THE GLOBE AND MAIL*

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Leaders ready final push to lock in votes as millions cast early ballots

STEPHANIE LEVITZ BILL CURRY IAN BAILEY

Millions of Canadians lined up to vote in advance polls this long weekend, as the federal party leaders hit the campaign trail for the final days before a pivotal election

A week remains for the leaders to persuade voters that their policies present the best roadmap for Canada during an exceptional time of global economic and political instability.

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre will use the final week to concentrate on his message of change, while Liberal Leader Mark Carney will keep his focus on U.S. President Donald Trump and Canada-U.S. trade tensions. Elections Canada said that a

Elections Canada said that a record of nearly two million people cast ballots on Friday, the first day of advance voting – though those numbers are still preliminary.

On Sunday, the agency said voter turnout continued to be strong on the weekend, but no additional numbers would be released until Tuesday. ELECTION, A15

Housing was on the cusp of a comeback. Then trade war jitters set in

JASON KIRBY

Over the past quarter-century, Canada's housing market has brushed off every crisis that has come its way. It may finally have met its match in the erratic policies of U.S. President Donald Trump.

Sales have plummeted in recent months, pulling prices down with them, while the stock of unsold homes – many of them shoebox-sized condo units in Toronto and Vancouver that were popular with investors but did little to meet the needs of families – is piling up.

ing up. With consumer confidence at the lowest level on record and the trade war threatening to both increase the rate of inflation and tip Canada into recession, many experts now expect that housing will create significant drag on the economy. It's a stark contrast from last

It's a stark contrast from last fall, when Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem echoed the widespread sense of optimism in the real estate industry that falling interest rates would "fuel a stronger rebound in housing activity" this year. HOUSING, A15 - WAR IN UKRAINE



EASTER TRUCE SWIFTLY UNRAVELS

Kyiv and Moscow accuse each other of breaching 30-hour ceasefire declared by Putin after U.S. signals it could desert peace talks **A**3

A woman prepares Easter baskets to be blessed during celebrations of Orthodox Easter in Krasne village, Ukraine, on Sunday. EVGENIY MALOLETKA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bleeding support to both Liberals and Tories, Jagmeet Singh and the NDP confront an uncertain future

GARY MASON VANCOUVER

T's just before 9 a.m. on a weekday morning and camera tripods and light stands are being set up inside a pharmacy on a gritty section of Victoria Drive on the eastside of Vancouver.

Three people who will serve as props for the campaign announcement that New Democratic Party Leader Jagmeet Singh will be making have arrived. Two are nurses' aides; the other, who is quickly throwing on scrubs before the cameras get rolling, is a hospital millwright. There are a few members of the media present, but they are vastly outnumbered by NDP staff, all crammed into the store's almost pop-uplike surroundings. As campaign settings go, it's difficult to avoid the contrast it offers up to the more spacious environs, packed with supporters, seen at daily events for the Conservatives and Liberals.

NDP stalwart Don Davies, who has represented this Vancouver-Kingsway riding since 2008, is on hand to introduce Mr. Singh. "I know what the polls are saying, but on the ground we're getting a great reception," Mr. Davies tells The Globe and Mail before things get started.

Mr. Singh arrives and announces a \$3.5billion plan to expand pharmacare coverage. When it comes time for media questions, the NDP Leader's pledge is not the main topic: Current realities for the party are. Reporters want to know why the NDP no longer talks about forming government. Another asks Mr. Singh why there aren't any party supporters at his events. The questions are similar to ones Mr. Singh had to answer a day earlier.

had to answer a day earlier. He brushes them off, responding instead by talking about what 25 NDP MPs managed to accomplish in the last Parliament.

"Ottawa works best when one party doesn't hold all the power," he says.



EAST TO WEST In the heart of Franco-Manitoba, language takes a rare back seat to U.S. threats this election A4

> SHANNON VANRAES/ GLOBE AND MAIL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Canada has lost its way on human rights, says world-renowned activist

REPORT ON BUSINESS

Ottawa plans more deals with domestic cloud providers amid backlash

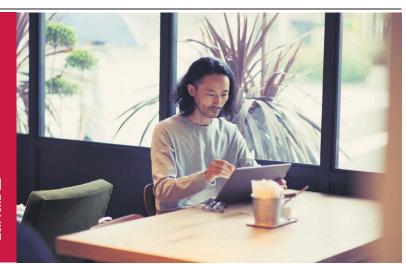
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MOMENT IN TIME

NEWS PHOTO ARCHIVE



FERNANDO MORALES/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

2008: GUARDIAN OF THE GARDEN

For more than 100 years, photographers and photo editors working for The Globe and Mail have preserved an extraordinary collection of news photography. Every Monday, The Globe features one of these images. This month, in honour of Earth Day, we are featuring com-munity gardens, looking at how they bring families and neighbours together and teach lifelong skills.

n July 17, 2008, Herman Plunkett, pictured above, the self-appointed guardian of the community garden, showed off one of the

callaloo plants that he was growing in the community garden at Earlscourt Park on Davenport Ave. in Toronto. While the plant, sometimes known as pigweed, is considered a nuisance on some North American farms, others consider it a culinary gem. The leafy green is a staple in Caribbean and Asian markets, often selling for more than spinach. Steamed, stewed or used in salads, it packs a nutritious punch, full of protein, calcium and vitamin C.

TYLER REIS-SANFORD

-{ COLUMNISTS }-LESLIE GUS C. GOLDRING CARLSON BECK OPINION OPINION OPINION Boeing's self-inflicted We must do more to Adhering to a specific help soldiers and their calorie-reduced diet quality and safety issues families to solve the combined with physical have added to its CAF's recruitment and activity can prevent vulnerability in the retention problems A11 bone deterioration global trade war CORRECTION A Saturday Report on Business

article about the fundraising efforts of Patti Harbman, president of Canadian Nurses for Africa, incorrectly stated that Dr. Harbman lives in Toronto. She lives in Oak ville, Ont. The article also incorrectly stated that Dr. Harbman was in-spired by a U.S. organization operating a motorcycle ambulance service in Uganda. It was a British organization.

The Globe and Mail is committed to maintaining the highest ethical, legal and editorial standards. SANDRA E. MARTIN, STANDARDS EDITOR, standardseditor@globeandmail.com

Australia celebrates end to 'Vegemite-gate' after product back on shelves in Toronto

HINA ALAM

BLAKE

Canada and Australia have shaken hands to end a potential diplomatic dust-up over a yeast-based





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spread that many Aussies like on toast and crackers.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese thanked Prime Minister Mark Carney and his team on Saturday for helping end "Vegemite-gate" and ensuring a Toronto café can once again have jars of the product back on its shelves.

"This is a win for Australian industry, but it's also a win for those people in Canada who get to enjoy this wonderful product that is so much a part of Australian culture and, indeed, Australian pride as well." Mr. Albanese said while speaking at an Easter event in Sydney. "So I think that is a fantastic outcome."

Mr. Carney reposted Mr. Albanese on the social-media platform X, saying he's looking forward to doing more to bring Canada and Australia even closer.

"This is the value of strong free trade with reliable partners like Australia – and mutual respect for our cultural treasures," he said.

Mr. Carney's office noted that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), which earlier asked the Found Coffee café to pull its Vegemite, and the Prime Minister's Office are separate agencies. But a spokesperson for Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie

Tubes of Vegemite are seen for sale in a shop at Brisbane Airport in Australia in 2018, PHIL NOBLE/RELITERS

Joly said the Prime Minister's Office did help expedite the process that led to Vegemite's status in Canada being restored.

A news release from the CFIA on Friday said an inspection of the café showed Vegemite being sold did not meet regulations around vitamin fortification, adding the food label also wasn't in both French and English.

But the agency's release said a science-based assessment determined the added vitamins pose a low risk to people if the spread is eaten within suggested serving sizes, and the agency will work with Health Canada, the manufacturer and the importer to find a longer-term plan for

Vegemite sales. On April 10, Found Coffee owner Leighton Walters posted a video on his social-media accounts saying he was "torn and shocked" after having woken up from surgery to a letter from the CFIA asking the café to get rid of its Vegemite stock for non-compliance.

"What I was concerned about was that in the midst of a trade war with America, the last thing you want is starting to create any sort of tension or especially with the most, most iconic Australian brand, that's part of the fabric of our country," Mr. Walters said in an interview Saturday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ukraine says Russia broke Easter truce

Putin's call for holiday ceasefire may have been gambit to show U.S. that he's committed to peace

KIM BARKER KYIV

Serhiy Hnezdilov spent Saturday night in a ceasefire that wasn't. Fighting for Ukraine in the eastern Donetsk region, he said he could hear explosions throughout the night, despite the Kremlin's promise of a truce for Easter.

Mr. Hnezdilov, 24, said Ukrainian soldiers were told to report to their superiors all violations of the ceasefire, which was abruptly declared by President Vladimir Putin of Russia on Saturday afternoon and later agreed to halfheartedly by skeptical Ukrainian officials. In addition, Mr. Hnezdilov said, some planned Ukrainian military operations had been put on hold.

"I don't even know how to assess this so-called ceasefire," said Mr. Hnezdilov, whose 56th Mariupol Brigade is fighting near the town of Chasiv Yar. "To me, it was just words from Putin like, 'We won't shoot,' but they are shooting," he said in an interview Sunday, adding: "Every so-called ceasefire with the Russians gets violated by the Russians immediately."

The truce, announced as lasting 30 hours, appeared to be a gambit by Mr. Putin to show the United States that Russia was serious about peace.

On Friday, the Trump administration indicated that if it could not make progress in ending the war, it would walk away. What that meant was unclear. Would the United States stop leading peace negotiations, yet continue to supply Ukraine with weapons



A woman reacts at a fallen soldier's grave in Lviv, Ukraine, on Sunday. A 30-hour truce with Russia was set to start Saturday but attacks continued over the weekend. YURIY DYACHYSHYN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

and military intelligence? Or would Washington wash its hands of the war and abandon Ukraine?

Without U.S. help, Ukraine's ability to continue fighting is tenuous. As the military aid initially authorized under President Joe Biden slows to a trickle, Ukraine has been able to win more military help from Europe. But it also depends on the U.S. for essential military intelligence and targeting data, and for the Patriot missiles used in its air defences. The truce – announced by Mr.

The truce – announced by Mr. Putin less than two hours before it was to start at 6 p.m. local time Saturday – did mean a quieter night.

But both Ukraine and Russia claimed Sunday that attacks had continued, with the other side responsible for violating the

ceasefire.

Russian troops fired their artillery almost 1,300 times between 6 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine said in social-media posts. He said the Russians had launched 65 infantry assaults and used drones almost 700 times. Mr. Zelensky also said Russian soldiers ambushed Ukrainian troops near the eastern city of Toretsk, adding, "There are dead."

Russia's Defence Ministry said Sunday that its forces had observed the truce, while accusing Ukraine of violating it with drones and nighttime attacks in the Donetsk region. The ministry provided its own numbers: Ukraine had fired 444 times from guns and mortars and carried out 900 drone strikes.

It was not possible to confirm

independently the claims by either side.

Both Kyiv and Moscow said that fighting had continued along the border between Ukraine and the Kursk, Belgorod and Bryansk regions of Russia. Vlad Krupko, 26, a drone unit

Vlad Krupko, 26, a drone unit commander in eastern Ukraine, said the fighting during the ceasefire was similar to how it had been since Russia launched its fullscale invasion in February, 2022. The Russians continued to launch drones and artillery strikes, while his team conducted combat drone flights. "So in reality, there was no ceasefire at all," he added.

U.S. President Donald Trump has made ending the war in Ukraine one of his foreign-policy goals. But his administration has largely echoed Russian talking points so far, saying that occupied parts of Ukraine should be ceded to Russia and that Kyiv should not be able to join NATO. There is no serious talk in the White House or in Congress of sending more military aid to Ukraine. Mr. Trump has made his disdain for Mr. Zelensky clear, as well as his affinity for Mr. Putin.

Ukraine is largely at the mercy of whatever the Trump administration decides, if it wants any chance of more American help. When Mr. Trump briefly paused both military intelligence and military aid in March after a public blowup with Mr. Zelensky in the White House, the loss of military intelligence was felt almost immediately along the front lines.

So Mr. Zelensky has agreed and agreed, trying to look reasonable compared with Mr. Putin. He agreed to a 30-day temporary ceasefire proposed by Mr. Trump in March. He agreed to pursue a contentious revenue-sharing minerals deal that could be finalized this week.

By contrast, Mr. Putin has not agreed to much of anything concrete during preliminary talks with U.S. officials.

Friday seemed to be a breaking point. U.S. officials made it clear that they were exasperated with Russia's unwillingness to accept the 30-day ceasefire proposal.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the United States could decide within days to "move on" from trying to end the war. Mr. Trump said that, "if for some reason one of the two parties makes it very difficult," the United States could decide that "we're just going to take a pass."

Then on Saturday afternoon, Mr. Putin ordered his forces to "stop all military activity" against Ukraine for 30 hours.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Vance meets with Pope after Vatican criticizes migrant deportations

ERIC REGULY EUROPEAN BUREAU CHIEF ROME

JD Vance's three-day visit to Rome – dubbed on social media as *Roman Holiday*, the title of the classic Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck film – took on the proportions of a presidential, even regal, visit.

On Saturday, the U.S. Vice-President, his wife, Usha Vance, and their three young children had a private tour of the Vatican Museums' Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's Renaissance masterpiece and the site of the papal conclaves, where popes are elected. Normally, the chapel is packed with lesser mortals on tour. On the same day, Mr. Vance's

On the same day, Mr. Vance's arrived for his official visit to the Vatican in a 40-vehicle motorcade of black, dark-windowed sedans, SUVs and vans that clogged traffic and left bewildered Romans wondering which vehicle he was actually in. There, he met the Vatican's Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, who is considered a candidate to succeed the ailing Pope Francis, and Archbishop Paul Gallagher, the Foreign Minister.

That evening, Ms. Vance had a private tour of the Colosseum (her husband had another commitment), led by its director, Alfonsina Russo. Reportedly, visitors with tickets in hand were denied entry at the time of her visit, leading to disarray, as some tried



Pope Francis meets with U.S. Vice-President JD Vance, left, on Easter Sunday. The Pope offered Mr. Vance a Vatican necktie, rosaries and, for his children, three chocolate Easter eggs. VATICAN MEDIA/AP

to force their way over fences and into the gates. Some chanted "shame" when they learned Ms. Vance had commandeered the gladiatorial arena, Italian media reported.

Yet there was no hint that the luxury that Mr. Vance coveted most during his visit – an audience with Pope Francis – would happen.

There were rumours the pontiff, who is 88 and recovering from a long bout of double pneumonia that almost killed him in March, would snub the Vice-President over disagreements on issues ranging from immigration to Gaergy to meet King Charles III and his wife, Camilla, on their visit to Rome for their 20th anniversary.

But on Sunday morning, Mr. Vance, who converted to Catholicism in 2019 and calls himself a "baby Catholic," did manage to see the Pope at his simple Casa Santa Marta residence behind St. Peter's Basilica. The visit, at 11:30 a.m., lasted only a few minutes, during which time the Pope offered Mr. Vance a Vatican necktie, rosaries and, for his children, three chocolate Faster ages

three chocolate Easter eggs. It's not known what the two men discussed. Mr. Vance's office confirmed only that they had met, and the Vatican said that they got together "to exchange Easter greetings" and nothing more. A photo showed Mr. Vance in a dark suit and yellow tie approaching the pontiff in his wheelchair. The Vice-President reportedly said: "I know you have not been feeling great, but it's good to see you in better health. Thank you for seeing me."

For Mr. Vance, the evidently more substantive meeting had happened the day before, when he met Cardinal Parolin and Archbishop Gallagher. Mr. Vance's office said that he and Cardinal Parolin "discussed their shared religious faith, Catholicism in the United States, the plight of persecuted Christian communities around the world, and President Trump's commitment to world peace."

The Vatican was more circumspect: "There was an exchange of opinions on the international situation, especially regarding countries affected by war, political tensions and difficult humanitarian situations, with particular attention to migrants, refugees, and prisoners," its statement says.

"Finally, hope was expressed for serene collaboration between the state and the Catholic Church in the United States, whose valuable service to the most vulnerable people was acknowledged."

The reference to "serene collaboration" may have been a reference to Mr. Vance's assertion that the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was resettling undocumented migrants in order to get federal funding. Top U.S. cardinals denied the claim.

Two months earlier, Mr. Vance and the Vatican had clashed over the treatment of migrants. Francis had sent a letter to U.S. bishops that condemned the Trump administration's "mass deportations." The letter appeared to criticize Mr. Vance for having suggested that the Medieval Catholic concept of "ordo amoris" – order of love – could be used to defend the expulsions by scaling moral responsibilities for Christian care: family first, then neighbours, community, fellow citizens then all others.

Francis wrote in his retort to Mr. Vance that "the true ordo amoris that must be promoted is that which we discover by meditating constantly on the parable of the 'Good Samaritan.' "

After Mr. Vance's fleeting meeting with Francis, the Pope celebrated mass from the loggia of St. Peter's basilica. He spoke briefly, obviously weak, before passing his text to Archbishop Diego Ravelli, the Master of Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations.

Francis's address called for an end to the conflict in Gaza: "I appeal to the warring parties: call a ceasefire, release the hostages and come to the aid of a starving people that aspires to a future of peace."

Mr. Vance ended his Rome visit with a simple "Happy Easter" message on X. On Monday, he is

za. The Pope's health was apparently not an obstacle; on April 9, Francis had mustered enough enmessage on X. On Monday, he is off to India, where he is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Trump mulls State Department overhaul with cuts to work in Canada: report

ADRIAN MORROW

U.S. CORRESPONDENT WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump is mulling a major overhaul of the State Department, The New York Times is reporting, including scaling back its work in Canada, shutting down most U.S. diplomacy in Africa, and laying off diplomats and replacing them with artificial intelligence.

The newspaper said it had obtained a 16-page draft executive order outlining the sweeping changes.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio dismissed the story. "This is fake news," he wrote on X, adding that the Times had fallen "victim to another hoax." In an e-mail, the State Department said the story was "entirely based on a fake document."

The

government had no

explanation for where the document came from or who may have written it.

The Times said the draft executive order started circulating among U.S. diplomats and officials this weekend, but the paper did not know who its author was or how far along were the discussions about restructuring the department.

The State Department's Canada desk would be subsumed into a North American affairs office, the Times reported the proposed order as saying, with a "significantly reduced team" and a much smaller embassy in Ottawa.

Ariel Pollock, spokesperson for the U.S. embassy in Ottawa, had no comment on the draft order and referred questions to State's central press office.

Clémence Grevey, a spokesperson for the Canadian Foreign Affairs Ministry, said the department might not be able to respond on Sunday because of Easter.

According to the newspaper, the draft order would also abolish the department's Bureau of African Affairs and shut down a swath of embassies and consulates across sub-Saharan Africa by Oct. 1. Instead, a new special envoy for African affairs would focus more narrowly on "counterterrorism" and "extraction" of natural resources, and report directly to the White House.

The Canadian overhaul would be part of a larger reorganization and consolidation of State, in which regional bureaus covering specific parts of the world would be merged into just four bigger ones, the Times said. The order would also shut down offices handling democracy and human rights, refugees and migration, and climate change.

The moves would entail eliminating the jobs of many dip-

lomats and other State Department workers, the Times reported. Writing documents, crafting policy and planning operations, the draft executive order said, would now be done in part by AI.

The Times report comes at a time when the U.S. is increasingly focused on Canada, even as it pulls back from its international partnerships as part of a sweeping program of cuts intended to shrink the government and purge career civil servants. Mr. Trump has repeatedly called for the U.S. to annex Canada as its "51st state," though he has mostly stopped bringing up the topic since the federal election campaign started.

The President has also vacillated erratically on how to target Ottawa in his global trade war. He first demanded that Canada do more to stop fentanyl smuggling into the U.S. After Canada complied, however, he levied tariffs anyway, before abruptly pausing some of them.

Canada has been hit hard by Mr. Trump's 25-per-cent tariffs on steel, aluminum and autos, as well as tariffs on any other Canadian and Mexican goods traded outside the countries' free-trade agreement.

The President's threats of using "economic force" to push Canada into joining the U.S. are central to the April 28 election. Neither the Liberal nor Conservative campaigns responded to requests for comment on the purported executive order.

Since taking office in January, Mr. Trump has already moved to fire swaths of State Department staff, but some of those moves are currently tied up in court. He is also attempting to effectively dismantle USAID, a once 10,000strong international aid organization, and fold its handful of remaining employees into State.

Canada needs to pull its weight: activist

Kenneth Roth, former executive director of Human Rights Watch, says next prime minister must rebuild country's international influence

JANICE DICKSON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

REPORTER

World-renowned human-rights activist Kenneth Roth says that Canada has lost its international profile on defending human rights and hopes a new prime minister will rebuild the country's reputation.

Mr. Roth, former executive director of Human Rights Watch, was in Toronto recently promoting his book Righting Wrongs: Three Decades on the Front Lines Battling Abusive Governments. In a wide-ranging interview with The Globe and Mail, he said he wanted his book to show how it's possible to defend human rights – even in countries where there's no functioning court.

"There's always an angle to pressure governments to better respect human rights," he said, adding that it's all about finding points of leverage.

Doints of leverage. One strategy, he said, is spotlighting the discrepancy between governments' pretense of respect for human rights and the often uglier reality. "Almost every government finds that embarrassing and delegitimizing, so that's an important source of leverage," he said.

