bringing together major employers, small businesses, labour, Pearson, post-secondary institutions and key economic sectors.

That table will maintain a focused set of Mississauga priorities for Queen's Park and Ottawa and publish regular progress reports so businesses know what the City is asking for and what governments are delivering.

Accountability

A tariff response needs measurable results.

A Crombie administration will publish a quarterly Trade and Jobs Dashboard reporting:

- Mississauga businesses assisted;
- jobs protected or created through qualifying investments;
- new investment secured;
- Canadian and local procurement levels;
- City payments accelerated to local suppliers;
- tariff-related investments fast-tracked; and
- progress opening new markets for Mississauga businesses.

The Bottom Line

Mississauga built one of Canada's strongest economies by diversifying across advanced manufacturing, life sciences, finance, technology and other globally competitive sectors.

That diversity has helped the city weather past downturns, and it gives Mississauga the tools to respond to this challenge.

Washington may set the tariffs. Ottawa negotiates trade.

But Mississauga controls how it spends its money, how quickly it pays local businesses, how quickly it welcomes new investment and how aggressively its Mayor fights for local jobs.

Bonnie Crombie will use every one of those levers.

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Build the next generation of investment.

Sell Mississauga to the world.