

SOPHIE CHATEL

Member of Parliament for
Pontiac-Kitigan Zibi

March 2025



LEADERSHIP MATTERS: NAVIGATING CHALLENGES WITH STRENGTH AND UNITY

Dear friends and neighbours,

These are uncertain times. As the world shifts unpredictably and erratic policies emerge from our closest neighbour, many of you feel anxious about the future; it is normal.

But Canada has always shown resilience, and we will do so again. Unity is key.

President Trump threatens our economy and way of life. But we will not be bullied. Canada is stronger than any one U.S. president. Americans do not want this trade war with Canada, and once they feel its impact, they will push back. Until then, we must stand firm and protect our future.

In times like these, leadership matters. Mark Carney is a brilliant economic strategist and a compassionate and proud Canadian. Under his leadership, we will navigate this crisis and emerge stronger. One of Mark's first campaign stops was here in the Pontiac, in Chelsea. That evening, community leaders all over the riding – from Fort-Coulonge to Gatineau to Maniwaki – left with a shared conviction: **Mark is the leader we need to stand up to Trump. He inspires trust.**

A Pierre Poilievre government is too great a risk. He has embraced Trump-style MAGA politics, he aligns himself with Alberta, where he is from, and his strongest supporters would readily sacrifice our sovereignty. Seeking advice from Elon Musk only reinforces how much of a risk he is for Canada.

Meanwhile, **the Bloc remains powerless to protect Quebec's interests.** Now, more than ever, we must stand united across Canada, not fuel division. Quebec must have a strong voice **in government**, one that stands up to Trump and fiercely defends our culture and values. With your support, I will be that voice, for Pontiac, for Quebec, and for a stronger Canada.

We must act boldly: strengthening our economic and food autonomy, building the strongest G7 economy – one Canadian economy, not thirteen – and deepening ties with Europe, Asia, and Africa while championing our values on the world stage. Pontiac has always been a region of builders and leaders.

Together, we will shape a future where Canada stands tall. **With strength and determination,**

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MARK CARNEY: A STRONG LEADER TO DEAL WITH CANADA-US RELATIONS

Canada's relationship with the U.S has long been one of our most important – especially when it comes to trade, investment, and economic stability. But with shifting U.S. policies creating new challenges, **strong, steady leadership is essential** to protecting our industries, standing up for workers, and strengthening Canada's economic independence.

Now, as **Prime Minister, Mark Carney** is leading Canada through this pivotal moment. His experience managing financial and economic crises during global instability has prepared him to stand up for Canada's economic interests, safeguard industries and build a stronger, self-sufficient economy.



A STEADY HAND IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES FOR CANADIAN BUSINESSES

President Trump's administration is creating challenges for Canadian businesses and workers. Tariffs and shifting U.S. trade policies are putting pressure on key industries, including here in Pontiac. From **forestry** facing new tariffs to **agriculture** navigating uncertainty, and **manufacturing grappling** with both tariffs and rising costs, these challenges have real and tangible impacts on businesses and families in Pontiac.

Canada has faced economic uncertainty before. During the 2008 financial crisis, Canada weathered the storm better than many countries, thanks to strong financial management under then-Governor of the Bank of Canada, Mark Carney.

Now, as Prime Minister, he is applying a similar approach which will help **protect Pontiac's key industries** from economic disruptions.

Under his leadership, our government is:

- **Supporting jobs in key industries.**
- **Strengthening economic resilience.**
- **Expanding trade opportunities for Pontiac businesses.**

As trade policies evolve, our government remains committed to safeguarding our industries.



BUILDING A GREENER AND MORE AFFORDABLE FUTURE

Under Prime Minister Mark Carney, our government is taking a new approach to climate action – one that lowers costs for families, supports clean investments, and strengthens the economy. That's why **we will replace the consumer carbon tax with direct incentives**, ensuring Canadians are rewarded for making greener choices. This shift will greatly benefit Pontiac residents by making it easier and more affordable to choose sustainable options.

Programs that help Canadians cut energy costs will be expanded. The **Greener Homes Grant will be enhanced**, and subsidies for heat pumps will be increased, making it more affordable for families to transition away from expensive heating fuels. These investments will mean **more savings for Pontiac residents** while making homes more energy-efficient for the long term.

Canada must position itself as a leader in the global clean economy. That is why, under Prime Minister Carney, our government will introduce **Made-in-Canada Sustainable Investment Guidelines** – ensuring businesses have the tools and confidence to invest in clean technology, create good jobs, and drive economic growth.

For Pontiac residents, this new approach to climate action brings real opportunities. With Quebec's carbon pricing system unchanged, families and businesses here **will benefit from federal programs without losing any rebate**. Practical solutions will make life more affordable, strengthen the economy, and support a cleaner future for all.

A SMARTER FISCAL PLAN FOR CANADA'S FUTURE

Managing Canada's finances wisely is not just about balancing the books; **it is about making smart investments that strengthen our economy, create good jobs, and keep life affordable.** That is why, with Mark Carney as Prime Minister, we are taking a new approach to ensure every dollar is spent effectively while making the investments needed to grow our future.

This plan will balance the government's day-to-day budget within three years, creating room for **tax relief for the middle class** while maintaining the essential services Canadians rely on. At the same time, it prioritizes major investments in housing, infrastructure, clean energy, and technology (AI) sectors that will drive economic growth and create well-paying jobs.

For Pontiac, this means direct benefits : **more opportunities for workers and businesses, support for local industries, and the infrastructure needed to build a strong future.**

With fiscal discipline and a focus on strategic investments, Pontiac and all of Canada will be competitive, innovative, and prepared for the future.



INVESTING IN NATURE, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

Canadians value nature; it is central to our way of life. From the forests and rivers of Pontiac to the vast landscapes across the country, our environment provides food, clean water, and good jobs. **Natural resources like forestry, agriculture, and tourism are key drivers of our economy**, but with wildfires, flooding, and extreme weather becoming more common, we must act now to protect them while ensuring long-term prosperity.

Under our new Prime Minister, we are making strategic investments in nature-based solutions that protect the environment while strengthening local economies. Restoring ecosystems, expanding protected areas, and supporting sustainable forestry and agriculture will safeguard our resources while creating jobs and economic opportunities, especially in rural and remote communities. These initiatives will help Canada meet its goal of protecting **30% of its land and waters by 2030**.

Here in Pontiac, this means **supporting local forestry, farming, and conservation projects** that drive economic growth while preserving our natural heritage. Prime Minister Carney worked alongside leaders in the environmental and finance sectors to help shape nature-based policies, ensuring they reflect the priorities of our region.

By taking action now, we can build a stronger, more sustainable future by protecting nature, creating jobs, and supporting a resilient Pontiac and Canada.

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