Another manoeuvre, he added, is approaching governments such as Canada's, and asking that it



Human-rights expert Kenneth Roth, seen earlier this month, says Canada could be doing more and that he became disappointed with former prime minister Justin Trudeau. FRED LUM/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

exert its influence by withholding something the country in question wants – such as military aid or trade benefits – in exchange for a human-rights improvement.

"If we can change the cost benefit analysis of repression, we can force governments to change. We can make repression less beneficial. So that's the theory," he said.

But Mr. Roth said that Canada could be doing much more to pull its weight. He said he became disappointed with former prime minister Justin Trudeau.

"I thought he started off very well, and then he seemed to become preoccupied with domestic issues and Canada kind of lost its international profile to a significant extent," he said. "There's a new election coming up. We don't know how it's going to turn out, but I think a more significant international role for Canada would be very welcome." Mr. Roth said that while this is

Mr. Roth said that while this is the first time Canada has been threatened with becoming a 51st state, it's not the first time there has been a "hostile administration" in Washington. He said Canada has tackled past animosity by being a key partner in coalitions. One example, he said, was dur-

ing the first Trump administration when the Lima Group, which was made up of Latin American democracies and Canada, succeeded in condemning Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela through the UN Human Rights Council.

Another instance Mr. Roth cited was the Canadian government's leadership on the 1997 global treaty to ban landmines.

"Canada says, 'oh you know, we're a mid-sized country,' but it has significant moral clout and it's been very good at building coalitions that, taken together, can overcome a hostile administration in Washington. And I cite that history because there's a need for that again today."

When it comes to the erosion of human rights in the United States, Mr. Roth said that Mr. Trump is following "the classic autocrat's handbook, which is to attack the checks and balances and executive authority and to demonize unpopular minorities as a scapegoat for the nation's problems, and as an excuse for why Trump actually isn't addressing those problems himself."

problems himself." He said Mr. Trump is also deliberately going after lawyers and universities, attacking journalists, quelling Congress and has threatened to impeach judges.

"Ithink the key here is not to be paralyzed by this, but indeed not to be complacent and say 'oh this is just the lawyers,' or 'this is just the journalists,' but to explicitly articulate that each step is part of a deliberate strategy all designed to produce an unchecked executive," he said. "This is why he admires Putin so much, because Putin has succeeded in this. It's why he likes Viktor Orban, because Orban is pretty far along the path."

Mr. Roth said where he sees leverage in dealing with Mr. Trump is that he has a fragile ego and is sensitive to public opinion. "He's trying to dazzle us with so many moves that nobody can keep track, but already his popularity is dropping when people look at the concrete things he's doing," he said, such as cutting Medicaid, or imposing tariffs.

"The working class is not helped by these antics."

Threatening to turn Canada into the 51st state, or threatening to annex Greenland, he said, is Mr. Trump's way of "changing the subject away from anything real."

"It's not fun for Canadians to be threatened this way and I don't blame Canada for taking it seriously, but you know, Canada is not going to be invaded," he said, adding that the President is whipping up "nationalist fervour" in the U.S. to distract people.

EAST TO WEST

Language is usually top of mind for Winnipeg's francophones. Not in this election

TEMUR DURRANI WINNIPEG

iving by the fertile banks of the Seine and Red Rivers more than a century ago, the tight-knit people of St. Boniface were determined to retain their francophone identity. After Manitoba stripped away their language rights, they taught themselves French in secret for decades.

The 1890 legislation that deemed only English could be used in classrooms, courtrooms and public records – discriminating against the mostly Métis population, equal then to the number of anglophones in the province – was ruled unconstitutional in 1979 by the Supreme Court of Canada. But remnants of those early acts of resilience to protect francophone traditions persist today.

St. Boniface, the heart of Franco-Manitoba and the birthplace of Louis Riel, is one of the country's largest French-speaking communities outside Quebec. One in four people in the population of more than 60,000 call the language their mother tongue. Incorporated as a town in 1883 and a city in 1908, it amalgamated with Winnipeg in 1971, though its uniquely francophone culture remains distinct from the rest of the capital city.

"There's a little joke among these parts," says Geneviève Pelletier, executive and artistic director of the Théâtre Cercle Molière, Canada's oldest theatre company with uninterrupted programming, "that everybody still thinks of us as our own little Franco

city." Ms. Pelletier's theatre sits on Provencher Boulevard, the neighbourhood's main thoroughfare, a route lined by some of the best-known cafés, patisseries and restaurants on the Prairies. A short walk across the Esplanade Riel, which connects Winnipeg's downtown core to the francophone quadrant, bilingual stop signs and street names - otherwise a rarity in the province are prevalent on this side of the Red River. Le Musée de Saint-Boniface Museum, situated next to Riel's final resting place, offers educational resources and holds the biggest collection of Riel-related artifacts Down the same street is St. Boniface Hospital, Manitoba's second-largest health care institution. French radio thrives here, as does local weekly newspaper La Liberté. The community is also home to the annual 10-day Festival du Voyageur, Western Canada's largest winter festival, celebrating the country's fur-trading past and Francophonie heritage, along with Cinémental, a francophone film fête. Clearly, French-language rights are incredibly important to us here," Ms. Pelletier says, donning a customized button on the front pocket of her denim jacket that says "Strong Métis Woman" in upper-case letters. "Do I believe we're talking enough about language rights in this federal election. though? I don't think so. Although, if I'm being honest, I also don't think it'll really matter. There's so many things we're not discussing properly because we're in a sort of one-track mindset these days.'



St. Boniface is the heart of Franco-Manitoba and the birthplace of Louis Riel. It is also home to his gravesite and a neighbouring museum. SHANNON VANRAES/GLOBE AND MAIL

In any other year, protecting francophone culture and bilingualism would be top of mind for voters in St. Boniface; it would matter that Liberal Leader Mark Carney's French-speaking skills are shaky and have caused some gaffes. But the 2025 election campaign has been unique, with one issue rising above all others: the threat of U.S. President Donald Trump's trade war and heaming tariff on Canade

and looming tariffs on Canada. Even in Quebec, Mr. Carney's limitations in *la langue de Molière* have seemingly borne little significance for voters, with polls consistently showing him well ahead of Bloc Québécois Leader Yves-François Blanchet, NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh, and top Conservative rival Pierre Poilievre. whose French-language skills exceed those of the Liberal Leader. Matt Allard, city councillor for St. Boniface, believes the polling numbers on French-language issues are quite telling. As he sips a coffee at the bustling Le Croissant bakery on a sunny Friday morning, he points to a cheeky sign next to the baristas: With a photo displaying an Americano, it shows that a Canadiano would be cheaper to purchase at \$3.75 because the former would cost \$4.70 after a 25-per-cent tariff charge. 'Same basic ingredients, but prepared with more LOVE, RESPECT & HAPPINESS, it states, with a footnote: "This is all for fun, but we want you to know how much we appreciate your efforts to support local Canadian business. While the sign is humorous, Mr. Allard calls it a harbinger of the community's likely voting intentions. "They're watching what's happening globally and deciding on that. Yes, French is important, but there's a larger question of who would be best to defend our French." Over the years, immigrants from French-speaking countries have been encouraged en masse to settle in the enclave. as officials hoped to boost its francophone flavour. The diaspora now hosts its own cultural events, such as African Fashion Week earlier this year, while upward of 51 per cent of students in some St. Boniface

schools are Black, Indigenous or people of colour.

When it comes to voting patterns in St. Boniface, Mr. Allard describes the community as a bellwether.

"It's truly microcosmic of the national trends and isn't afraid to flip its script. The community almost only elects leaders from the party that forms the government in Ottawa," he says.

Mr. Allard was elected to council in 2014 after Dan Vandal, a five-term councillor for the ward, left to run federally for the LiberU.S. DEFENCE SECRETARY REPORTEDLY HAD SECOND SIGNAL CHAT WITH SHARED DETAILS OF YEMEN STRIKE

WASHINGTON Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth created another Signal messaging chat that included his wife and brother where he shared similar details of a March military air strike against Yemen's Houthi militants that were sent in another chain with top Trump administration leaders, The New York Times reported.

A person familiar with the contents and those who received the messages, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters, confirmed the second chat to the Associated Press.

The second chat on Signal – which is a commercially available app not authorized to be used to communicate sensitive or classified national defence information – included 13 people, the person said. They also confirmed the chat was dubbed "Defense ' Team Huddle."

The New York Times reported that the group included Mr. Hegseth's wife, Jennifer, who is a former Fox News producer, and his brother Phil Hegseth, who was hired at the Pentagon as a Department of Homeland Security liaison and senior adviser. Both have travelled with the defence secretary and attended high-level meetings.

The revelation of the additional chat group brought fresh criticism against Mr. Hegseth and President Donald Trump's wider administration after it has failed to take action so far against the top national-security officials who discussed plans for the military strike in Signal. "The details keep coming out. We keep learning how Pete Hegseth put lives at risk. But Trump is still too weak to fire him," Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer posted on X. 'Pete Hegseth must be fired." The first chat, set up by national-security adviser Mike Waltz, included a number of Cabinet members and came to light because Jeffrey Goldberg, editor-in-chief of The Atlantic, was added to the group. The contents of that chat, which The Atlantic published, shows that Mr. Hegseth listed weapons systems and a timeline for the attack on Iranbacked Houthis in Yemen last month. The White House, the National Security Council and a Pentagon spokesperson did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment about the additional chat group Mr. Hegseth has previously contended that no classified information or war plans were shared in the chat with the journalist. ASSOCIATED PRESS

als. Mr. Vandal represented the riding of St. Boniface-St. Vital until Parliament was dissolved last month.

Mr. Vandal, for whom Mr. Allard worked as an executive assistant, decided not to seek re-election this year, perhaps leaving a window open for the Conservatives and NDP to cinch the gap.

Bellwether status notwithstanding, some voters have yet to decide which way they're leaning.

"I'm confused as a new voter," says Fadel Alamou, a computer-science student at Université de Saint-Boniface, originally from Ivory Coast.

Protecting the Francophonie is paramount for him; it's what led him to the institution where he proudly takes all his classes in French. He's read all the talking points, watched the debates, and feels his experiences have not been reflected in the current election cycle. "I'm struggling to pick the right person to represent me," Mr. Alamou says.

His friend Yasmine Zaré, who studies biochemistry at the university, and hails from Morocco, feels the same.

"What I like about my studies is that you can learn English at the pace that feels comfortable, and that there is no pressure to master English in order to excel," she says.

"Doing my learning in French is part of my Canadian dream. I hope I hear more in the next coming days on these things that are so big to me and my community. But maybe that can only happen after this election, when we are done talking about only tariffs and Trump."

Liberal deficits to pay for 'overwhelming force' in trade war

Party's platform counts on Ottawa bringing in \$20-billion from tariffs on U.S. goods but doesn't account for lost revenues in a recession

CAMPBELL CLARK





ell, that's a Liberal fiscal plan. Liberal, in the sense of liberal-ly increasing the deficit, the debt, and the interest paid on the debt. It proposes to liberally pour money into a lot of things.

Altogether, the economic upshot of the platform the Liberals released on Saturday is that Mark Carney would take a big swing at pumping money into the economy - notably to build homes and infrastructure and build up the military - in a bid to pull the whole economy up. That's what Mr. Carney wants people to

remember, not the bottom line. The bottom line, after all, comes with

big numbers in red rink: a deficit of \$62.3-billion this year that will only be reduced to \$47.8-billion in 2028-29. In rough terms, the Liberals would raise the annual deficit by about half.

In the past few months, there have been several occasions when Mr. Carney made the same promises as Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre, starting with eliminating the consumer carbon levy. But the Liberals' fiscal plan is very different.

The Liberals want to emphasize that they would pump government money into the economy to counter a crisis - U.S. President Donald Trump's trade war and the ec-onomic dislocation it will cause in Canada while the Conservatives would take it

out. "To succeed in a crisis, you have to act with overwhelming force," Mr. Carney said in a speech Saturday.

He painted Mr. Poilievre as a laissezfaire politician who wouldn't have the gov-

"It's said there are no atheists in fox-holes," Mr. Carney said. "There should be no libertarians in crisis."

Still, the ways that the Liberal Party platform contrives to make the spending numbers add up to even those big deficit figures



Liberal Leader Mark Carney, seen at a campaign rally in Nepean, Ont., on Sunday, has promised to 'spend less and invest more' through plans to restructure government grants, cut consultants and digitize services. DAVE CHAN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

are a little disconcerting. The Liberal platform counts on Ottawa bringing in \$20-billion this year in revenues from tariffs on U.S. goods but doesn't account for the lost revenues that would come with a recession. Apparently, Ottawa will turn a profit on a trade war.

Carney's oft-repeated promise to "spend less and invest more" relies heavily on saving large sums – \$6-billion next year and \$13-billion by 2027-28 - through stillvague plans to restructure government grants, cut consultants, digitize services and sundry other things

There's certainly ample room to cut costs in the federal government, but in this platform the Liberals did little more than make a promise to get on that, and then put a number beside the promise. Mr. Carney suggested voters should trust him.

Politically, the Liberals might just be able to skate through with such fuzzy costsaving plans because the Conservatives who have yet to release their full platform

have so far offered even less credible plans to reduce costs. But the truth is that spending control is based on notions on a white board.

Mr. Carney argued that the platform doesn't spell out the same old Liberal fiscal policy because he would concentrate on capital investments to purchase assets rather than day-to-day operational spend-ing. Much of that capital spending, including a huge injection of cash into housing, would spur private investment and eco-nomic growth, the Liberals say.

That shift is reflected in the platform fig-ures. But there is still a Liberal sprinkling of spending on things that council as operational spending, from the CBC budget to subsidizing in vitro fertilization.

It's still a program of Liberal interventionist economics, albeit one more focused on using public investment to spur private investment.

Mr. Poilievre has his own plan to encourage private investment with tax cuts, including a plan to defer capital-gains taxes for investors who reinvest their capital in Canada. But Mr. Carney argued that in a crisis, the private sector retreats, and the government has to step up.

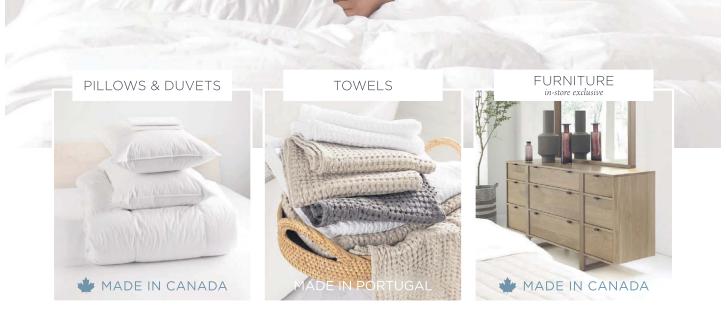
The Liberal Leader has talked about overwhelming force" in the past, long before he entered electoral politics this year.

It's the crisis philosophy he developed in tackling the 2008-09 financial crisis as governor of the Bank of Canada, and it's why as governor of the Bank of England he prepared to pump vast sums into stabilizing the markets after Britons voted to leave the European Union.

Now, as a politician, his proposal for using overwhelming force to respond to Mr. Trump's trade war doesn't just mean public investment. The controls he promised on day-to-day operational spending won't be enough to pay for the investment he pledged to spur the economy. To muster his kind of economic force, he would make Liberal use of public debt.

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The President's full-court press on Washington

Trump administration has launched an unprecedented assault on institutions

DAVID SHRIBMAN

ANALYSIS

Then: Antoine Walker, Ron Mercer, Dee Brown and Chauncey Billups. Now: JD Vance, Elon Musk, Tom Holman and Peter Navarro.

They are known for the same tactics.

The first group were members of coach Rick Pitino's 1997-98 Boston Celtics, which opened the season with a full-court press that broke with NBA conventions and left opponents unsettled. The second are members of U.S. President Donald Trump's second administration, which opened with a full-court press that is leaving his opponents unsettled.

Since he began his second term, Mr. Trump and his team have been employing a full-court press on Washington and the world in ways, and intensity, never seen before from an American president – with no established institution, durable alliance or long-term exception going unaffected.

The new administration has placed maximum pressure on Congress, the courts, institutions, trading partners, universities, immigrants, museums, arts venues, news organizations, minorities and transgender people – all at the same time. It is a remarkable show of strength across a remarkable field of targets.



Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell has received criticism from Donald Trump for not cutting interest rates. JACQUELYN MARTIN/AF

On the hard court, Mr. Pitino's full-court press was exhausting with a high risk of failure. In the court of public opinion, Mr. Trump's full-court press is exhausting Americans and brings with it a high risk of failure.

It's not only the assault on conventions and institutions that is marking the opening months of the Trump administration. It's also the breadth and depth of the set of opening offensives that are setting them apart from any earlier period.

Driven by a non-government employee, Mr. Musk, powered by a promiscuous use of executive orders, and having ripple effects far beyond Washington and the broader sphere of government, these moves have the potential of changing the nature of the American presidency and American politics and culture more broadly. The administration's offen-

sives take more the shape of a hurricane than a tornado – sustained winds over a widening mass of territory rather than a path of destruction confined to a narrow area.

So far, the White House has challenged the sovereignty of Canada, Greenland and Panama, to the prerogatives of Congress and the courts. It has threatened the independence of the Federal Reserve Board, the nation's highprestige universities, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the Smithsonian Institution. In each case, Mr. Trump and

In each case, Mr. Trump and his lieutenants have changed the character of the country and sowed resentment, retrenchment and re-evaluation abroad.

They've even challenged the nature and extent of tax exemptions for non-profit organizations, bringing many of the fiercest legal lions to heel. Mr. Trump's demands have prompted US\$1billion in deals with law firms whose compositions and inclinations he opposes. The latest incursion into established legal and institutional precedents is illustrious of the extent of the full-court press. The target: Fed chair Jerome Powell and, by extension, the once unquestioned inviolable independence of the central bank, tasked with balancing unemployment and inflation. Established in 1913, the Fed's

Established in 1913, the Fed's independence was assured because it was established by Congress, its funding decisions aren't subject to the appropriations process, its decisions can't be adjusted by the president or by lawmakers, and its chairs have assumed they cannot be removed before their terms, which don't coincide with the president, are completed.

But Mr. Trump, who appointed Mr. Powell, has grown impatient with the Fed chair, in part because he isn't cutting interest rates. Presidential frustration with Fed members is not unprecedented: president Richard Nixon, whose conferences with Fed chair Arthur Burns raised eyebrows, once urged him to discipline his colleagues. ("Just kick 'em in the rump a little," Mr. Nixon said in a 1971 conversation recorded on the White House tapes.)

But no president has issued a statement like Mr. Trump's description last week of Mr. Powell (a chair "who is always TOO LATE AND WRONG" and who "issued a report which was another, and typical, complete mess!").

At the same time, there is increased focus on Mr. Trump's apparent belief in the "unitary executive" theory, which provides for expanded presidential power and is the philosophical and legal basis of his resistance to court decisions. That prompted a stunning reaction from Appeals Court Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson III, a conservative jurist appointed by president Ronald Reagan, who rebuked the administration's refusal to conform to court orders to return Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia, deported to El Salvador, to the United States.

the United States. "The respect that courts afford the Executive must be reciprocated by the Executive's respect for the courts. Too often this has not been the case, as calls for the impeachment of judges for decisions the Executive disfavors and exhortations to disregard court decisions sadly illustrate," the judge wrote.

Over the weekend, the Supreme Court ordered the administration to halt the deportation of a separate group of immigrants. Three in five Americans believe the President must conform to judicial rulings, according to a Wall Street Journal poll.

The ripples of change have produced ripples of fear across the country. "We are all afraid," Senator Lisa

"We are all afraid," Senator Lisa Murkowski, a second-generation Republican from Alaska, said at an Anchorage conference last week. "It's quite a statement. But we are in a time and a place where I certainly have not been here before. I'll tell you, I'm oftentimes very anxious myself about using my voice, because retaliation is real. And that's not right." Full-court presses often wear

Full-court presses often wear out the team employing them. It may have temporarily discomfited the Celtics' opponents, but the team finished with a losing record – and the coach chose to resign rather than be fired.

Special to The Globe and Mail

Harvard economist sees parallels between Trump, Mao and Castro

NATHAN VANDERKLIPPE

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

It is, at first blush, a startling idea: Donald Trump is cut from a cloth similar to that of Mao Zedong or Fidel Castro.

But all three men are best understood as revolutionary leaders, dedicated to the destruction of institutional norms, says Ricardo Hausmann, a noted economist whose views are informed by personal experience. His Jewish parents fled the Holocaust for Venezuela. There, Prof. Hausmann served as minister of planning and on the board of the country's central bank before leaving for the U.S., where he is a scholar at Harvard and founding director of the Growth Lab, a hub for economic and policy research.

In recent weeks, his position has given him a personal stake in the White House demands of universities, as the Trump administration contemplates stripping Harvard of its tax-exempt status and ability to recruit foreign students.

Can you talk about how your background informs your perspective on what we're seeing in the U.S. today?

MR. HAUSMANN: My parents both survived the Holocaust and got to Venezuela, my father in 1943 and my mother in 1949. The perception was that Europe was unstable, and by contrast Venezuela was a stable democracy. Then in 1999, Venezuela started down the road toward authoritarianism and now outright dictatorship. So, you realize that you go through periods in which life seems so orderly, and then these worlds sometimes collapse.



U.S. President Donald Trump stands in the presidential box as he tours the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington in March. JIM WATSON/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

democracies die. And that book is full of Venezuela. So there is a certain déjà vu in the current state of affairs in the U.S.

Let's start with where you draw optimism at the moment. Where do you see key differences in the U.S. relative to what you experienced in Venezuela?

T 1 1 1

majority. So when societies suddenly are in a more revolutionary situation, they find checks and balances – all these mechanisms that protect individual and minority rights – to be an impediment to realizing the will of the majority. Then suddenly you see an attack on the institutions that guaranteed the individual libersubstantial advantage in technology. That technological advantage creates an enormous possibility of making money by deploying that technology globally.

That has worked remarkably well for the U.S. The U.S. is supposedly running this very large deficit in goods, but that deficit is completely compensated for by its surplus in services sold to the

leader, how does one do that? Is it even possible?

Right now, all the actions that he is taking have a very flimsy legal basis. And they are all being challenged in the courts. We will see if the courts stop him or not – but the courts made him immune to criminal prosecution for decisions he takes. And we'll see if he loses control of the House of Representatives in November, 2026, and if suddenly he doesn't have a pliant legislature.

Will the system of powers become an obstacle to his attempts to have no constraints on the exercise of his agenda? That all remains to be played out. That's where the battle is.

What is your current level of optimism in this idea that the broader U.S. institutions will hold? Or are you, like some of your academic colleagues, thinking of moving to Canada?

This is a fantastic opportunity for Canada to become a scientific and technological powerhouse, in the same way as the U.S. became a scientific and technological powerhouse by absorbing refugees from Germany. Scientific and technological prowess is very hard to develop from a human perspective, but it's very easy to attract from a geographic perspective. And if the U.S. becomes this place that's inhospitable to intellectual workers, countries

Do you think your experience has allowed you to see things more clearly than what others, who have only grown up living in a stable U.S., may struggle to see?

Once you've seen democracies die on you, you kind of develop a sense of foreboding as you see some signs of that happening in the U.S. My colleague Steven Levitsky wrote the book on how In any society, there are some forces that protect the status quo.

Nineteenth-century British political philosopher Michael Oakeshott was saying that the conservative predisposition starts with appreciating what you have in life. What you have is, in part, a bequest of the past.

Contrary to that is a more revolutionary predisposition that starts by saying that what exists is bad. If something exists, it's proof of its corruption. That makes you want to change anything that exists. There is also this additional

There is also this additional tension in any liberal democracy, because democracy means in some sense the rule of the majority. And liberalism means that people have inalienable rights that cannot be taken away by a ties and freedoms that you took for granted.

In that context, I think Trump is a revolutionary figure. He wants to destroy all the rules of what he inherited.

If Trump is a revolutionary figure, what does that tell us about the next three-and-a-half – or more – years will look like?

Sometimes I think that Trump is doing so many changes to so many things that it may look like Mickey Mouse and the Sorcerer's Apprentice, where he starts destroying things and suddenly loses control.

Trump may not understand how the U.S. benefits from the international order that he inherited, in which the U.S. has a very rest of the world. Central to that is American intellectual property.

So the Magnificent 7 in the stock market – Apple, Google, Facebook, Netflix, etc. – they make more than half of their revenue abroad. That doesn't appear as U.S. exports.

And now he's destroying the ability to monetize technology abroad. And he's destroying the ability to create the technology by attacking the scientific ecosystem. So he is in a process of killing what has been the basis of American prosperity, with the idea that somehow the marvel that he inherited is somehow hurting the U.S.

If one wants to restrain the destructive nature of a revolutionary

that are able to attract them and create an environment for their flourishing can suddenly become a technological powerhouse in a very short time.

The idea of the U.S. becoming inhospitable – isn't that a far-off prospect?

No. Trump is questioning assumptions that liberal democracies have given their citizens for a long time, because they see this incredible bequest of the past – the best universities in the world, the most advanced scientific and technological ecosystem in the world – as enemies. And these people have options.

This interview has been edited and condensed.

MAN WHO FATALLY SHOT 23 AT EL PASO WALMART SET TO PLEAD GUILTY TO MURDER NEARLY 6 YEARS ON

DALLAS The long-running criminal case against a Texas gunman who killed 23 people in a racist attack targeting Hispanic shoppers at a Walmart in El Paso in 2019 is on the verge of coming to a close.

Patrick Crusius, 26, is expected to plead guilty Monday to capital murder and receive a sentence of life in prison with no possibility of parole for the massacre near the U.S.-Mexico border. El Paso County District Attorney James Montoya said last month he was offering Mr. Crusius a plea deal and that he wouldn't face the death penalty on the state charge.

Mr. Crusius has already been sentenced to 90 consecutive life sentences in federal court after pleading guilty in 2023 to hate crime and weapons charges. Mr. Crusius was 21 years old

Mr. Crusius was 21 years old when authorities say he drove for more than 10 hours from his home in suburban Dallas to El Paso and opened fire at the Walmart.

He then moved inside the store and continued firing an AK-style rifle, cornering shoppers at a bank near the entrance where nine were killed before shooting at the checkout area and people in aisles. Exiting Walmart, he fired on a passing car, killing an elderly man and wounding his wife.

Mr. Crusius was apprehended shortly after and confessed to officers who stopped him at an intersection, according to police. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israeli probe finds chain of 'professional failures' in killings of 15 Palestinian medics

Deputy commander fired after investigation found he acted under the assumption the ambulances belonged to Hamas militants

MELANIE LIDMAN JERUSALEM

An Israeli investigation into the killings of 15 Palestinian medics last month in Gaza by Israeli forces said Sunday it found a chain of "professional failures" and a deputy commander has been fired.

The shootings outraged many in the international community, with some calling the killings a war crime. Medical workers have special protection under interna-tional humanitarian law. The International Red Cross/Red Crescent called it the deadliest attack on its personnel in eight years.

Israel at first claimed that the medics' vehicles did not have emergency signals on when troops opened fire but later back-tracked. Cellphone video recovered from one medic contradicted Israel's initial account, Footage shows the ambulances had lights flashing and logos visible as they pulled up to help another ambulance that earlier came under fire.

The military investigation found that the deputy battalion commander acted under the incorrect assumption that all the ambulances belonged to Hamas militants. It said the deputy commander, operating under "poor night visibility," felt his troops were under threat when the ambulances sped toward their position and medics rushed out to check the victims. The military said the flashing lights were less visible on night-vision drones and goggles.

The ambulances immediately came under a barrage of gunfire that went on for more than five minutes with brief pauses. Minutes later, soldiers opened fire at a UN car that stopped at the scene.

Eight Red Crescent personnel, six Civil Defense workers and a UN staffer were killed in the shooting before dawn on March



An elderly Palestinian man walks amid the destruction at a camp for displaced Palestinians in northern Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip, after an Israeli strike on Saturday. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

23 by troops conducting operations in Tel al-Sultan, a district of the southern Gaza city of Rafah. Troops bulldozed over the bodies along with their mangled vehicles, burying them in a mass grave. UN and rescue workers were only able to reach the site a week later.

The Israeli military said soldiers buried the bodies to prevent them from being mangled by stray dogs and coyotes until they could be collected, and that the ambulances were moved to allow the route to be used for civilian evacuations later that day.

The investigation found that the decision to crush the ambulances was wrong but said there was no attempt to conceal the shootings.

Major-General Yoav Har-Even, who oversees the military's investigations, said the military notified international organizations later that day and helped rescue workers locate the bodies.

The head of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society has said the men were "targeted at close range." Night-vision drone foot-age provided by the military shows soldiers were 20 to 30 me-

ters away from the ambulances. The deputy commander was the first to open fire, leading the rest of the soldiers to start shooting, Maj.-Gen. Har-Even said. The investigation found the paramedics were killed due to an "op-erational misunderstanding" by Israeli forces, and that shooting at the UN car was a breach of orders.

The findings asserted that six of those killed were Hamas militants – it did not give their names – and said three other paramedics were originally misidentified as Hamas. The Civil Defense is part of the Hamas-run government.

No paramedic was armed, and no weapons were found in any vehicle, Maj.-Gen. Har-Even said.

One survivor was detained for investigation and remains in custody for further questioning. According to the military, soldiers who questioned the survivor thought he identified himself as a Hamas member, which was later refuted.

Maj.-Gen. Har-Even said the deputy commander was fired for giving a not "completely accu-rate" report to investigators about the firing on a UN vehicle.

The statement on the findings concluded by saying that Israel's military "regrets the harm caused to uninvolved civilians."

Without accountability, we risk continuing to watch atrocities unfolding and the norms designed to protect us all, eroding. Too many civilians, including aid workers, have been killed in Gaza. Their stories have not all made the headlines," Jonathan Whit-tall, interim head in Gaza of the UN humanitarian office OCHA, said in a statement responding to the findings.

There was no immediate public reaction from the Red Crescent or Civil Defense.

The findings have been turned over the Military Advocate General, which can decide whether to file civil charges. It is meant to be an independent body, with oversight by Israel's attorney-general and Supreme Court.

There are no outside investigations of the killings under way.

Israeli strikes have killed more than 150 emergency responders from the Red Crescent and Civil Defense, most of them while on duty, as well as over 1,000 health workers during the war, according to the UN. The Israeli military rarely investigates such incidents.

Israel has accused Hamas of moving and hiding its fighters inside ambulances and emergency vehicles, as well as in hospitals and other civilian infrastructure, arguing that justifies strikes on them. Medical personnel largely deny the accusations.

Palestinians and international human rights groups have re-peatedly accused Israel's military of failing to properly investigate or whitewashing misconduct by its troops.

Maj.-Gen. Har-Even said the Israeli military is currently investigating 421 incidents in Gaza during the war, with 51 concluded and sent to the Military Advocate General. There was no immediate information on the number of investigations involving potential wrongful deaths or how many times the MAG has pursued criminal charges.

The International Criminal Court, established by the international community as a court of last resort, has accused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former defence minister Yoav Gallant of war crimes. Israel, which is not a member of the court, has long asserted that its legal system is capable of investigating the army, and Netanyahu has accused the ICC of antisemitism.

The war in Gaza began when Hamas-led militants attacked southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 251. Most of the hostages have been released in ceasefire agreements or other deals. Hamas currently holds 59 hostages, 24 of them believed to be alive.

Israel's offensive has since killed over 51,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not distinguish between civilians and combatants.

Frustration has been growing on both sides, with rare public protests against Hamas in Gaza and continued weekly rallies in Israel pressing the government to reach a deal to bring all hostages home.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Did scientists actually find the strongest evidence of alien life yet?

IVAN SEMENIUK SCIENCE REPORTER

hen Nikku Madhusudhan, a professor of astro-**V V** physics at the University of Cambridge, addressed his audience during a live-streamed presentation about his possible detection of life on another planet, he started by reflecting on the larger import of the moment

How incredible, he said on Thursday, that our species, which is descended from single-celled life forms that first emerged on this planet billions of years ago, has acquired the capability to find life elsewhere in the universe.

"It's a very human experience and we're all in it as a species," Dr. Madhusudhan said. Those who study exoplanets -

planets beyond our own solar sys-



ter University who was among those to determine the mass of K2-18 b following its initial discovery

Sara Seager, a Canadian-American astrophysicist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who helped to pioneer the theoretical study of exoplanets, said the idea that K2-18 b is an ocean planet also remains a very big assumption.

This particular planet has to have a lot of light gases because it's so big for its mass," Dr. Seager said. "So it has to have a lot of hydrogen for sure. But what's underneath that hydrogen? Is it a hot water ocean or is it hot liquid rock? That's what we don't know."

In a review paper about prospects for detecting life on exoplanets using the Webb telescope, which was posted online on Thursday, Dr. Seager calls the announcement from the Cambridge group "a problematic start" because it fails all three criteria that she suggests are necessary to characterize what is happening in the atmosphere of an exoplanet. The criteria include: an unambiguous detection of a particular feature in the data: high confidence that this can be attributed to a particular molecule; an interpretation that fits with all other data from the planet and that also rules out false positives. But given the ability that Webb and other planned spacecraft possess to sample the atmospheres of other worlds, Dr. Seager agrees that it's likely more such announcements are coming, possibly with varying degrees of certainty about what has been found. Stan Metchev, who holds a Canada Research Chair in exoplanets at Western University said he is skeptical about the new finding but not about where the field is heading. cautiously "I'm optimistic about the prospects of finding life in the next 10 years," he said. We're basically already probing the boundaries of what James Webb can tell us, improving our methodology, improving our ability to assess what is possible, and this report is very much part of this process."

tem – can agree that it's amazing to be part of the first generation of scientists to have a realistic chance of spotting signs of extraterrestrial life.

But many are making clear their view that Dr. Madhusudhan and his colleagues have not demonstrated that they've found any such thing on the planet designated K2-18 b.

The skepticism goes beyond the question of whether the evidence presented makes a strong case for life. It is also about whether or not the evidence even exists.

"Given the quotes I'm seeing in the press, this isn't just a case of crving wolf, it's akin to crving werewolf," said Nicolas Cowan, an associate professor at McGill University who studies exoplanet atmospheres.

The reaction underscores a longer-term confidence in the field that, thanks to technical advances, it may only be a matter of time before alien life is detected. But for the same reason, many in the field say it's probably not this time, because they can already anticipate something much less speculative.

The team led by Dr. Madhusudhan used the James Webb Space Telescope to observe K2-18 b, a planet detected by a NASA spacecraft a decade ago. The planet can-

An artist's concept shows what K2-18 b, a planet detected by a NASA spacecraft a decade ago, could look like based on science data. NASA VIA REUTERS

not be seen directly, but its presence can be deduced because it repeatedly crosses in front of the star it orbits, temporarily blocking a small fraction of the star's light.

When the telescope is used to look at the star with an array of instruments it can detect molecules that emit light at specific wavelengths. Most of that light comes directly from the star, but the star's contribution can then be subtracted to obtain a chemical reading of the atmosphere of K2-18 b.

When Dr Madhusudhan's team did this, they saw a wiggle in their data that they interpret as caused by one or two chemicals dimethyl sulfide and/or dimethyl disulfide. They note that on Earth, when these molecules occur naturally, it is always a byproduct of living organisms - specifically marine phytoplankton. Therefore, they argue in a peer-re-viewed paper published last Thursday in The Astrophysical Journal Letters, they have detectindicates the presence of life in an alien sea

This fits the notion of a "hycean" world – a term that Dr. Madhusudhan coined in earlier work to describe an ocean planet that primarily consists of water with a hvdrogen atmosphere. A key detail is that K2-18 b sits within the "habitable zone" of its solar system. It lies at just the right distance from its star that, given other necessary conditions, it's possible for water to exist there in liquid form.

In their paper, the team is cautious about positing aliens as an explanation for their data. A press release issued from the university the same day used bolder language, announcing the "strongest hints yet of biological activity outside the solar system." That was enough to invite widespread media coverage that mostly downplayed the caveats associated with the announcement.

In his public talk, which was treated as a news event, Dr. Mad-

ed "a possible biosignature" that husudhan further amplified the message, declaring that the only scenario that currently explains the data is one in which the planet is "teeming with life."

Unstated was the wide-open door left for researchers to find other ways that the telltale molecules could plausibly occur without resorting to life. But many are betting this will not be necessary.

What news reports have largely overlooked is the degree to which the detection depends on the method the team chose to extract a signal from their raw data. Other ways of working with the same data can lead to an answer that does not require the presence of dimethyl sulfide or dimethyl disulfide.

Dr. Madhusudhan has made similar claims before and received similar pushback.

"A big criticism of this group in the past is that you can explain this away with just a little bit of tweaking of your data reduction.' said Ryan Cloutier, an astronomer and assistant professor at McMas-

Singh: He won't address questions about his future until the election is over

FROM A1

In a federal election campaign, many have called the most important in a generation, Mr. Singh and his party have struggled to be heard. The halcyon days of 2011, when Jack Layton led the New Democrats to 103 seats and Official Opposition status, seem a lifetime ago. It has mostly been a steady descent ever since: 44 seats under Tom Mulcair in 2015; 24 seats in 2019 and 25 in 2021 under Mr. Singh. But with many polls showing the party with single-digit support, there is a chance not only that the NDP could lose official party status – 12 seats are needed – but that Mr. Singh could end up seatless as well.

It's been eight years since the now-46-year-old Mr. Singh rose to take over the NDP's top job as a relative unknown outside of Ontario. Raised in Windsor, he had a compelling backstory. At 12, he was sexually abused by his taekwondo coach, which, for the longest time, made him feel like he "didn't deserve love." Mr. Singh would be bullied as a young, turban-wearing Sikh growing up in a mostly white, blue-collar town. His father was an alcoholic, whose addiction ended up costing him his medical licence and the family home. Mr. Singh would later say that his hardest day as an adult was nothing compared with his "easiest day as a child." He would become a social justice lawyer before turning to politics in 2011 and being elected NDP MPP – a position from which he would later launch his successful bid to lead the party federally. Today, the party's dismal fortunes are widely

Today, the party's dismal fortunes are widely blamed by party insiders, pollsters and pundits on Donald Trump. Given the global chaos his tariffs have caused and the anger stoked by his talk of annexing Canada, the progressive voter seems to have decided not to split the vote; rather, it appears they believe it's time to line up behind the person deemed to be best qualified to take on the U.S. President. As things stand today, indications are they've decided that's Liberal Leader Mark Carney, not Mr. Singh.

"If this election comes down to trade issues and staring across the desk at Trump as the final decision for voters, then it's going to be hard for the NDP, because trade is not historically one of the party's strong points," former NDP MP Nathan Cullen said in an interview.

Of course, one can't lay all of the NDP's problems at the feet of the mercurial U.S. President. The NDP lost the support of many inside and outside the party when it decided to prop up the highly unpopular Liberal government of Justin Trudeau by signing a supply-and-confidence agreement in 2022. While Mr. Singh maintains the pact was worth it because it got the government to introduce dental and pharmacare coverage, the party seems to have received little credit for that among voters. Moreso, it helped obscure the two parties' progressive brands: What was the difference between Liberals and New Democrats any more?

Not to be minimized, also, is the ammunition that pact gave the federal Conservatives. Mr. Singh ripped up the deal in September, 2024, saying the Liberals were "too weak, too selfish and too beholden to corporate interests to fight for people." But then the party proceeded to prop up the same much-disdained government for months afterward, refusing to collaborate with the Conservatives, a party the NDP had little in common with, to bring the Liberals down.

to bring the Liberals down. Dismal polling numbers have infected team morale, according to a senior NDP official who can't be named because they were not authorized to speak on behalf of the party. Mr. Mulcair's decision to write a highly publicized editorial advocating for progressive voters to back the Liberals was seen as a brutal betrayal of his former party. But it also fuelled the current ennui inside it.

Campaign workers struggle to press onward knowing how catastrophic the outcome could be. On the stump, Mr. Singh has dropped any pretense of becoming Prime Minister. You would think, given all that as a backdrop, rallying deflated troops has become one of Mr. Singh's primary jobs. Apparently, that is not the case. power," Mr. Singh told The Globe in an interview. "New Democrats don't enter [elections] with the pursuit of power, of naked power. People become New Democrats because they believe we are going to use our power to do important things."

But at least provincially, New Democrats in B.C. and Alberta and Manitoba and Saskatchewan certainly go into elections planning to win. They may wonder why NDP success at that level hasn't translated to success nationally.

"We are the New Democratic Party," Mr. Singh said during his interview with The Globe, putting emphasis on the word *new*. "It's a younger party, and it takes time."

The NDP was born in August, 1961, and turns 64 this summer. Using youth and inexperience as an excuse for not winning would be aggressively challenged by many in the party. Talk to enough NDP backroom types, past and

Talk to enough NDP backroom types, past and present, and inevitably, talk of 2011 comes up. It seems absurd to even be mentioning Mr. Layton's famous "Orange Wave" election in the context of what's happening today. So why are people referencing it now?

"The week before the English leaders' debate in 2011 we were at 13 per cent in the polls," recalled long-time party stalwart Anne McGrath, who has occupied senior roles in the party for decades. "And then things started to turn fast."

Kathleen Monk, a political consultant who was Mr. Layton's director of communications in that campaign, points to that election as well as evidence you can't already count the party out now, either.

"Look, you have to trudge through the valley of death the first 14 days of a campaign," Ms. Monk said in an interview. "And then things start getting real."

Sure, strange things can happen on the campaign trail. But if anything, 2011 is illustrative of the lost years that have followed for the party, especially in Quebec. The party picked up 59 seats in the province in 2011, a high-water mark it hasn't come close to matching. On the contrary, it's been pretty much a disaster ever since. Last election, there was only one New Democrat elected in Quebec.

There are lots of theories among senior voices in the party as to why: 2011 was a freak blip; a province that is resolutely secular will never vote in numbers for a turban-wearing political leader; Bill 21, which outlawed the wearing of religious symbols, including hijabs and turbans, by public servants, made Mr. Singh's efforts to grow support in Quebec even more daunting.

There is every chance the party could get wiped out entirely there this time around. Absent any realistic shot inside Quebec, it's hard for the NDP to assert its national party credentials.

to assert its national party credentials. It also creates the unshakable image of a political institution that is shrinking in status, not growing.

But the NDP's problems run much deeper than Quebec. It is bleeding support on multiple fronts. Greg Lyle, president of Innovative Research Group, a public-opinion survey company, said the NDP currently is only holding 57 per cent of its 2021 vote, with 35 per cent going to the Liberals and 14 per cent going to the Conservatives, according to his latest tracking.

The Tories have been targeting the New Democrats' blue-collar vote for some time now. The strategy ramped up under Pierre Poilievre, who has broken through with many hard-hat-wearing union members increasingly uncomfortable with the NDP's focus on identity politics. Mr. Poilievre's assertion that "wokeness" is upending societal norms has resonated with many outside the Conservatives' traditional base of support.

Mr. Poilievre has also made affordability the central aspect of his sales pitch to Canadians. This just happens to be the NDP's bread-and-butter issue. At least it was. "What Poilievre did was effectively use the carbon tax as proof that the NDP wasn't serious about affordability," Mr. Lyle said. "All people had to do was look at their gas bills to know he was right."



'The greatest scam the right ever pulled was convincing those who made \$20 an hour that those who made half that amount are the enemy instead guy making an pitch on this front is hitting the mark with those who are feeling desperate." Brad Lavigne, who has played senior roles in NDP campaigns federally and provincially over decades, says the "grievance style of politics" that Mr. Trump revolutionized and that Mr. Poilievre has made a big part of his political playbook speaks to many people. "This us-versus-them mentality is very divisive but also is attractive to people who feel their party isn't speaking to their concerns because they are too focused on class issues rather than day-to-day living issues," Mr. Lavigne said in an interview. "And you can't ignore the fact that Mr. Poilievre is a very effective communicator who has drawn some people who were not traditional Conservative supporters into his camp." The NDP has generally been an unlikely amalgam of white wine socialists and work-boot, dirtunder-the-fingernails types. There is little question that Mr. Singh has lost some members of both groups; white wine socialists to Mr. Carney and the work-booters to Mr. Poilievre.

"You don't become a New Democrat because you assume you're going to be in a position of

Mr. Cullen said that when struggling with how





There are other problems.

Remember the Leap Manifesto? That was the document fronted by author Naomi Klein and her filmmaker husband Avi Lewis (now a federal NDP candidate) and introduced during the 2015 election. A plan to aggressively tackle climate change, it was viewed as radical and unhelpful by many, including then Alberta NDP premier Rachel Notley. It was debated by delegates at the party's next convention, creating a fissure inside the NDP that may not have completely healed to this day. It



With many polls showing single-digit support, there is a chance not only that the NDP could lose official party status, but that Leader Jagmeet Singh could end up seatless as well. CHRIS YOUNG/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

unquestionably led to the surprise dumping of Mr. Mulcair as the party leader in 2016.

Ultimately, what the document proposed was a complete move away from fossil fuels as quickly as possible. While it was never officially adopted by the party, it still lives in the hopes and dreams of many. On that front, the NDP would appear to be at odds with the current zeitgeist around fossil a, which is, if not "drill baby, at least a mindset open to more pipelines and energy infrastructure development. Consequently, Mr. Singh's call for action on climate change seems thinner by the day. "The envi-ronment is no longer the issue it was elections ago," Mr. Lavigne said. "Now it's jobs, the economic security that comes with that, our energy security, our ability to sell our natural resources to more than one market, building big things. Those are all coming into play. And there is a tension, a pinch point, inside the New Democratic Party over these issues." At this juncture, however, seemingly little would be gained by abandoning one of the party's core positions to chase votes they may not get anyway. "It's hard to see how the NDP could lose by being the last party standing on the carbon tax, Mr. Lyle said. "There's still 30 per cent of the public that says we should keep the carbon tax the way it is. ... The carbon tax was never as radioactive as it's taken to be right now. The problem is that that almost doesn't matter now. The tax has been demonized, and it's just not a winning issue."

more than ever you need a voice that will stand up for working people and vulnerable citizens across the country. And that voice has always been the NDP."

She added: "Whether you do that as Opposition, whether we do it by holding the balance of power, you need that voice at the table." Even if the party was able to miraculously maintain all the ridings it won four years ago, Mr. Singh is likely to face strong headwinds if he tries to stay in the job. It would be that much easier for the party to part ways with him should he lose his own seat – which is a distinct possibility.

Mr. Layton's 2011 rallying cry – "Don't let them tell you it can't be done" – seems like a quaint the first time in years, the part doesn't even talk about forming government and is almost certainly bracing for a result that could be almost existential in nature. If the Liberals win, and Mr. Carney governs from the centre-right, there may be room for the NDP to regain its footing in the national political conversation. If the Conservatives win, and the Liberals tack left again, it will be harder for the New Democrats to find a place to be heard. Before Mr. Singh wraps up his Vancouver campaign stop, he's asked whether the party would enter a period of soul-searching after the election. After all, the numbers don't lie: Between the 2011 and 2021 elections, the NDP has lost about 1.5 million votes. It could add to that grim tally next week.

Unless you're the NDP and are trying to salvage as much of your base as possible.

Not everyone is pessimistic about the party's future. Ms. Notley, for one, says there is an important role for the federal party to play in this extraordinary moment in which the world finds itself. "And the reason I say that is because we are almost certainly bound to be confronting a very serious economic dislocation for a period of time," she said in an interview. "And when that happens,

The question few senior New Democrats want to answer these days is the degree to which the party's leader is responsible for the bleak state of affairs. Asked if this is the end of the line for Mr. Singh unless the party can pull off some kind of miracle and increase its seat total, Ms. Monk, the party insider, won't bite: "I won't give you that quote, sorry."

Others feel it would be inappropriate to kick someone while they are down, especially in the middle of an election. Off the record, a few indicate that the math should speak for itself: The party has been losing votes since the 2011 election. The situation hasn't improved under Mr. Singh.

While situationally, Mr. Singh can be charismatic and engaging, those traits aren't translating to a broader audience. It's fair to ask also whether the NDP, federally, has moved so far from what would be considered a centrist agenda that it is no longer a viable option for most voters. It does beg the question: What is holding the party back federally from doing what its offspring provincially have been doing well for years now? The NDP governments that have been the most successful have been fiscally responsible, balancing budgets instead of running massive deficits outside of abnormal events such as the pandemic.

Regardless, the buck ultimately stops with the leader, and it's difficult to imagine Mr. Singh staying in the job much longer.

For his part, Mr. Singh won't address any questions about his future until the election is over. However, it's unimaginable he remains as leader if the party gets fewer seats than it did last time.

Might it be time to revisit what exactly the NDP stands for? What does it represent in most people's minds: a movement party? A protest party? A party that plays honest broker in Ottawa between the other two main parties?

Has the time come to reimagine what the NDP can be?

"I think we've shown who we are," Mr. Singh said. "We're the ones you can trust with power to get things done for you. That's what we've always been. It started with Tommy Douglas and universal health care. ... The more power you give us, rest assured, we will always use it to help out everyday folks."

This election could well determine the direction of the country for years to come. It could also decide the future of a political party that seems to be fading from the national consciousness by the day.

EDITORIAL

The subject who is truly loyal to the chief magistrate will neither advise nor submit to arbitrary measures - Junius

ANDREW SAUNDERS

DAVID WALMSLEY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Two different blueprints for a housing crisis

ow to fix Canada's shambolic housing market is one of the most important questions in this election. Homes remain absurdly expensive in a lot of the country. Building new ones is far too costly, difficult and slow. And a sizable chunk of what Canada has been building doesn't fit the needs of many who are supposed to live in them - cue the current glut of shoebox condos for sale in Toronto.

Happily, both of the parties that stand a chance to form the next federal government are treating the housing shortage as a national emergency. There is also a welcome degree of consensus between Conservatives and Liberals on some of the basics, such as the need to reduce the taxes and fees on new construction - something even the NDP is now advocating, to an extent.

But the Conservative and Liberal platforms differ in two fundamental ways. Pierre Poilievre's ideas are mostly about removing obstacles that stand in the way of the private sector, along with some tax measures. The Conservative Leader is also more about results than process: He wants homebuilding targets reached but isn't too fussed about how exactly cities will get it done.

Liberal Leader Mark Carney has also outlined tax breaks and measures to reduce housing bureaucracy. But his core promise on housing is to create a Build Canada Homes entity that will "get the federal government back in the business of building homes." While the Liberals also want more homes built, they have an elaborate roadmap to get everyone there.

Consider how the Liberals and Conservatives propose to deal with provinces and municipalities, which control many of the levers that shape what goes on in the housing market.

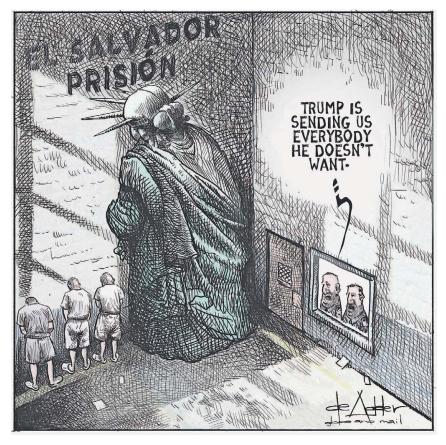
In many cities, soaring development charges help drive up the cost of new homes. Red tape slows down construction. Zoning restrictions and outdated building codes make it nearly impossible to build the kind of mid-rise buildings with larger units that would fit both the needs and the budgets of middle-class families.

The federal government can't directly rewrite those rules, so both the Conservatives and the Liberals aim to cajole local and provincial governments to move in the desired direction - albeit in much different ways.

The Conservatives would set a goal for some cities to boost housing by 15 per cent annually. Cities that beat that goal would receive additional federal funding, but those that fell short would be penalized. Municipalities would have a lot of flexibility to figure out how to meet those targets.

The Trudeau Liberals had taken a more interventionist approach, promising extra funding in exchange for municipalities adopting desired measures, such as zoning reforms, and Mr. Carney has promised to continue in a similar vein. The risk of this approach is that local governments will pocket the cash and then simply find new ways to slow down development.

Mr. Poilievre has also presented a better plan for eliminating the GST on new homes, which adds another governmentimposed layer of costs on homebuilding. The Conservatives, who first came up with the idea, would make the tax cut broad based - rather than limiting it to primary residences and available on properties worth under \$1.3-million, a ceiling high enough to help buyers in Vancouver and Toronto



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SUM AND SUBSTANCE

Re "Federal party rivals target Carney in English-language lead-ers' debate" (April 18): I watched the debate and saw on stage four men (sadly no women but that's another critical issue that needs to change); all of whom came across as serious, thoughtful, decent people who actually care about our country's future.

On April 28, we will elect a government that will almost certainly have the support of less than half the population. Wouldn't it be amazing if the next prime minister uses this as an opportunity to invite representatives of the other parties to join the gov-ernment? A coalition of the willing, as it were.

Imagine the message that it would send to Canadians and to our adversaries to the south! This hyperpartisanship trend is not inevitable. And we can do better than that.

And just maybe this coalition government can enact real electoral reform, so that future Parliaments more closely reflect voting preferences David Ross Edmonton

My vote will go to the party committed to restoring respect and dignity for minority Canadians. As a member of the Indo-Cana-dian community, I have seen a troubling decline in our sense of belonging and safety. This not only affects our daily lives but also Canada's ability to attract and retain global talent.

No Canadian should feel unsafe at their place of worship, whether it be a temple, synagogue, gurdwara, mosque or church. This is unacceptable in a country that values diversity and inclusion.

Immigrants come to Canada seeking peace and opportunity, not to be burdened by foreign conflicts or made to feel like outsiders. Our future depends on welcoming the brightest minds from around the world. I urge all Canadians, especially minorities, to support a leader who champions respect, safety and equal opportunity for all. This is vital for Canada's continued success Subhas Bharqaya Ottawa

Trustingly, the person picks the snake up and the snake soon bites them. Shocked, the person cries out at being misled, doublecrossed and hurt, to which the snake replies: "You knew what I was when you picked me up.

I will remember that fable at the voting booth. I hope others do, too, because one's track record is an excellent indicator of future deliverables June Donaldson Calgary

SHIFTING GOALPOSTS

"Post-debate press scrum Re scrapped at last minute over lack of 'proper environment' " (April 18): After the confusion, conflict and controversy in Montreal, the Leaders' Debates Commission faces a lot of questions, including

who is a journalist. Is it someone championing expertise, professionalism and (more or less) neutrality? Or should the door be open to anyone with a platform and an activ-ist point of view?

It's too late for this election cycle. But there will be a next time. The commission, and Canada, needs to be ready. Mike Karapita Toronto

FAIR PLAY

Re "Greens say they are being silenced after commission disinvites them from leaders' debates" (April 17): The current rules take no account of polling fluctuations over time. It would be fairer if parties that have polled more than 4 per cent at any time since the previous election be

allowed to take part. Under those rules, both the Green Party and the People's Par-ty of Canada would have met this threshold. Perhaps small parties should be allotted less time than the larger parties to make their case - but allowing them at least some time surely serves the interests of democracy.

Sadly, the International Court of Justice can only convict him, not remove him from his office. And U.S. President Donald Trump has no qualms in berating Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and even suggesting that Ukraine started it.

It is a sad world.

Peter Belliveau Moncton

GETTING IN THE WAY

Re "Trump says Ukraine-Russia talks 'coming to a head' and 'no one is playing' him in push to end war" (April 19): One has to ask whether or not the U.S. should be involved at all in peace efforts between Russia and Ukraine.

It seems that U.S. President Donald Trump has confused "mediator" with "benefactor" – it is unconscionable that he thinks any "deal" should be contingent upon a minerals pact with Ukraine.

At other points in the history of world conflict, the bodies in charge have facilitated peace without interjecting themselves into the equation.

It would appear that Mr. Trump's bombastic style is not an asset in negotiations. It has become obvious that he must step aside and allow other nations to help achieve peace for peace itself, with no strings attached

Barry Armstrong Ottawa

DUE DILIGENCE

Re "Premier Doug Ford stands by Ontario Place deal with spa group" (April 18): As Ontario Premier Doug Ford tries to justify the provincial government's contract with spa operator Therme Group, wouldn't one think that someone from the procurement team should have visited a couple of their spas? If they had done that, they might have found out that there is only one! But, on the other hand, it's only \$2.2-billion of our money.

David Chalmers Toronto

Mr. Carney says he'd do the same, for properties worth up to \$1-million but only for first-time homebuyers - that latter limitation would turn the measure into a boutique tax cut of limited benefit. Meanwhile, the NDP housing plan proposes an expansion of rent control, a policy that would deepen Canada's housing crisis.

That's not to say Mr. Poilievre has nailed the housing file. His 15-per-cent annual homebuilding target for cities is too rigid. A bigger concern is the Conservative pitch to defer the tax on capital gains as long as the proceeds are reinvested in Canada. Any such deferral should exclude the purchase of residential real estate. Otherwise, the measure promises to be a massive tax break for real estate investors that risks sucking even more capital into the housing sector, as this space has argued before.

Still, the Conservatives get this much right: An approach that seeks to magnify private-sector efforts in fixing Canada's broken housing system is the way to go. The next government would do best to focus on setting clear goals and carefully designed incentives rather than try to micromanage how developers and cities build homes.

Truth and reconciliation still matters, no matter the price of groceries. There was not a single question on this significant issue in either leaders' debate. This is a fire that can't go out. Calvin Schnurr Broad Cove N.S.

As the election looms, I am reminded of the snake fable where a person is walking in the forest and is met by a snake who convinces the individual to pick it up. The person was hesitant, but then weakened, having been convinced by the snake that he won't hurt them.

Don LePan Nanaimo, B.C

CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE

Re "After surviving playground strike. Ukrainian mother hopes her account will rouse global allies" (April 18): Russian President Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine for no reasonable reason. The actions he has unleashed on the Ukrainian people are nothing less than despicable.

But it reaches new heights when they start bombing children's playgrounds. Among the worst war crimes, those committed by Mr. Putin are near the top of the list. He bombs residential areas, he bombs schools and he even bombs playgrounds - a real wartime target.

Mr. Putin's actions clearly fulfill the definition of war crimes.

I question the merit of debating which company should get the contract to build and manage a spa at Ontario Place, when we should be questioning why Ontario taxpayers are financially supporting this project in the first place.

Were Ontario taxpayers asked their opinion in the first place? I somehow doubt a spa would have been top of mind for most people, if they were given the chance to consider options for such a beautiful public space. How about walking trails, bike

aths and splash pads that are free of charge and could be used by so many more people? Robert Morash Toronto

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OPINION

Only we can protect Canada's environment

But this doesn't mean we should give up on sustainability in a panicked response to Donald Trump

DIANE ORIHEL

OPINION

Associate professor of environmental studies and the Queen's National Scholar in Aquatic Ecotoxicology at Queen's University

Tariffs, trade wars, the economy. The cost of living, income taxes, housing. Annexation. Sovereignty. These are the issues that are dominating the minds of Canadian voters.

But not climate change or ecosystem health, not single-use plastics or forever chemicals, not protected areas or biodiversity conservation. Not tailings ponds nor pipeline spills. The environment is firmly on the backburner in this federal election.

As an environmental scientist, am I surprised? No. Because I understand: If there is no Canadian economy, there is no money for protecting the Canadian environment. And clearly, if there is no Canada, there is no Canadian environment to protect.

environment to protect. We are on the brink of a national crisis that was unimaginable only a few months ago. In this federal election, the decisions we make and the leader we choose likely matter more than in any other election in many of our lifetimes.

Most Canadians, and the political leaders vying for our votes, are on board with the idea that the No. 1 job right now is to protect and build a strong and free Canada. And listening to the political speeches in this supercharged election campaign, one thing is clear – to build a strong and free Canada, the front-runners have big plans to ramp up our country's exploitation of non-renewable resources – oil, gas, metals and minerals.

Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre is unabashedly ready to fully exploit Canada's non-renewables with as few strings attached as possible. He wants to build pipelines, dig mines, and expand ports – quickly.

Mr. Poilievre has promised to accelerate resource development

through his "one-and-done" plan. His proposed Rapid Resource Project Office would reduce review requirements and fast-track decisions on major projects. "No more delays, no more uncertainty, no more caps on Canadian growth and ambition," he touted.

Mr. Poilievre has also pledged to give the go-ahead to at least 10 resource-extraction projects, including the expansion of a liquefied natural gas project and oilsands mining in the West, and proposed gold, silver, copper and nickel mines in the East. "I will rapidly approve them all, and I will invite many more to come to the fore," he said. Liberal Leader Mark Carney's

Liberal Leader Mark Carney's plan for resource development in many ways mirrors the Conservative one, albeit with some olive branches extended to progressive voters.

"Under my leadership, it's time to build – big time," Mr. Carney promised. "We are going to aggressively develop projects that are in the national interest in order to protect Canada's energy security." Mr. Carney has also vowed to usher in a new energy era, with investments in both clean and conventional energy. Like the Conservatives, Mr. Carney's proposed Major Federal Project Office would speed up decisions after a single impact assessment. He would also put in place measures to "ensure that Canada becomes the global supplier of choice for critical metals and minerals." He promised a "first-and-last-mile fund" that would connect critical mineral extraction projects to supply chains.

To boil it down, both frontrunners share a common vision: to protect Canada from Donald Trump's attacks, we need to put extractive-resource development into high gear. This means the expansion of energy corridors to move oil and gas across the country and to offshore markets, including new pipelines to transport diluted bitumen from Alberta's oil sands to Eastern Canada. Expect new life to be pumped into proposals like the abandoned Energy East pipeline that would run north of the Great Lakes.

This also means that intensive resource-development projects, like what miners call Ontario's "Ring of Fire" – thousands of square kilometres of carbon-rich, ecologically sensitive peatlands and wetlands overlying rocks rich in chromite, copper, zinc, gold, diamond and nickel – will likely get the green light.

It's these uninspiring and antiquated solutions that leave me dismayed. Regardless of who wins this election, billions of dollars will be poured into nationbuilding projects. This moment is really a tremendous opportunity to go in a new direction; to invest in local, renewable energy, and in clean, smart industries – to end our reliance on fossil fuels once and for all.

Following Viktor Orban's playbook, Mr. Trump is taking us on a rollercoaster ride of economic chaos and threats to our sovereignty – arguably intended to shock and paralyze us into submission.

We have two options for how we respond to this continental chess game where the rules keep changing. We either give a fearful, knee-jerk response and default to our tired and primitive approach as "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Or, we build a world-leading and innovative green economy that creates a strong and just future for Canada, and a heathy, livable planet. Now that would be real leadership.

How to crack Canada's military recruitment and retention problem

BLAKE C. GOLDRING

OPINION

Executive chairman of AGF Management, vice-chair on the C.D. Howe Institute's board of directors and the founder of Canada Company: Many Ways to Serve

Ur country's largest airbase, CFB Trenton, has lead in its water.

This sprawling base, on the shores of Ontario's Bay of Quinte between the communities of Brighton and Belleville, is home to 8 Wing, and the hub of Canadian Air Force air-mobility operations in Canada. The 4,500 steadfast men and women of the Royal Canadian Air Force posted there ensure our troops can be deployed wherever they are needed, fly humanitarian support across Canada and abroad in times of crisis, and conduct search-andrescue missions in our vast North.

Yet the water fountain in the officers' mess has yellow tape blocking its access, reminding everyone about the lead problem. Equally disturbing are the shambolic base accommodations, which house non-commissioned officers and junior ranks; they are called "spider shacks," a reference to the creatures that infiltrate the cracks in the aged structures.

The world has changed and Canada needs to change with it. War in Ukraine, the attacks on our sovereignty, changing political alliances – these compel us to act, not just talk. At a time when the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) are almost 14,500 members under strength, and when we need to focus our efforts to add more



One of the barracks is seen at CFB Trenton, located on the shores of Ontario's Bay of Quinte. Canada's largest airbase has lead in its water and a spider problem in its base accommodations. LARS HAGBERG/CP

members to improve our operational capacity, stories like CFB Trenton's undermine recruitment or retention efforts. What's more, Trenton's issues are not the exception; there is a backlog of deferred maintenance across many CAF properties, in some cases dating back decades.

The CAF has recently tried new initiatives in the hopes of attracting more recruits, but these efforts have largely failed. The politicians making campaign promises to improve national defence must realize that the way to address this is to understand the military's culture. I had the privilege of serving as the first honorary colonel of the Canadian Army, and while I do not come from a military background, I learned that the CAF is one large family, regardless of the colour of one's uniform. Members embrace a "warrior ethos" with virtues including courage, loyalty, honour, selflessness and resilience. These are our neighbours, brothers, sisters – and they are among Canada's most patriotic and serviceoriented citizens. They serve despite the reality that they could be ordered into harm's way and pay the ultimate sacrifice. Here are three key initiatives

Here are three key initiatives that could reverse the retention and recruitment crisis.

Improve health care access. Military members move approximately 14 times over the course of a career, and finding a family doctor is a daunting challenge. Recently, hospital leaders at Sunnybrook, London Health and Kingston General brainstormed about creating a network that would cater to families moving for a short time to Ontario. Other health care facilities across the country can liaise and work together to provide standardized local care supplemented with dedicated telemedicine. Medical leaders are confident that this issue can be resolved – federal and provincial politicians need to work out the funding mechanism.

Provide better housing. Canada's broader housing crisis affects CAF members acutely, since frequent moves mean that it is difficult for them to build home equity, let alone find reasonably priced accommodations. Senior public servants at the Department of National Defence (DND) have initiated a program using public and private partnerships to build housing for families on military land. These commendable efforts need to be expedited so that shovels can be put in the ground. Remedial work on existing housing should also be prioritized in tandem with new construction.

Overhaul the procurement process. Too often, political considerations are at play around the timely acquisition of weapons, vehicles, ammunition and new aircraft and ships, and the national interest suffers as a result. An independent audit on why the procurement process takes so long, and then appointing a modern-day C.D. Howe, the great wartime minister who oversaw Canada's manufacturing transformation, is needed.

We are at a crossroads. Our allies have told us bluntly we are not pulling our weight. A prime minister prepared to boldly invest in the CAF will demonstrate both a commitment to a true North strong and free, and a respectful understanding of the needs of those who serve.

Too many of Canada's finest are not provided for in fundamental ways that are up to any standard. Yet to recruit and retain more Canadians, we must provide the housing and medical services required to let them and their families live a high quality of life while being ready to serve our collective interests. For too long, we have ignored the day-today aspects of military life that make its sacrifices more palatable. During this election campaign, political pronouncements should acknowledge these tangible issues - and make a plan to fix them.

Now is not the time for Canada to walk away from diversity, equity and inclusion

MICHAEL ADAMS MARVA BAILEY-WISDOM KEITH NEUMAN

OPINION

Michael Adams is the founder and president of the Environics Institute for Survey Research.

Marva Bailey-Wisdom is a senior equity and inclusion practitioner, a fellow at the Environics Institute for Survey Research, and a senior fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy.

Keith Neuman is a senior associate with the Environics Institute.

anada is a much different place than it was three years ago. In 2021, the topic of racial justice was front and centre in the public discourse in response to George Floyd's tragic murder, the Black Lives Matter movement, anti-Asian harassment and uneven progress toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Today, the focus has shifted to 2021.

the high cost of living, with many Canadians experiencing financial instability and uncertain futures. Cities are faced with managing growing populations with limited budgets, and are falling short in maintaining essential infrastructure and addressing the needs of unhoused and underhoused residents. The federal government that swept into power a decade ago on former prime minister Justin Trudeau's promise of progressive transformation has run its course, and has been replaced by Mark Carney's focus on the economy and on protecting Canada's sovereignty from a newly aggressive U.S. government.

The prominence given to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) may have disappeared from today's headlines, but it would be a mistake to conclude that it no longer matters to Canadians. The evidence can be found in the latest national survey on race relations released by the Environics Institute and the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, which updates previous research conducted in 2019 and 2021.

The survey shows that public attention to racial issues has in fact subsided a bit since 2021, but the overall picture remains essentially unchanged. Discrimination owing to one's race continues to be a reality for many Canadians. One in four (26 per cent) report experiencing mistreatment at some point in their lives owing to their race or ethnicity, either regularly or from time to time: this is most likely to happen if you are First Nations (as 57 per cent of respondents identifying as such indicated) or Black (48 per cent), but not uncommon among other racialized people, as well as Muslim and Jewish people (45 and 41 per cent, respectively). One in six Canadians report having been the target of hate in the past year, and many have encountered such harassment indirectly through the experiences of other people they know, both in public and online.

But equally important is the finding that endemic racism is widely acknowledged by most Canadians, including those who do not experience it directly. Very few claim that racism does not exist in this country, though many may not fully appreciate the harm it inflicts on those affected. The public has not lost sight of the country's current reality of racism, even if this issue is no longer as visible on the public agenda.

What's more, the gap between the views of racialized and nonracialized Canadians has narrowed over the past few years, and in some cases has disappeared entirely. Canadians from different racial backgrounds are now more or less on the same page when it comes to their assessment of race relations in this country – an important exception to the widely held assumption that we live in an increasingly polarized society.

This provides a lesson for leaders and organizations who may be thinking about stepping back from their support for racial equality, especially in light of this trend in the United States. Canadians' current preoccupation with other pressing concerns does not mean we have lost sight of this issue. Now is not the time to walk away from commitments to diversity, equity and inclusion.

The prevalence of racism notwithstanding, our research shows clearly that Canadians do not view their society as being defined by intergroup conflict or polarization along racial lines. Yes, there is widespread discrimination, but strong majorities also believe that people from different races in their own community get along (78 per cent) and have equal opportunities to succeed in life (73 per cent). This positive outlook has strengthened over the past three years, especially among Black and other racialized people who are now among the most optimistic about the future.

This is a positive picture of a country that sees itself as part of a whole, and this is perhaps now more important than ever before. as we witness what is unfolding within our southern neighbour's government and society. It sugthat "diversity gests is our strength" is more than a slogan it is an underlying part of our national identity. There is much work to be done to address social injustice, but now is the time to embrace this essential part of our national character at a most critical moment in our country's history.

O THE GLOBE AND MAIL | MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025



How calorie deficits can hurt your bone health

Research shows that when trying to lose weight, a Mediterranean diet and exercise can prevent loss of bone density in some women

LESLIE BECK



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

ou've likely heard that cutting calories to shed excess weight can cause you to lose muscle along with body fat.

Research suggests that for a 10-per-cent reduction in body weight, about 20 per cent of this will be lean mass, a consequence that can diminish strength, stamina and resting metabolic rate.

Eating extra protein together with resistance training can help preserve muscle during a calorie deficit.

There's another unwanted side effect of a weight-loss diet, though, that you might not be aware of: bone deterioration. Now, new research shows that

adhering to a specific calorie-reduced diet - a Mediterranean diet - combined with physical activity can prevent a loss of bone density in postmenopausal women.

Here's a breakdown of the study, plus how Mediterranean diet foods support bone health.

ABOUT BONE DENSITY, WHY WE NEED TO PRESERVE IT

Bone density refers to the concentration of calcium and other minerals in a given area of bone such as the hip, spine or neck. Higher bone density indicates are more tightly suggesting stronger minerals packed, bones that are less likely to break.

With age, people lose bone density, especially women after menopause. Having bone density that's lower than normal, called low bone mass or osteopenia, increases the risk for osteoporosis and bone fracture, which can reduce quality of life, mobility and independence.

calorie-reduced diet is thought to reduce bone density by providing fewer essential



A calorie-reduced diet is thought to reduce bone density by providing fewer essential bone nutrients, altering levels of bone-building hormones. increasing fat deposits in bone stem cells and reducing muscle, which provides support for bones.

bone nutrients, altering levels of bone-building hormones, in-creasing fat deposits in bone stem cells and reducing muscle, which provides support for bones.

THE LATEST RESEARCH

The study, published this month in the journal JAMA Network Open, was an analysis of the PRE-DIMED-Plus trial a randomized clinical trial conducted in Spain involving 6,874 older adults.

For the analysis, researchers investigated the effect of a calorie-reduced Mediterranean diet, combined with exercise, on bone density in 924 PREDIMED-Plus participants, ages 55 to 75, with metabolic syndrome and overweight or obesity. Metabolic syndrome is defined

as having at least three of the following risk factors: hypertension, high blood triglycerides, elevated blood glucose, low HDL "good" cholesterol and abdominal obesity.

Half the participants were assigned to the lifestyle intervention, which involved a 30-percent calorie-reduced Mediterranean diet (equivalent to eating

about 600 fewer calories a day), physical activity and counselling by dietitians.

Specifically, the lifestyle intervention group was encouraged to limit red and processed meats, butter, margarine, cream, sweetened beverages, added sugars, white bread and refined grains while emphasizing whole grains, vegetables, fruit, pulses, nuts and olive oil.

45 minutes six days a week, do resistance training twice a week and practise flexibility and balance exercises three times per week

group followed a Mediterranean diet without any calorie restriction; they were not given any exercise recommendations.

THE FINDINGS, WHY THEY'RE

Participants in the lifestyle interper cent of body weight over the three-year trial. By contrast, the control group lost an average of 0.7 per cent.

GETTY IMAGES

These participants were also asked to walk briskly for at least

Participants in the control

NOTABLE

vention group lost an average of 3

Compared to women in the

control group, those in the intervention group experienced a sig-nificant increase in bone mineral density over three years, espe-cially in the lower spine.

This protective effect was not seen in men. To arrive at these findings the

researchers accounted for other influential factors including age, smoking status, calcium and vitamin supplementation, sedentary time, use of osteoporosis medication and body mass index.

Previous clinical trials in older adults have shown that losing weight from diet alone, even one with adequate protein, calcium and vitamin D, causes a reduc-tion in bone mineral density.

What's more, combining exercise with a calorie-reduced diet has not always been shown to

prevent bone loss in older adults. This is the first study to report that a healthy calorie-reduced Mediterranean diet together with physical activity can help pre-serve bone loss in older women

during weight loss. This finding suggests that the type of diet you eat to lose weight matters when it comes to preserving bone density.

HOW THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET MAY BENEFIT BONES

The anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties of key Mediterranean diet foods - vegetables, fruit, whole grains, pulses, fish, extra virgin olive oil – are extra virgin olive oil – are thought to play a role in reducing weight loss- and age-related bone decline.

Fruits and vegetables, for example, are good sources of vita-mins C and K, as well as betacarotene, each of which appear to

help maintain bone density. Protective polyphenols in ex-tra virgin olive oil have been shown to promote bone formation.

Omega-3 fatty acids and sele-nium in fish have also been shown to positively influence bone density.

Adherence to the Mediterranean diet may also shift the gut microbiome in a direction that promotes bone health.

Leslie Beck, a Toronto-based private practice dietitian, is director of food and nutrition at Medcan. Follow her on X: @LeslieBeckRD

Is it a myth that seniors need to slow down their fitness routines?

ALEX CYR

arely a week after Jeannie Rice shattered a world mar-D athon record in London last spring, researchers asked her to an exercise physiology lab in the Netherlands to find out what, exactly, allows her to run so fast.

They discovered she had the max heart rate of an average 35year-old, and that her ability to use oxygen was average for a middle-aged adult. Nothing was out of the ordinary – except that



for example, studies showed that exercise did not lead to physiological adaptations in elderly people as it did in younger ones, suggesting that it may not be worth the trouble. As a result, many seniors limited their workouts to walking or Jazzercise (look it up). But these studies, designed by

researchers wary of injuring their participants, were not rigorous enough to generate physiological benefits, Trappe says. Later research uncovered that

the body's response to cardiovascular exercise does not change much with age: Mitochondria still grow and multiply, capillary networks still expand to improve blood flow, and metabolic enzymes still become more active and better at converting fuel into energy. The belief that intense exercise would probably harm healthy elderly people was shown to be a tall tale – one of the same flavour that led early 20th-century scientists to believe that women's uteruses would fall out should they run a full marathon. "If you keep training, the body continues to respond to exercise in a positive manner deep into life," said Trappe, who at 58, trains and competes as a triathlete, and does a weekly pool workout with a former colleague, who is 89. Exercising in old age does come with a long list of potential pitfalls. One of the biggest is expecting the same performance as in earlier years and failing to account for natural physiological decline - such as a less efficient heart and reduced blood volume which can lead to overtraining or injury. Orthopedic challenges that were not a concern earlier in life, like a bum knee or hip, are also common. And exercising health conditions like with

diabetes or cancer brings a whole new list of considerations.

A good way to set oneself up for vigorous exercise later in life is to do it earlier in life, too. Cardiovascular fitness, or VO2 max, is one of the strongest predictors of all-cause mortality in the world, and strength training two to three times a week can help stave off a number of conditions including osteoporosis, cancer, diabetes, and heart issues.

The good news is that we are entering a golden age of fitness across age groups. Multigenera-

she is 76.

Rice is a Korean-American semi-retired real estate agent who only began running at age 35, yet holds six world records in distances from 1,500 metres to marathon. She is undoubtedly an outlier, but also a harbinger of a growing trend: elderly athletes achieving staggering feats.

Also making the list is centenarian cyclist Robert Marchand who rode 15 miles around France's Velodrome National at the age of 100; Richard Morgan, an Irish rower who is setting new agegroup world records at 93; and Canada's Ed Whitlock, a world-renowned marathoner who covered the distance in less than four hours at the age of 85.

Online clips of several octogenarians vigorously sprinting the 100 metre appear to belong in the ever-deepening uncanny valley of AI generated content. After all, the sports heroes with whom many of us grew up had expiry dates. Wayne Gretzky slowed down in his thirties, while Olympic superstars Usain Bolt and Michael Phelps peaked in their twenties

But performances such as Rice's force us to rethink the limitations we've placed on ourselves and others of a certain age. Because it's not only the exceptions Ed Whitlock, 74, crosses the finish line of the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon in 2005. TIBOR KOLLEY/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

who are redefining what is athletically possible later in life: The average age of a person finishing the World Marathon Majors is now 50.

recent science has Some helped bust myths around what people of middle-age and beyond can do safely. "We are still fighting the old

message that people need to slow down when they hit a certain age, but there is no core reason to tell someone that they can't keep training like an athlete," said Scott Trappe, who studies human performance and aging, and is the director of the Human Performance Laboratory at Ball State University in Indiana.

He explains how excessive caution in research has held back generations of seniors from exercising like athletes. In the 1980s,

tional sports such as pickleball are thriving, while age-group competitions at major events such as marathons and Ironman races are drawing more participants. Advances in gear are also improving performance and making it easier than ever for athletes to train in ways that support recovery.

And then there is representation: The more we see people older than 30 accomplishing impressive sport feats, the more we come to expect it and may eventually try it for ourselves.

Yet, all this does not mean that we are sailing toward a future where everyone runs marathons beyond retirement age. Our work lives, which have become more sedentary, make us less fit than they used to, Trappe says. This leads to huge differences in health between those who invest in their fitness early and throughout life, and those who do not. It reminds me of a phrase on a poster at the physiotherapy clinic I frequent in Toronto: It's easier to maintain fitness than to build it up.

Trappe agrees. "In our current conditions, vigorous exercise may be the most powerful medicine out there."

Special to The Globe and Mail

Please record the voices of your loved ones

FIRST PERSON

I hadn't heard my dad's voice in years, but after rediscovering a recording, I heard him come back to life, Iain Godsman writes

was going through some old computer hard drives recently, looking for an archived file. I didn't find it, but I found something much, much better: my father's lost voice.

It was a conversation with my parents that I had recorded a decade ago. I was cer-tain it had been lost in my careless mismanagement of digital detritus. If the inside of my house looked like the file management of my hard drives, I'd be considered a hoarder.

I'm an only child. When my parents die, I have nobody to share memories with. No brother to laugh with about the time mum got mad at me for adding tiger stripes to the dog with a felt marker. No sister to cry with when we recall dad's last words: "Good night. Talk to you tomorrow

The three of us sat down at their dining room table on Family Day of 2015 and recorded our chat. I knew the outlines of our family history, but this was the only time we gathered with the sole intent of colouring in the details of their personal stories and our shared past.

At the time, my dad was 79 and my mum was 76. Their health was fine. They were, as they always had been, active and engaged. They danced. They hiked. They spent half the year pulling a fifth wheel around North America, still thirsty for adventure in their seventh decade. We started at the beginning. They were

born in Scotland. Mum in Edinburgh in 1939, Dad in Aberdeen in 1936. Both of their earliest memories were of the Second World War. Mum recalled one of her sisters being born in an air-raid shelter. Dad talked about the time my grandfather was able to send home some peanut but-ter he bought on the military base. Peanut butter is ubiquitous for most of us today, but dad got to try it only once before his 10th birthday.

We had a good laugh over the story



about him and his pal selling pilfered Christmas trees when he was 18. The bobbies were summoned and they decided to make a run for it on his motorbike. They had a good enough lead on the police that they were able to cross a small bridge. hang a hard right and hide under the bridge as the police sped over and contin-ued down the road. Dad and his friend waited for a minute and then came out from under the bridge and headed back in the direction they came from. It was a

Keystone Cops moment. When they eventually got caught, my grandfather told Dad he could either go to jail (a scare tactic) or join the armed forces. That's how he ended up in the Royal Air Force. If that hadn't happened, he'd never have met my mum at a dance on the air force base, and I wouldn't be here. Three cheers for Christmas tree pilfering.

There was a sombre moment when mum talked about finding her dad in the kitchen after he'd taken his own life. She was 18. He was a decorated war hero. He'd drawn enemy fire to allow his squadron to escape from being pinned down. He had what we now call severe post-traumatic stress disorder. Even at 76, nearly 60 years later, she choked up as she told the story.

In the two hours we sat together, I found out how they met each other, how dad proposed, how their pre-me years were. They told me why they decided to emigrate to Canada in 1967: There were plenty of jobs available, not so many in the U.K

I hadn't heard my dad's voice in years. Dad died on Christmas Eve in 2021, at the age of 85. The day I rediscovered the recording, I heard him come back to life. I had tears of grief and joy streaming down ILLUSTRATION BY NIJAH SMITH

mv face. I urge everyone to sit down with your loved ones and record a long conversa tion. Please. You don't need fancy recording equipment. Put your phone in the middle of a table and press record. We all have countless photographs of our families. It's easy to remember what they looked like. But the voice... the voice.

I cannot fathom losing track of this again. I have duplicated the master record-ing half-a-dozen times and backed it up in multiple locations. I'll be able to listen to my mum and dad until it's my turn to not wake up.

Iain Godsman lives in Calgary.

First Person is a daily personal piece submitted by readers. Have a story to tell? See our guidelines at tgam.ca/essayguide

Moving in together, with pets? Here are three ways to make it work

MIRA MILLER

hen my partner and I decided to move in together, we understood we would need to make compromis-es as we navigated the next stage of our relationship. But we weren't the only ones who would be adapting to a new living situation: Our two cats would undergo a major transition, too.

Like most people, animals prefer predictability and routine to the unknown. When a new critter mysteriously shows up, pets are likely to have some strong reactions. My partner and I were determined to make the transition for our cats as smooth as possible as we moved into our new apartment. So, we sought out some ex-pert advice before joining together as a big and (hopefully) happy family of four. Here is what we learned.

TAKE A GRADUAL APPROACH

Billie Rousse, the adoption co-ordinator at Montreal cat rescue Heart in Hand, advises a go-slow approach when introducing cats. She says each cat will react differently based on their personality,



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY THE GLOBE AND MAIL

sexes, would help them gradually become comfortable with one another.

Nonetheless, she suggested we keep Dragon and Caramel separate for at least 24 hours after moving in. The move alone would be stressful, she explained, and we should give them a chance to smell each other from afar and explore the place on their own before placing them together.

We kept our cats in separate rooms for the first day and night. We also gave them each a turn to roam the anartment on their own. But it was clear from their growling and hissing that they knew another cat was nearby.

me, I don't want to be your friend for now,' "Rousse explained, adding that's not necessarily a bad thing. Hissing is how cats set boundaries.

We allowed our cats to get accustomed to each other for short, supervised periods throughout that day before separating them again for the night to give all of us a break from the tension.

Other tips Rousse suggested vere rewarding them for good behaviour with treats, feeding them separately but near each other, and ensuring they each moody and unaccommodating, many dogs can also struggle with co-habitating with other animals for the first time

Integrating a dog and a cat together can be particularly challenging, he says, as can introduc-ing two dogs to a shared living space.

"You want to create a routine with the new animal and the new surroundings to make them feel safe," Martinez said. "When they're stressed and they feel like the environment is unpredict-able, that is the worst time to try to teach them new things and have them learn new relationships

This might mean keeping feedings and walks on the same schedule as prior to the move, holding on to some of the same furniture and placing it in similar spots to your old place, maintaining a quiet environment, and continuing to spend one-on-one time with your pet.

For cats, Martinez suggests of-fering them plenty of hiding spots and high places to escape to when feeling unsafe. For dogs, he advises leaving a thin leash on while at home to make it easier to get a hold of them if needed, at least for the first few weeks. And if

you're integrating two dogs, Martinez says going on walks togeth-er is optimal bonding time.

Both Rousse and Martinez say investing in baby gates to offer pets safe separation from each other without fully enclosing them in a room is worth considering. And they stress that having pets sterilized is imperative to give them the best chance at getting along, as this tends to make them much less territorial.

BE PATIENT AND REALISTIC

Most of all, it's important to be patient and have realistic expectations.

"They don't have to be best friends, they don't have to cuddle each other," Martinez said. "As long as everybody is happy and not stressed, that's what the goal should be."

I am delighted to report that after a couple of weeks of living together, our cats are now friends and playmates, chasing each other around and willfully sharing space in the living room. Taking those few extra steps to ease into co-habitating them was more than worth the effort.

past experience and how patient you are with them. "Cats won't be friends right away, but there are tricks to make them get along," she said.

My partner's cat, Dragon - a black male he's had for almost 10 years - has a dominant disposition and has had trouble getting along with other cats in the past. My two-year-old cat, Caramel, a calico female I adopted just one year ago, has lived with other cats before and is more submissive and easily frightened. Rousse suspected their opposing character traits, as well as their opposite

On the second day, swapped their blankets to give them a chance to smell one another. We also put a ribbon under the door that separated them so they could play together while maintaining their distance. Our cats continued to hiss and growl – including when we finally put them face-to-face for the first time later that day.

"Hissing is a way for them to let them know, 'Hey, don't get near

had their own comfortable places to sleep and relax. On the third day, we were

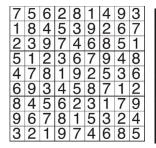
pleasantly surprised to find that our cats' hostile behaviour had mostly subsided. And by the end of the fourth day, Dragon and Caramel lay adorably facing one another at the foot of our bed.

HELP THEM FEEL SAFE

Not every blended pet family is as lucky as ours. Xavier Martinez, a behavioural manager for the SPCA in Montreal, says that while cats have a reputation for being

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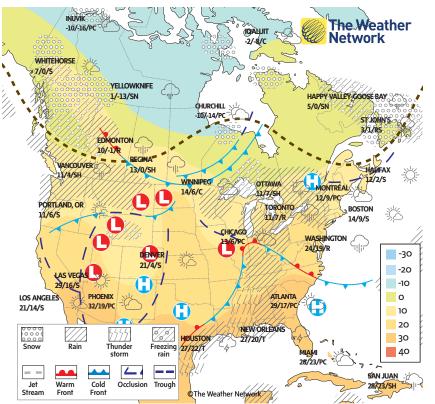
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A14

WORLD FORECAST NATIONAL FORECAST WEDNESDAY TODAY TOMORROW WEDNESDAY TODA ROW 14/8 PC 22/14 SH 36/29 S 24/12 S 17/10 PC 24/15 S 36/29 T 15/7 SH 23/15 PC 36/29 PC 3/-5 12/5 12/4 6/-7 14/4 10/-3 MSTERD/ PC SH RS R PC 5/-8 8/0 7/0 9/-2 RS RS PC PC PC BARRIE BANGKOK BEIJING 18/12 R 27/11 PC CALGARY 3/-1 RS 10/-1 BERLIN 19/10 PC 15/9 SH 17/8 SH SH 19/10 SH CHARLOTTET N 7/0 s 8/3 8/2 SH SH PC C PC 15/9 12/7 17/9 BRUSSELS 16/9 CHICOUTIM 7/2 5/2 -6/-9 7/2 -1/-6 8/-2 13/3 COPENHAGEN 12/7 17/7 12/7 C SH FG PC CHURCHILL -10/-14 PC -10/-3/1 12/8 -0/-5 7/-1 11/4 15/6 Corner Br Cornwall PC SH SN SH HONG KONG 26/24 т 26/24 T S 27/24 т JERUSALEM 24/17 s 32/25 33/19 PC EDMONTON 10/-1 12/1 FR SH 10/-1 SH C R S LAS VEGAS 29/16 **S** 31/17 S 30/16 S 16/9 R HALIFAX 12/2 9/4 14/4 C S SH 23/10 17/8 21/14 18/9 PC S SH 16/9 18/13 18/8 18/6 9/3 12/2 PC SH 14/5 13/3 PC S 21/13 17/7 LOS ANGELES HUNTSVILLE 6/0 -1/-12 PC RS 21/10 IQALUIT -2/-8 SN -2/-15 MIAMI 28/23 PC 23/12 PC 29/23 C 22/12 PC 29/23 S JASPER 5/-6 SN 6/-3 7/-5 MOSCOW 23/12 S KELOWNA 11/1 SH 13/2 15/3 s NEW DELHI NEW YORK NICE 40/26 S 22/10 PC 19/13 PC 32/20 PC 12/8 19/6 12/9 9/3 13/4 13/5 9/4 16/6 12/4 41/26 s 41/27 S KINGSTON PC S PC PC PC 13/11 18/12 20/10 PC 19/12 SH 33/19 S PC PC IONTRÉA ORLANDO 32/20 PC PC PC NIAGARA FALLS 17/7 12/3 PC 14/5 Paris Phoenix 16/8 SH 17/9 SH 13/7 Sł NORTH BAY 6/2 5/0 RS 11/2 32/19 S 32/19 PC 33/19 s OTTAWA 11/7 SH 10/4 PC 13/3 PC PRINCE GEORGE 10/-1 11/7 10/4 10/1 9/1 11/5 12/0 14/4 11/4 20/11 S 14/10 S PC C PC S C S ROME 23/12 PC 22/13 **T** Sł SH R SAN FRANCISCO PC 16/10 17/10 QUÉBEC SEOUL 25/16 S 29/25 T 16/10 R 29/25 T 23/10 S 29/26 T 11/4 SINGAPORE REGINA 13/0 SH 7/-3 SN 12/2 22/19 R 21/17 PC 28/16 PC SYDNEY 27/16 S 23/18 SH SASKATOON 6/1 9/-2 12/2 s R R RS PC PC R 20/17 26/14 PC Tokyo Washington 22/15 R SAULT STE MARIE 6/1 6/1 12/2 12/2 12/3 4/1 SAINT JOHN 12/4 7/-1 7/4 3/2 SH RS SEPT-ÎLES ST JOHN'S 3/1 RS 5/1 SN RS 5/-1 PC PC LEGEND SUDBURY 7/2 R 6/-1 11/2 THUNDER BAY 4/0 RS 9/2 PC 8/2 SH Daytime high, overnight low, and conditions -1/-11 11/7 2/-6 11/3 7/-3 10/4 SH HOMPSON TORONTO VAL-D'OR C CLOUDY RS RAIN/SNOW 5/3 3/0 7/-4 c s FG FOG SUN VANCOUVER 11/4 SH 12/4 14/6 FR FREEZING RAIN SN SNOW VICTORIA 11/6 SH 11/8 s 11/8 s 11/0 11/1 8/-3 10/2 12/3 PC 6/0 C 7/-2 C -3/-13 PC HZ HAZE NA NOT AVAILABLE SF SNOW FLURRIES WHISTLER WHITEHOR 9/1 7/0 SH S C SN PC PARTLY CLOUDY T THUNDERSTORMS IIPEG 14/6



SUDOKU

W WINDY

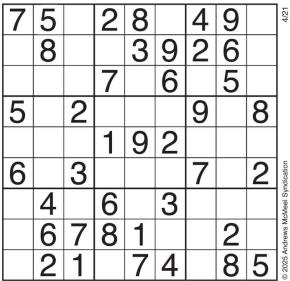
R RAIN



-2/-7

1/-13

YELLOWKNIFE



INSTRUCTIONS

Fill in the grid so that each row of nine squares, each column of nine and each section of nine (three squares by three) contains the numbers 1 through 9 in any order. There is only one solution to each puzzle.



ACROSS

- 1 Made a delivery, containing urge with knees apart (3-6)
- 6 Promise Victor it hurts (3)
- **Entertaining American** 8
- soldier's growths (5) 9 Place where one might learn about
- religion's income (7) 10 I resist terrible threats
- to kidnap Oscar (8) Panic starts to feel like 11 anxious pattern (4)
- 13 Compulsion to set alight extremely pretty country (9)
- 16 Open a glass container (4)
- Bush can stop former 17 head of state (8)
- Mine providing fuel 20 regularly? That's terrible (7)
- Fury about new series (5) 21 Close to losing knight's 22
- attention (3) Tough Listener I 23 ed up (9)

- DOWN 1 Earlier bribe for exploitable guards (6)
- 2 Flinch as top of cork found in Beaujolais? (5) 3
- Representative young woman stops before she should, left out (8)
- Nameless gamer spread disease (6,7)
- Bird plunged in LA (4)
- Plain caravan? I'll 6 alter covers (7)
- Wife assists young 7 animals (6)
- In time, big upset 12 is essential (8)
- 13 Penny with second tray of food (7)
- 14 Collector quietly taken in by manipulated image (6)
- 15 Desperate old city gentleman (6)
- Unintelligent study 18 with vacuous style (5) 19
 - A long way away from return of Nadal? (4)

2 Infant's coughing

ailment (5)

17 Party drink (5)

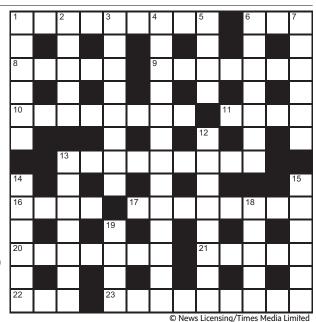
20 Lid (3)

DOWN

3

7

16



FRIDAY'S CRYPTIC ACROSS: 1 DISTANT 7 REMATCH 9 SHUTTLE 10 MAINTOP 11 PUNK 12 STRUNG OUT 14 INSTIGATE 16 WRIT 17 TOURISM 20 ANGELIC 21 DIE-HARD 22 AEROSOL

BRIDGE

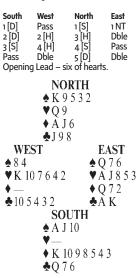
O THE GLOBE AND MAIL | MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

BY STEVE BECKER MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

South dealer

Both sides vulnerable.

The bidding:



The United States won the 1993 world women's team championship, defeating Germany in the 128-deal final by a score of 325 IMPs to 272 to capture the Venice Cup. The match was virtually even at the halfway point, but the Americans pulled away in the third quarter and coasted to victory.

The winners gained one-third of their final margin on this deal, which occurred early in the match. The bidding shown took place when Sharon Osberg and Sue Picus were North-South for the U.S.

After Picus opened with one diamond, a highly competitive auction ensued. East-West (Beate Nehmert and Waltraud Vogt) located their 11-card heart fit, but the Germans made a critical misjudgment when they elected to double four spades and then five diamonds, which proved unbeatable.

Picus ruffed Vogt's opening heart lead and had no trouble placing the missing queens, given East's one-notrump overcall. Picus led a diamond to the ace at trick two and a spade at trick three the jack A-K of spades were cashed, followed by a fourth spade from dummy. East had to ruff (if she refused to ruff either this spade or the next one, declarer would discard two clubs and finish with an overtrick). When East ruffed, declarer overruffed, cashed the diamond king, crossed to the diamond jack and discarded a club ondummy's remaining spade to make exactly five for a score of plus 750 At the other table, the U.S. East-West pair of Karen McCallum and Kerri Sanborn pressed on to five hearts, were doubled and wound up making six - +1,050 · when the defenders failed to cash their two spade tricks at the outset. The combined total of 1,800 points gave the U.S. a pickup of 18 IMPs.

must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners. top-left corner.

15× 16+

INSTRUCTIONS

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating.
- 2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages,
- 3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the numbers in the

2: 24X

KENKEN

6+

12× 2: Solutions to today's Sudoku and Kenken 12 +can be found in the Life & Arts content area of 72× the A section. Crossword solutions will be with tomorrow's 3÷ 6+ nuzzles

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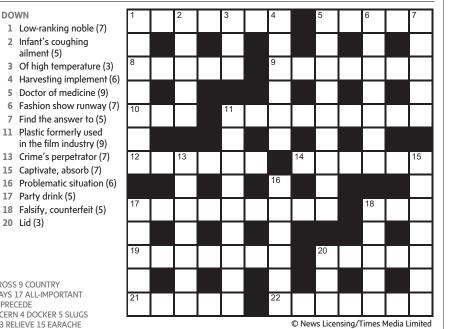
DOWN: 1 DISAPPOINTED 2 SOURNESS 3 ARTY 4 TREMOR 5 AMBIENCE 6 STET 8 HYPO-THETICAL 12 SCIMITAR 13 OVERALLS 15 ARMADA 18 USER 19 IGOR

CONCISE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Classical god of wine (7)
- 5 Strides (5)
- Bird's sleeping 8 location (5)
- Piece of quartz, eg (7) 9
- 10 Doze, nod off briefly (3)
- 11 Climactically result (in) (9)
- Cause to laugh by lightly 12 touching the skin (6)
- 14 Capricious (6)
- 17 Environmental contamination (9)
- 18 Dense mist, low cloud (3)
- 19 County of east England (7)
- 20 Collector's item (5)
- 21 Abhorred (5)
- 22 Powerful female ruler (7)

FRIDAY'S CONCISE CROSSWORD ACROSS: 1 BAGHDAD 5 SCRUM 8 CROSS 9 COUNTRY 10 LISTENERSHIP 12 SPRINT 14 RELAYS 17 ALL-IMPORTANT 21 STEEPLE 22 CHASE 23 SEEDY 24 PRECEDE DOWN: 1 BACKLASH 2 GLOSS 3 DISCERN 4 DOCKER 5 SLUGS 6 RETSINA 7 MAYA 11 AS IT WERE 13 RELIEVE 15 EARACHE 16 UPKEEP 18 IMPLY 19 ABATE 20 USES



Election: Leaders back on the campaign trail full-time after debates in Montreal

FROM A1

As well, Elections Canada said it had received 720,654 mailed-in ballots as of late Saturday night.

The high advance voter turnout reflects a close election race in which a change of government is in play, said Alex Marland, a professor of politics at Nova Scotia's Acadia University. He said voters are paying attention because of a heightened sense of civic duty in the face of American expansionism.

"We have witnessed declining civic interest in provincial and municipal elections, partly due to Canadians paying attention to U.S. and international politics where they cannot vote, and news deserts where there is so little journalism about local politics," Prof. Marland said. "So it is refreshing to see so many Canadians care about their own election."

He said Elections Canada is also making it easier to vote. "I voted today on Easter Sunday – who would have thought?"

This week marks a full-time return to the campaign trail for the federal leaders after the past week, when they spent most of their days in Montreal for the federal leaders' debates, as well as high-profile interviews with Quebec media.

Mr. Poilievre will begin the final week with events in the Toronto area, including a rally on Tuesday night in Vaughan.

The vote-rich area in the Toronto suburbs is a particular target for the Conservatives. The Ontario Progressive Conservatives won most of the seats there in the recent provincial election, though Ontario PC Premier Doug Ford has been highly critical of the Poilievre campaign to date.

The federal Conservative rallies, such as the one being held in Vaughan, energize supporters and volunteers but also offer crucial data. People have to register to attend in advance, and then their contact information can be used by local ridings to suss out likely voters and make sure they'll cast ballots.

Mr. Carney will start the week in Atlantic Canada before heading into priority areas where the Liberals feel they can win seats currently held by the Conserva-



Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre gestures at a campaign stop in Surrey, B.C., on Sunday. Mr. Poilievre will begin his final week campaigning with events in the Toronto area. RICH LAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

tives or NDP, including spots in Vancouver Island, Edmonton, Calgary and also in the Greater Toronto Area.

Mr. Carney held an afternoon outdoor rally Sunday in the Ottawa-area suburban riding of Nepean, where he is running for a seat in Parliament. His riding is directly adjacent to the one represented by Mr. Poilievre since 2004.

Mr. Carney did not take questions from reporters Sunday. In his speech, he highlighted his main policy promises, including more housing, a personal income-tax cut, reversing an increase in capital-gains taxes and new spending to support ports and other infrastructure to diversify trade.

But his main message Sunday framed the campaign as a choice for Canadians as to who is the best person to take on Mr. Trump on the trade file.

"I think we are over, now, the shock of the betrayal," he told the crowd in reference to the U.S. President's tariffs on Canadian goods and annexation threats. "But we should never forget the lessons. We have to look out for ourselves and we have to look out for each other." He ended his speech by urging Liberal volunteers to work hard during the final week to get supporters to the polls.

On Saturday, Mr. Carney released his party's platform. Saying that Canada is "in the middle of the biggest crisis of our lifetimes," he described the platform as "a plan that meets that moment" and an economic response to Mr. Trump.

But by laying out a fiscal plan that outlines nearly \$130-billion in new spending over four years and shelves the Liberal government's earlier pledge to keep the deficit below 1 per cent of GDP as of the 2026-27 fiscal year, Mr. Carney opened himself up to criticism that he is not the centrist blue Liberal that many had hoped for.

While Mr. Poilievre has yet to release his full platform package – he said on Saturday that 95 per cent of the policies were out already – he has jumped on Mr. Carney's bottom-line figures to return to one of his earliest attacks against the Liberal Leader.

"Mark Carney is even more costly than Justin Trudeau, and you will have out-of-control inflation if the Liberals get a fourth term," he said Sunday at a campaign event in Surrey, B.C. We need a change."

He promised Sunday to cut \$10-billion in spending on government consultants, arguing that government spending drives up inflation and cost-of-living pressures. He also said his promise to speed up natural-resource development could generate \$70billion in revenue over time for the government.

The Liberals released their own costing of the Conservative promises Sunday, saying that since Mr. Poilievre has vowed to cut a dollar of government spending for each dollar he promises, he'll have to cut \$140-billion in spending.

"What will he cut to match those commitments, who will be left vulnerable, and how much will these cuts weaken Canada's economy? It's time Pierre Poilievre stopped hiding and came clean about his divisive cuts," Liberal candidate François-Philippe Champagne said in a statement.

Mr. Carney still retains a comfortable lead when Canadians are asked for their choice for prime minister, said pollster Nik Nanos of Nanos Research, though the debates had a marginal negative impact on Mr. Carney's brand.

"What is striking is the East-West divide, with Canadians in Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic Canada tilting Liberal and Canadians in Western Canada more likely to prefer the Conservatives. Regardless of the outcome of the election, whether a Liberal or Conservative win, it could result in stress within the federation because of regional disconnects," he said.

The latest survey by Nanos Research shows that the Liberals have a six-point lead at 43-percent support, followed by the Conservatives at 37 per cent and the NDP at 11 per cent.

The results are based on a rolling survey of 1,200 Canadians (400 each day) conducted on April 16, 17 and 19. No surveys were conducted on Friday.

The margin of error is plus or minus 2.7 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The current level of support for the NDP is down nearly eight percentage points from the 2021 election, with their voters largely swinging over to the Liberals.

In Halifax, a riding that was an NDP stronghold through six elections before the Liberals picked it up in 2015, Abbey Frias, 29, was in the steady stream of Easter Sunday voters filing into the Italian Canadian Cultural Association to cast an early ballot.

She had considered voting strategically for the Liberals, but after seeing recent poll results suggesting that they are in the lead, she felt some relief and voted NDP instead, since their policies were more aligned with her beliefs.

Ms. Frias says she has followed this campaign thinking about her parents, who are seniors and immigrants from the Philippines.

"They have a lot of health issues and to be able to vote for somebody that ... will want to Care for that kind of community, and all of the other communities that are a little bit more marginalized, is important to me," she said.

In the Nanos poll, respondents were asked: "For those parties you would consider voting for federally, could you please rank your top two current local preferences?" The full methodology for all surveys can be found at: tgam.ca/polls.

With a report from Dakshana Bascaramurty

Housing: Many Canadian homebuyers from January have since fled the market

FROM A1

"The risk Canada faces now is stagnation, with both elevated inflation and weak economic growth, and that's something central banks are not well equipped to fight," said David Doyle, head of economics at Macquarie Group.

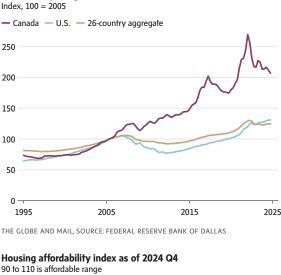
"I don't think it's a question of whether housing will pivot and become a tailwind. The debate should be over how significant a headwind the housing market will be."

Whichever party wins the federal election next week, the next government will inherit a real estate sector in dire straits.

Last month, home sales slumped 9.3 per cent to the lowest level since February, 2009, a month that marked the pit of the Great Recession. In Toronto, only 5,011 units changed hands, the lowest number for any March since 1995, according to Toronto Regional Real Estate Board re-

cords.

Real house price growth



30

60

90

Very affordabl

120

Affordable

Unaffordable

150

180

seen since the depths of the Great Recession in 2009, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. reported last week. The sharp slowdown was made worse by inclement weather, but starts in the province have been falling since November.

The slowdown in new home construction is expected to compound Canada's affordability crisis, as a shortage of new supply could help keep house prices higher for longer.

Of the least affordable markets in the country, all but Vancouver and Victoria are in Ontario, mostly in the province's southern region, according to Oxford Economics' housing affordability index.

The index is calculated using median household incomes and assumes a down payment of 20 per cent, a gross debt service ratio of 39 per cent, five-year mortgage rates and an amortization period of 25 years.

All of this comes as Canada's economy could use any boost it

from 2007 to 2009, in which U.S. home prices plunged an average of 30 per cent and took 14 years to fully recover, Canadian property prices dipped 9 per cent but made that back within a year of the recession's end. The collapse in oil prices in 2014 caused Calgary's housing market to stall for five years, but nationally prices soared at double-digit annual rates. Likewise, the pandemic shutdown in March, 2020, briefly brought real estate activity to a halt before it spiked sharply over the next two years.

"The starting point for housing is tougher this time, because valuations got so stretched the last few years," said Robert Kavcic, a senior economist at Bank of Montreal. Even though house prices since their peak in 2022 have already corrected 10 per cent to 20 per cent, depending on the market, "affordability is still stretched," he said.

That's not to say the Bank of Canada is done cutting rates, Mr. Doyle said, but the bank doesn't

Prices also slid in March for the third straight month, with the Canadian Real Estate Association's broad-based MLS Home Price Index down 8.5 per cent on an annualized basis so far this year.

Many Canadians who were actively house-hunting in January have since fled the market.

"I have multiple clients who have put their plans to buy on hold," said Mike Hattim, a mortgage broker in London, Ont, with Dominion Lending Centres.

"It's the uncertainty about the tariffs more than the tariffs themselves that is impacting people, whether that's businesses or individuals," he said. "How can you make a decision when everything is changing from day to day?"

The housing market is fracturing in other ways. While the inventory of unsold homes is building – for instance, the number of active listings in Ontario is at a 10-year high – builders themselves are putting down their tools.

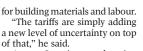
Homebuilding activity "is extremely slow right now, we've had a depressed market for almost two years," said Larry Masseo, a planner and president of the Waterloo Region Home Builders' Association.

Saskatoor Edmonton Saint John Quebec City Moncton Winnipea Calgary Montreal Windsor Ont Ottawa Halifax London, Ont. Barrie, Ont. Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. Brantford, Ont. St. Catherines-Niagara, Ont. Peterborough, Ont. Guelph, Ont. Hamilton Toronto Victoria Vancouver

Regina



In addition to the uncertainty around trade and the economy, Mr. Masseo points to a barrage of lingering forces that have buffeted the sector, including slow municipal approvals, rising development charges and higher costs



Across Ontario, new housing starts fell to 39,000 on an annualized basis in March, a level not can get.

The growth outlook for the country was already uncertain after Ottawa clamped down on temporary immigration by re stricting study and work visas after several years of historic population increase. Slower growth is easing pressure on Canada's rental market - in March, the asking rent for new rentals fell by 2.8 per cent from the same month year, the sixth straight last month rents decreased on an annual basis, according to Rentals.ca. But it also means fewer consumers for businesses

That was before Mr. Trump launched his trade war and began to demand manufacturers move their operations to the United States. A trade war-induced recession in Canada will lead to around 200,000 job losses by early 2026, according to a new report from Tony Stillo, director of economics for Canada at Oxford Economics.

Canadian policy makers have been able to count on the real estate sector to revive growth in times of crisis, with falling interest rates spurring home construction, juicing prices and enabling homeowners to borrow against their home equity to splurge on goods and services.

During the Great Recession

have the room for dramatic cuts like it did during the financial crisis because of the risk of tariff-induced inflation.

"Housing won't become a channel for ignition like it has in the past," he said.

The Bank of Canada, after seven consecutive interest-rate cuts, put its campaign of monetary easing on hold this month and left the benchmark policy rate unchanged at 2.75 per cent, citing concerns about rising prices.

"The Bank of Canada doesn't want to get behind the curve and have a repeat of what happened postpandemic so they're fixated on inflation," Mr. Stillo said. "They don't want to be burned twice."

At the same time, fears of inflation and uncertainty brought on by Mr. Trump's efforts to tear up the global trading system have been putting upward pressure on bond yields, which underpin fixed-rate mortgages.

"It feels like the best case for housing is five or 10 years where price growth tracks sideways and you get the relief coming through income growth," Mr. Doyle said. "But the risk is things spiral

"But the risk is things spiral with this trade war and we're into a stagnation environment where it's not a sideways movement any more, it's a sharp downturn." THE GLOBE AND MAIL PRESENTS

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GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

Ottawa plans to work with more domestic cloud providers after backlash

BILL CURRY

DEPUTY OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF OTTAWA

Federal officials are working on a plan to direct more cloud com-puting contracts toward Canadian companies after receiving strong industry pushback over an existing competition to shortlist a small number of American multinationals for similar work.

When asked about the internal criticism revealed in govern-ment documents, Shared Services Canada spokesperson Michael Gosselin said the department "is in the initial planning stage for the development of a parallel system" to the current competition, "which would be focused on Canadian cloud providers." The documents were released through access to information.

Mr. Gosselin said industry feedback and consultation is a key part of the government's efforts to transform its IT infrastructure.

Craig McLellan, CEO and Founder of Canadian cloud-provider ThinkOn Inc., said recent trade tensions between Canada and the United States appear to have inspired a change in ap-proach from the federal government that he expects will start to play out after the election campaign.

In an interview with The Globe and Mail, Mr. McLellan said he's encouraged by recent signals from Ottawa that there will be additional contracting competitions aimed at working with Canadian cloud companies. "I think that what has been

happening in the U.S. is a wakeup call for the public sector in Canada, that acquiring these services domestically can result in more competitive local pro-viders," he said.

CLOUD, B2

With economy at risk, Trump's tariff war is giving way to negotiations

JOHN TURLEY-EWART

OPINION

pril 2, "Liberation Day" as U.S. President Donald Trump called it, will be remembered by historians as the beginning of the end of the huge tariffs with which his administration threatened the global economy.

It did not take long for Mr. Trump's tariff strategy to start collapsing in on itself. For Canada, this spells opportunity, giving



Ideal Can in Saint-Apollinaire, Que., has tripled the number of shifts at its manufacturing plant since Donald Trump's trade war began, owing to increased demand for its Canadian-made containers. RENAUD PHILIPPE/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Canadian companies shun U.S. moves to expand at home

Many businesses beginning to see the need for economic autonomy

PIPPA NORMAN IRENE GALEA

ames McInnes has pressed pause on U.S. expansion plans for his London, Ont.-based Odd Burger Corp.

The move, which was two years in the making and already included 60 U.S. fran-chise sales, would have been propped up by a \$2-million capital raise by the vegan fast-food company.

Instead, that money will go toward fasttracking a new manufacturing facility in Cana-da and fulfilling growing demand by restau-rants and grocery giants that want to buy do-mestic, said Mr. McInnes, Odd Burger's chief ex-ecutive officer.

It's a small example of U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs backfiring. But it's not the only one. Odd Burger is one of a growing number of Canadian companies - big and small - betting on increasing domestic sales rather than rely-ing on the U.S. market.

The ambition behind Mr. Trump's beloved tariffs is crystal clear: Lure manufacturers to the United States with promises such as low corporate tax rates and access to its gargantuan consumer market.

Early indicators showed the President's rhetoric might be working. Nearly half of Canadian businesses surveyed by accounting firm KPMG in January said they planned to shift produc-tion or investments to the U.S. to mitigate tariffs. A number of companies appear to be following through on those plans. But out of the panic, another more buoying

trend is emerging.

Some Canadian companies are seeing the opposite of Mr. Trump's wishes come true, as governments, corporations and consumers here wake up to the necessity of building capacity and economic autonomy at home. BUSINESS, B6

Hudson's Bay Co. asks court to appoint new legal counsel for employees as it prepares for more job cuts

SUSAN KRASHINSKY ROBERTSON RETAILING REPORTER

Hudson's Bay Co. is asking the court to appoint new legal counsel for its employees as it prepares for more job cuts in the coming weeks, and the company is also in talks with its lenders to create a "hardship fund' for those facing financial strain as benefits are cut off.

Canada's oldest retailer is in the process of liquidating most of its department stores across Canada. Unless a buyer or investor steps forward with a plan to save part of the business, the process will result in thousands of job cuts as those stores close down. The liquidation sales are scheduled to end by mid-June. Facing a financial crisis, Hudson's Bay was granted protection from its creditors under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act on March 7. Before filing, the company had more than 9.300 employees. Earlier this month, the company terminated the jobs of 179 corporate employees; a further 93 roles were eliminated a week later, according to the company's latest court filing. Hudson's Bay has not paid sever-ance to those workers and does not expect to do so as job cuts continue. As it faces "further headcount reduc-

tions" the company is asking the court to appoint a law firm to represent its current and former employees in the CCAA proc-

The move would sideline another law firm, Koskie Minsky LLP, which has been retained by more than 250 current and reUrsel Phillips Fellows Hopkinson LLP, a firm with experience in representing large

employee groups in insolvency matters. Koskie Minsky lawyers have been vocal in raising concerns about the lack of severance payments and about the fate of longterm disability payments.

Thursday's court filing confirmed that disability benefits are paid through an "ad-ministrative services only" (ASO) arrange-ment, which is not insured – putting those benefits at risk if the company is unable to come up with a plan for its future, or if a new owner steps in. Approximately 183 people receive those benefits, according to the court filing.

Last week, Hudson's Bay notified approximately 2,000 retirees that their postretirement benefits - including health and dental benefits and life insurance policies would be terminated at the end of this month, according to the filing. HBC, B4

the next prime minister a surer footing to stand firm against outlandish demands from the Trump administration when our country renegotiates the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement in the months ahead.

You may have missed the evidence of Mr. Trump's tariff retreat. It did not surface in a presidential executive order or post on his Truth Social platform. Instead, it was conveyed in a latenight notice to shippers issued April 11 by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency, retroactive to April 5, excluding most electronics from steep tariffs.

As reported by Reuters, the notice "featured 20 product categories, including the broad 8471 code for all computers, laptops, disc drives and automatic data processing. It also included semiconductor devices, equipment, memory chips and flat panel displays."

TURLEY-EWART, B4

cently terminated Hudson's Bay employees. In a previous court appearance on March 27, the firm said it planned to ask the court to be appointed as representative counsel for the current and former employees. In its filing on Thursday, Hudson's Bay recommended the appointment of



PERSONAL FINANCE To save money, retirees are moving in together and living the Golden Girls way ■ B8

SHAY CONPOY/ THE GLOBE AND MAIL

TRADE WAR

China wants countries to unite against Donald Trump, but is met with wariness 🔳 🛚 🖻 🖉

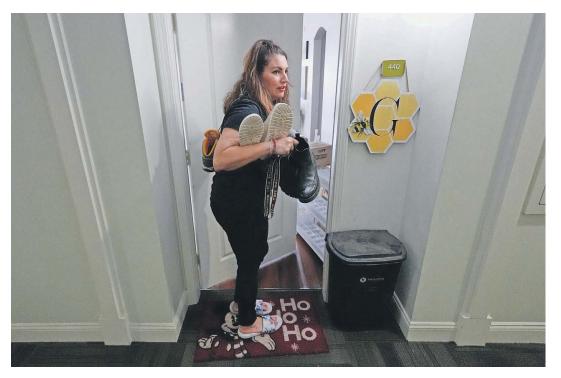
OPINION

Boeing's self-inflicted damage leaves it vulnerable to the big problem of tariffs B4



HOCKEY Canada settles for silver at the women's hockey world championship = B10

BASKETBALL Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Oklahoma City Thunder roll in playoff opener



Shea Giagnorio moves out of her apartment in Kansas City, Mo., on April 14, days after getting laid off from her job with the U.S. Administration for Children and Families, where she was employed for 28 years. CHARLIE RIEDEL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Midwestern city is feeling the pain from U.S. government cuts

With nearly 30,000 workers, Washington is the largest employer in Kansas City, Mo.

RYAN J. FOLEY KANSAS CITY, MO.

n her 28 years working for the U.S. federal government, Shea Giagnorio pro-vided daycare for the children of U.S. soldiers, training for employees and oversight for safety net programs.

Public service took her from Germany to Alaska to Kansas City, Mo., where she moved last year for a long-sought promotion.

But when she reported to a downtown federal building for work one day last month, her access card did not work. After a co-worker let her into the building, she checked her e-mail: Her entire office had been let go in the latest mass firing or-dered by U.S. President Donald Trump's administration.

The 46-year-old single mom has can-celled her apartment lease, is selling her new furniture and may have to pull her daughter out of college. She wonders what will happen to the at-risk populations her team helped serve at the Administration for Children and Families, a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

"Not only me, but all these peoples' lives are turned upside down," Ms. Giag-norio said.

The impact of the cuts by Trump ap pointees and Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency can be found everywhere in the Kansas City metropolitan area, which has long been a major hub for federal agencies about 1,600 kilometres away from Washington. Money once promised to the region for public health, environmental, diversity, food aid and an array of other programs has been axed, and thousands of local jobs are in jeopardy.

With nearly 30,000 workers, the federal government is the largest employer in the region. One long-time Kansas City economic researcher said he believes the region could lose 6,000 good-paying federal jobs, which in turn would wipe out thousands of others in service industries

An IRS worker said thousands of her co-workers fear they will lose their jobs, even as they put in overtime processing tax refunds in a building so crowded that they struggle to find desks. Under pressure, hundreds more agreed this past week to retire early or take a buyout.

"It's a kick in the stomach to people that are doing everything they can to meet what's required of them," said Shannon Ellis, a long-time IRS customer service representative and president of the union representing local workers.

By Thursday, at least 238 Kansas City workers had taken the buyout offers and were expected to leave the agency in coming weeks. Ms. Ellis noted many of those same workers had been told they were essential and required to work overtime during tax season, some seven days per week

A U.S. Department of Agriculture grant revocation disrupted a historically Black neighbourhood's plan to expand its program growing fresh produce in a food desert. A nearby pantry reduced its monthly grocery allotment for those in need after federal cuts left food banks shorthanded.

Urban farmer Rosie Warren grew 2,500 pounds of fruits and vegetables last year in community gardens to help feed the Ivanhoe neighbourhood, where many Black families were concentrated under housing segregation policies of much of the 20th century.

Ms. Warren harvested greens, potatoes and watermelons as part of an effort to address food insecurity and health concerns in a neighbourhood challenged by blight, crime and poverty. She was ecstatic last fall when the USDA awarded the neighbourhood council a three-year, \$130,000 grant to expand the gardens and farmers' market serving the area. In February, the council received a no-

tice terminating the grant. The USDA had determined the award "no longer effectuates agency priorities regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and activ ities.

"What do you do if you don't support providing access to food to people who don't have it? Wouldn't this make your job easier?" she said. "I think it's absurd. It doesn't make any sense.'

The withdrawal of federal funding for new lab equipment and vaccines means the city may be less prepared for the next pandemic.

The Kansas City Health Department's laboratory is badly in need of an upgrade, with equipment dating to when the build-

ing opened in the 1990s. One basement space is water damaged and rarely used. Another has equipment that is so inadequate that the city has to ship samples to a state laboratory 240 kilometres, causing inefficiencies, agoniz-ing waits for results and delayed response times

But the funding for lab upgrades was abruptly eliminated last month as part of the Trump administration's US\$11.4-bil-lion cancellation of federal grants to states for public health.

An HHS spokesperson said the agency's downsizing, including cutting jobs and consolidating divisions, would save money and make the organization more efficient.

The IRS has offered a similar rationale for its downsizing, saying it is making process improvements that will ultimately more efficiently serve the public.

Mr. Musk said last year that Mr. Trump's budget cuts would cause a "temporary hardship" that would soon put the econo-my on stronger footing.

The White House didn't respond to questions about Kansas City.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

China's export controls curb global critical mineral shipments

LEWIS JACKSON AMY LV BEIJING

China's export controls on three metals important across the defence and chip sectors are keeping shipments at historically low levels despite high prices worldwide as Beijing flexes its control over the minerals supply chain.

China is the world's largest producer of antimony, germani-um and gallium, which have niche but vital roles in clean energy, chipmaking and defence. Since 2023, Beijing has gradually added the metals to its export controls list. In December it banned exports to the U.S.

For any item on the control list, exporters must apply for li-censes, an opaque process that allows Beijing to exert the dom-inance it has built for years over the mining and processing of important minerals.

Fresh customs data released on Sunday reinforced a pattern building since controls were imposed: exports are down and some buyers, especially in Europe, are cut out of the supply chain.

Exports of antimony and ger-manium products in the first quarter were down 57 per cent and 39 per cent, respectively, compared to a year earlier.

March exports of gallium hit their lowest level since October, 2023. Quarterly shipments were up on last year, but the current trend is still well below 2022, the last full year before curbs. Minerals that are exported, in

the case of antimony, are going to a smaller set of countries. After a five-month hiatus,

small shipments of antimony were sent to Belgium and Germain March, but exports were ny well below historic levels and for-mer large buyers such as the Netherlands haven't received shipments since September.

The pattern across the three metals raises questions about how many export licenses China will approve for the seven rare earth elements it added to the control list this month – and how fast. Exporters say they expect to wait months for licenses and even longer if selling to the United States.

There have been no antimony exports to the United States since September last year and none since 2023 for germanium and gallium.

Fewer exports from China have left overseas consumers scrambling to source material, pushing prices higher, which in turn has supported prices in China.

Chinese spot prices of antimo-ny, for example, have jumped by nearly two-thirds so far this year to a record high of 230,000 yuan (\$43,609) a tonne on April 18, LSEG data showed.

REUTERS

Cloud: Ottawa has shortened its list in current competition to four companies

FROM B1

in the creation of a preapproved list of a small number of compa- summarizing

summarizing "comments pro-vided by industry" include a list

A March, 2024, document sion that the government is plan- comment. ning to ultimately select two large companies for the work,

Veronica Langvee, director of

In an interview with The Globe and Mail, Mr. McLellan said he's encouraged by recent signals from Ottawa that there will be additional contracting competitions aimed at working with Canadian cloud companies.

"I think that what has been happening in the U.S. is a wakeup call for the public sector in Canada, that acquiring these services domestically can result in more competitive local providers," he said.

The documents reveal that technology leaders expressed numerous concerns to the public service about a competition that is currently in progress to provide the government with cloud computing services over the next 25 years.

The consultations took place early last year before Canada's current trade tensions with the United States over tariffs. The levies have fuelled Buy Canada sentiment across the country and led some provincial premiers to announce that they will be shifting away from U.S. companies when it comes to the billions of dollars spent each year on government contracts for goods and services.

Shared Services Canada is in the middle of the multistage competition, which would result nies that departments can work with for cloud computing.

Cloud computing generally involves hiring an outside company to provide computing power over the internet for information storage and other needs. This is used as an alternative to government-run data centres.

The federal government has already shortened its list to four companies: Amazon Web Services Canada, Inc.; Google Cloud Canada Corporation; Microsoft Corporation and Oracle Canada ULC

Mr. McLellan said there are some services that are better suited for large multinational tech companies, but is encouraged that Ottawa is working on ways to direct more work to Canadian companies.

Federal procurement material describes the "contract duration" "300 months," a period of as which is 25 years. Shared Services Canada says Ottawa would not be locked in to a 25-year contract through the process, but would have the option of using the selected companies for specific tasks during that period.

The competition for the platform and infrastructure aspects included consultations with industry for feedback on the government's planned approach.

of concerns.

The documents were obtained through an access to information request by Ottawa researcher Ken Rubin. They do not reveal the names of the industry participants who made the comments.

A common theme of concern is that the competition did not award extra points for genuine Canadian companies, as opposed to Canadian affiliates of U.S.based multinationals.

A March, 2024, document summarizing industry feedback quotes one unnamed participant, saying that using Canadian companies guarantees that the entire design, engineering and support team resides in Canada. The person said this provides invaluable benefits "in an unstable geopolitical context."

Several of the comments accuse the government of defining the requirements in a narrow way that favours a very small number of large companies that already do large volumes of business with Ottawa.

There are also repeated warnings that the length of the arrangement would reduce the government's flexibility and "further increase vendor lock-in."

Several industry participants were clearly left with the impresthough Shared Services says more companies could be involved.

Another unnamed industry participant said Ottawa should keep its options open given the rate of change within the cloud industry.

"It makes no logical sense to limit the GC [Government of Canada] options to only 2 cloud vendors for decades," adding that such an approach risks "creating huge financial, security and operational risks" for the government, according to the document summarizing industry feedback.

Additional comments from the same person pointed to the then-recently released report by the Office of the Auditor-General on ArriveCan, a government app for cross-border travellers, which said contract terms were so narrowly defined that only one company ultimately bid and won a related contract.

Another industry voice pointed out that competition for government cloud contracts is currently a topic of controversy in the European Union, where Google filed an antitrust complaint last year against Microsoft, alleging anti-competitive behaviour.

Spokespersons for Amazon and Google both declined to

communications at Microsoft Canada, said in an e-mail that Microsoft has worked with Canadian governments for 40 years and is focused on providing trust ed technology solutions.

We believe that a diverse and competitive cloud market benefits all and that collaboration is key to ensuring the success of Canada's digital future," she said.

Oracle did not respond to a request for comment.

Benjamin Bergen, who advocates for the Canadian technology sector as president of the Council of Canadian Innovators, said in light of the current trade tensions with the U.S., Ottawa should be prioritizing Canadian companies when it comes to data-storage contracts.

'On something as critical as this type of government infrastructure is allowing foreign firms to be the controllers of that really in our national interest?" he asked.

"It shouldn't just be what's easiest, what's cheapest. But more: how do we build our economic sovereignty? How do we build capacity, and how do we build goods and solutions that the rest of the world wants, and then sell those goods and solu-tions so we can be a prosperous country?"

Countries wary of China's goal to unite against Trump

Xi Jinping trying to keep others from putting tariffs on Chinese products or giving in to U.S. demands

DAVID PIERSON DAMIEN CAVE HONG KONG

China's top leader, Xi Jinping, and his subordinates are mounting a diplomatic full court press to try to persuade other countries not to cave to pressure from the Trump administration on tariffs, hoping to show that China will not be isolated in the trade war.

In recent days, China's Com-merce Minister has held a video call with the European Union's top trade official, pushing for closer co-operation. Chinese diplomats have been contacting officials in Tokyo and Seoul. And Mr. Xi landed in Vietnam and Malaysia on state visits this week where he was greeted with carefully choreographed crowds of supporters.

At stake for Mr. Xi are the fate of the global trading system that propelled China's rise as the world's manufacturing powerhouse, as well as access to markets for many Chinese exports now that the United States has sought to cut them off with debilitating tariffs.

The outreach is also a test of China's status as a global power in the face of what Beijing sees as an effort by Washington to contain and suppress its key rival. China has fought back against the Trump administration with its



Chinese President Xi Jinping, left, walks past the honour guard with Cambodia Senate President Hun Sen on Friday upon his departure at Phnom Penh International Airport. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

own eye-watering tariffs on U.S. goods, as well as restrictions on the export of some rare earth minerals and magnets that are vital for assembling cars, missiles and drones.

To that end, Mr. Xi has tried to assemble a broader coalition to his side - hoping to keep countries from slapping tariffs of their own on Chinese products, or giving in to Washington's demands to decouple from Chinese manufacturing.

During his travels in Southeast Asia this week, he has depicted China as a leading defender of the global order and indirectly cast

the United States as an unreliable player. In Hanoi, he urged Vietnam to join China in opposing "unilateral bullying." In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, he urged Southeast Asian nations to also "reject decoupling, supply dis-ruption" and "tariff abuse."

"Chinese officials have quietly conveyed that the way the U.S. treats its long-standing allies and partners in Europe is a sign of what's to come for Southeast said Lynn Kuok, the Lee Asia," Kuan Yew Chair at the Brookings Institution in Washington. "With Trump's steep, sweeping tariffs across the region, that message needs no reinforcement."

But Mr. Xi's attempts at presenting China as a paragon of free trade and a champion of the rules-based international order ignores years of Beijing's own coercive economic behaviour and generous subsidies for select industries that have often alienated the country's trading partners and neighbours. It partly explains why the world's eroding trust in Washington has not immediately led to newfound alignment with Beijing – that, along with the risk of retribution from President Donald Trump for siding with China.

Already, the European Union,

Japan and South Korea have pushed back at attempts by China to suggest that they had agreed with China to jointly fight back against Mr. Trump's tariffs. EU officials have instead emphasized their concerns about the dumping of Chinese goods in their market. Last week, Australia rejected a call by China's ambas-sador, Xiao Qian, to "join hands" in rebuffing the Trump administration.

Mr. Xi's trip to Vietnam this week, followed by a visit to Malaysia before a stop in Cambodia, has taken on more urgency for China now that Mr. Trump is using his 90-day pause on his "Liberation Day" tariff hikes to press countries to negotiate trade deals with

the United States. Beijing's fear, analysts say, is that these deals will isolate China by including agreements that choke off Chinese exports. That could be through co-ordinated tariffs, or a crackdown on Chicompanies transshipping their goods through third countries such as Vietnam to obscure their true origin, or by targeting Chinese raw materials in exports headed to the United States.

China placed tariffs of up to 100 per cent on canola, pork and other foods from Canada last month in a clear warning to countries not to co-operate with Washington on trade.

To Beijing, if trading partners pander to the United States, they will hurt China and at the same time, they will hurt their own country as well," said Shen Dingli, a Shanghai-based international relations scholar.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Young people are prioritizing workplace flexibility and finding more time for fun

PIPPA NORMAN

INNOVATION REPORTER

n influx of young workers, largely millennials and Gen Z, are working smarter to play harder, redefining workplace culture and using technol-ogy to toy with what it means to "on the clock."

From working vacations to flexible hours to multitasking, what used to be seen as slacking off at work is now being embraced as innovative, efficient and useful in making more time for fun. Prevalent in industries such as tech or consulting, where work can be completely remote, experts say this push is coming from new generations of workers who prioritize their well-being and know how to use technology to their advantage.

Employee engagement and satisfaction is reaching record lows across North America. Coined "The Great Detachment" by analytics firm Gallup, the trend is evident in several recent polls that cite a steep decline in workers' feelings of connection to their company mission and dwindling patience in an uncertain labour market.

In 2024, only 18 per cent of Canadian employees reported feeling fully engaged at work, according to labour market analysts ADP Research. Dropping by three percentage points from the year before, ADP said this was one of the biggest decreases ever recorded and furthers the erosion of employee satisfaction



WENTING LI/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Roman Pavlovskyi, a 33-yearold software engineer, took the meaning of a "workation" one step further when he and his girlfriend became completely nomadic almost three years ago.

Since then, the Ukrainian-Canadian couple have travelled to more than 20 countries while working full-time. Mr. Pavlovskyi said the small startup he works for doesn't have an issue with his travel, so he doesn't always have to disclose when he moves locations.

However, after he was caught in the Philippines' rainy season one time and was unable to explain to his team why his internet connection would sporadically cut out, he's now careful to only choose destinations with reliable service. "I would be in the middle of a call, and then it's out, and there's no way to get internet, no way to message back, nothing, so I would just disappear," he said. A lot of the remote workers Mr. Pavlovskyi meets abroad are either software engineers, con-sultants or people who have learned to productize their skills, such as a personal trainer who sells courses online. He said the lifestyle is only suitable to certain careers and anyone considering travelling while working should think twice about whether it suits their job. For example, he said his girlfriend had to start from scratch with her career and become a consultant after she was fired for moving around too often To ensure the couple has time to make the most of their tempo rary homes, Mr. Pavlovskyi said they hired a virtual assistant to help them plan the logistics of their life.

hotel, always booking some tickets, all our free time was spent on that," he said.

Despite the hustle of it all. Mr. Pavlovskyi said he wouldn't have it any other way and the buzz he gets from travelling actually improves his productivity.

"Over all, I have a lot more energy, and a lot more motivation at work, and life feels a lot more fulfilling," he said.

SQUEEZE IN A SKI - OR A WAVE? Globe-trotting isn't the only way Mr. Abascal mixes business with pleasure. Back home in Vancouver, he enjoys little luxuries such as catching a midday yoga class and parking himself at a nearby coffee shop to continue working without anyone noticing he's gone.

"I'm all for not telling your workplace where you are or what you're doing, just as long as you get your work done and you do a good job," he said.

This flexibility also allows him to work more efficiently around the ebbs and flows of busyness in his job, he added. "When you are working, you're working, and then you're not forced to pretend to work in between random times that you may be feeling unproductive."

In Deloitte's 2024 Gen Z and Millennial Survey, the consulting firm found work-life balance and flexibility to be influential factors guiding where these generations choose to work. Their drive to be freed of traditional employment

models is unmistakable.

young age, Mr. McDonald might end up hiking a local mountain or shredding some powder on his skis – leaving work behind in search of some respite. Originally from New Zealand, he said whenever he visits home, he often shifts his workday back a few hours to catch a wave if the surf is looking good.

He has learned that one unproductive day of sitting in front of his computer isn't worth powering through.

"Being able to do things outdoors, or take advantage of my flexibility, is a key part of how I make sure that I stay productive," he said.

WORKING SMARTER TO PLAY HARDER

Whether it's working from a faraway destination or logging in lat-er to squeeze in a morning ski, Prof. Griffith said taking a flexible approach to jobs is sometimes interpreted as slacking off. But that's not always the case.

"I don't see it as necessarily being lazy. It's just finding the best way to get work done," she said.

Prof. Griffith said the more a company understands the importance of work-life balance and taps into their employees' tech savviness, the better positioned they are to attract new talent.

"If you think that by having people sit in a seat from nine to five they're always working, that's just not the case," she said.

Nancy Hauge, chief people experience officer at tech company Automation Anywhere, said peo

vacation days. You can just use the weekends," he said.

that took hold during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This deterioration is evident in retaliatory acts by workers. For example, in a 2023 survey by ResumeBuilder.com, nearly half of approximately 920 Gen Zers said they had taken a secret vacation - and about half of those people said it was because their paid time off wasn't approved.

And this isn't the only way employees are taking their happiness into their own hands using methods born out of the depths of fully remote work during the pandemic

Some experts say this isn't necessarily a bad thing. It's simple to run a company that's open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and requires all staff work in-person at an office, said Terri Griffith, professor and Keith Beedie Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Simon Fraser University. But it's foolish to assume every one there will be constantly working or being productive.

"People are misinterpreting working as sitting in the chair," she said.

By bending the rules of the traditional 9-to-5 job, Prof. Griffith said these younger generations pose an important question: "Are organizations paying for the work or are they paying

For example, when he trav-elled to Australia for a wedding last year, he chatted with his manager to get some meetings moved around since the time difference was considerable. However, during other trips, such as an excursion to Colombia, he's been less eager to share his plans with work.

for our time?'

QUIET VACATIONS

work is from abroad.

One way this successful - yet

shrewd - work force is challeng-

ing the concept of traditional

Bautista Abascal, a 28-year-old

senior product designer, has tak-

en advantage of his fully remote career's flexibility, travelling to

South America, Asia and Austra-

lia. While he continues to work from each destination, he said

he's careful about which trips he

discloses to his workplace, and which ones he keeps to himself.

No matter where he is, he continues to show up and be produc-tive, but Mr. Abascal said his disclosure strategy stems from a desire to maintain a positive rela-tionship with his colleagues by not making it seem like he's taking too many liberties.

"If I don't have to move things around, then it's in my best interest to not tell anybody, so that it doesn't seem like I'm taking advantage of the situation," he said.

According to the Global Business Travel Association, more than half of Canadian business travellers report combining leisure travel with business trips more often than they did in 2019.

But even with unlimited paid time off at his previous jobs, Mr. Abascal said he only ever cashed in the benefit for travel days between destinations. His advice for making it work? Plan longer stays

"When you're spending a month or two at a destination, you don't really need to take

"I don't think it's sustainable to do it without assistance. We ended up in this loop where we were always looking for the next

For example, Deloitte's survey found Gen Z and millennials want their employers to create more part-time or job-sharing options, with similar career advancement opportunities to fulltime employees. The four-day work week is also being increasingly asked for by these generations

Also in Vancouver, 29-year-old Liam McDonald operates under a philosophy that prioritizes his well-being. When the gears stop churning in his brain, he doesn't force them into overdrive. Instead, the vice-president of product at software company Clarity Technologies steps away from his desk and into nature.

An outdoors enthusiast from a

ple who have found ways to slack off at work and not lose their job are, generally, really smart about how they do their work.

And as a manager, those are the kinds of people she's looking to hire.

"Anybody who's clever enough to be able to do their work in a shorter period of time and slack off? I want that person," she said.

More managers could benefit from giving their employees some space, she added, to watch and learn how they can make their jobs more efficient.

"It's shocking how innovative people are when you just give them the headroom to do it," she said.

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Issuer	Issue	Record Date	Payable Date	Rate
Northland Power Inc.	Common	April 30, 2025	May 15, 2025	\$0.10

OPINION & ANALYSIS

Boeing's self-inflicted damage leaves it vulnerable in trade war

The U.S. aircraft maker's problems in China are exacerbated by quality and safety issues within its control



U.S.-based columnist for The Globe and Mail

sk any corporate crisis expert and they will tell you one of the first priorities in helping a company's leaders manage a serious problem is to determine the things within their control and those that are not.

The logic is simple: Spending time, money and manpower on things beyond the C-suite's control is a loser's bet that will exhaust resources and drive down stakeholder confidence without meaningful results. Focusing energy on things executives can influence is a higher-percentage play in the race to resolution and avoiding material damage.

For Boeing Co., however, managing its latest crises is not so black-and-white.

The troubled U.S. aircraft maker has suffered a series of self-inflicted problems over the last few years that have added to its vulnerability to a big new problem beyond its control.

Last week, China, the world's most dynamic growth market for commercial aircraft, halted delivery of all Boeing jets ordered by Chinese airlines in response to the 145-per-cent tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump on Chinese goods imported into the U.S. The move affects about 130

Boeing aircraft committed to Chinese airlines – about 160 planes if Hong Kong is included. Each of the company's best-selling Max 9 passenger airplanes costs nearly US\$130-million, so the potential financial hit is very real. Boeing can hardly afford the

blow. Almost 70 per cent of its sales of commercial aircraft were to carriers outside the U.S., and China is the largest global market



A Boeing 737 taxis at the Shanghai Pudong International Airport on Thursday. China last week halted delivery of all Boeing jets ordered by the country's airlines in response to the 145-per-cent tariffs imposed by the U.S. on Chinese goods. HECTOR RETAMAL/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

for commercial airline purchases. The company projected that Chinese airlines would buy almost 9,000 planes in the next 20 years. If Boeing is shut out of the market, the spoils will go to its main global competitor, Airbus.

To be sure, the recent tariffs will exacerbate an already bad situation. Boeing sales in China have struggled for years before tariffs were imposed. Icy trade relations between Beijing and Washington during the first Washington during the first Trump administration effectively closed the door for Boeing in China in 2019.

But there's a dirty secret, a grey area where the crisis elements that are beyond Boeing's control (a tariff-driven trade war) and those it can control (the quality and safety of its airplanes) converge

A significant contributing factor to Boeing's problems in China stems from the company's own quality problems, namely the worldwide grounding of its 737 Max following two fatal crashes in 2018 and 2019.

After the second crash, Boeing deliveries to China all but stop ped as global regulators grounded the jets on safety concerns. Beijing did not allow deliveries to resume until last year.

The sad reality is that Boeing still has not fixed those quality problems within its control.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration disclosed last week that it had imposed an airworthiness directive to replace bathroom door latches on more than 2,600 U.S.-registered Boeing aircraft. The move came after the agency received a report that a passenger had been trapped in a bathroom in-flight because of a faulty door latch that could not be opened from the inside or by flight attendants on the outside. The FAA did not disclose details of the incident, saying only that the plane was diverted for an unscheduled landing, a precaution taken because the trapped passenger could have been at risk of serious injury in an emergency such as severe turbulence or a medical issue.

The FAA estimated the replacement cost of the latches worth almost US\$500 each – on top of labour could be up to US\$3.4-million. It's a small price in dollar terms for a company as big as Boeing, but expensive in reputational capital for a company that is running low on goodwill.

If you have been following the Boeing story, you might ask, what is it about the company and door latches? They're small parts but have become emblematic of its quality issues, causing major embarrassment and, in at least one case, a life-threatening inflight situation.

That incident occurred about a ear ago when the door latch failed on an Alaska Airlines Boeing Max-9 jet, causing the hatch to blow out of the fuselage over Oregon and forcing an emergency landing.

The incident prompted investigations by the FAA and even the which determined Boeing could be criminally liable. The Alaska Airlines crisis led to

revelations that linked a wide range of quality-control prob-lems on the company's Max 9 aircraft to the widespread outsourcing of many elements of the manufacturing process in an effort to reduce costs.

Until Boeing leadership gets a handle on the things it can control, such as putting the quality of its products ahead of cost concerns, it will continue to be uniquely vulnerable to things beyond its control, such as the current global trade war.

Turley-Ewart: Trump's tariffs would be largest tax increase in the U.S. in generations

FROM B1

Mr. Trump blinked. He blinked twice, in fact. Two days before, he declared a 90-day reprieve from U.S. tariffs ranging from 20 per cent to 50 per cent on more than 70 countries, imposing instead a flat 10-per-cent tariff. Forcing Mr. Trump's concession to reality was the heavy sell-off in U.S. govern-ment debt, hiking the interest rates American consumers are charged on mortgages and car loans.

He may blink again and make more concessions on autos and auto parts imported into the U.S.

ideas that include using military force to take back the Panama Canal, annexing Greenland and making Canada the 51st state), reality still matters, even for this President.

Tariffs are a tax, and Mr. Trump's would effectively be the biggest tax increase in the U.S. in generations. They are so high that the cost of Apple iPhones, laptops, semiconductors, autos, new housing, clothing, everyday household goods – just about everything - would rise dramatically.

The likely result? Hundreds of thousands of American businessesthrown into the red and the U.S. economy into recession, breaking global supply chains, increasing unemployment and possibly causing a financial crisis on par with that of 2007-08.

What Mr. Trump has done, as veteran Democratic insider James Carville recently pointed out in The New York Times, is break "the cardinal rule in American politics: Never destabilize the economy."

Mr. Trump promised in the 2024 presidential election to make life more affordable for Americans; the biggest tax increase via tariffs in generations makes that impossible. So too does creating market mayhem that crushes the value of 401(k)s (employer-offered retirement savings plans), which American seniors rely on to keep a roof over tiation phase, which is being led by U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent.

There is division within Mr. Trump's inner circle. Elon Musk thinks the President's tariff architect, Peter Navarro, is "dumber than a sack of bricks." Similar views of Mr. Navarro seem to be held by Mr. Bessent and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick. who are doing end runs around Mr. Navarro to the President to se-cure tariff pauses and exemptions.

Canada has leverage. Energy, potash, aluminum, steel, lumber and of course autos and auto

in the last election.

And they will need a deal with us quickly. If Republicans want to avoid being wiped out in the 2026 congressional mid-term elections, they simply cannot allow the U.S. economy to fall into recession and market turmoil to undermine the 401(k)s of Americans and spike U.S. government bond yields, increasing interest costs for consumers.

To restabilize the U.S. economy, to try to make amends for breaking that cardinal rule of American politics – maintain economic sta-bility – Mr. Trump needs Canada.

There is some light at the end of

as automakers threaten to shut down plants, and he is now talking about a trade deal with the EU.

Despite the constant chaos caused by the political chum Mr. Trump shovels to the media (with

their heads and food on their tables.

Mr. Trump is now set back on his heels and the tariff war he unleashed on Canada and other countries is evolving into its negoparts, as well as financial services and more - Mr. Trump's administration needs Canada if it intends to deliver an economy that prioritizes affordability for Americans, as his Republican Party promised

the tariff tunnel

John Turley-Ewart is a contributing columnist for The Globe and Mail, a regulatory compliance consultant and a Canadian banking historian

HBC: Current employees are still accruing benefits under the larger pension plan

FROM B1

The company is now in initial discussions with its lenders, Pathlight Capital LP and Restore Capital LLC, about "the possible implementation of a hardship fund to provide monetary assistance to current and former employees who are experiencing financial difficulty after the loss of their benefits," Hudson's Bay chief financial officer Jennifer Bewley wrote in an affidavit filed on Thursday.

The court documents also confirmed previous reporting by The Globe and Mail that the company had stopped retirement payments to former senior employees. While the company says its largest pension plan, with more than 20,000 members, is in a sur-



A Hudson's Bay Co. store holds a liquidation sale at Richmond Centre in Richmond, B.C., on March 27. ISABELLA FALSETTI/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

plus position, its three "suppleexecutive retirement mentary (SERPs) were partially plans"

funded or unfunded. Ms. Bewley's affidavit stated. In total, 304 current and former employees participated in the plans.

The SERP trustee, Royal Trust Corporation of Canada, is now winding up the plans and will determine the distribution of the assets on the advice of an actuary, according to the filing.

Retirees covered under the larger pension plan continue to receive their benefits and current employees are still accruing benefits under the plan, according to the court filing.

"No steps have been taken to commence a wind up of the pen-sion plan," Ms. Bewley's affidavit stated. It noted that on April 3, the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRA) appointed Telus Health as the independent third-party administra-tor of the plan, which had historically been administered by

Hudson's Bay.

Because there is an appointed pension administrator, Hudson's Bay does not believe the employees and retirees covered by that pension plan require separate counsel, the affidavit stated.

The role of the lawyers apointed as representative counsel for the employees would include filing claims on employees' behalf during the proceedings, participating in the settlement of any claims affecting them, and assisting former employees in navigating the federal government's Wage Earner Protection Program, which is designed to pay workers whose companies are bankrupt or in receivership.

Hudson's Bay has requested a hearing for this coming Thursday on the motion.

Remote Manitoba communities could get grid access

Premier last week signed a deal to provide 50 megawatts of power to electrify parts of province's north and Nunavut

MATTHEW FRANK

A plan by the Manitoba government to connect several northern communities to the province's power grid addresses some key issues, but might open the door to in-dustrial development that could harm sensitive hunting and fishing grounds in the region, a First Nations leader says

Chief Jonas Michael Sewap of Barren Lands First Nation said he is concerned that construction could lead to mining operations and a permanent road to his community

Sitting about 930 kilometres northwest of Winnipeg, the First Nation is part of the province's "Diesel Zone" – a group of four First Nations that only use polluting diesel electrical generators from Manitoba Hydro for power.

Barren Lands First Nation and other communities depend on the Seal River Wa-tershed Area in Northern Manitoba. The province approved a feasibility study in March on protecting the land from development.

"We rely on that area for hunting and fishing, because pretty much that area is the wildest place you could be than anywhere else in Canada, because everywhere in Canada it's all disturbed," Mr. Sewap said.

Because his First Nation is so remote, fuel is transported over winter ice roads to stock up for the year. When the muskeg thaws, people have to travel either by plane or boat to leave the community. Mr. Sewap said he is now also worried that warming winters because of climate change won't be cold enough to use the ice roads to fuel the power station.

While the diesel generator is reliable when it has fuel, Mr. Sewap said that having a line to the main power grid would improve how well people could heat their homes during the winter, and it could also lower hydro rates for the community. He said his hydro bill has reached as much as \$180 a month, which is unaffordable for many in the First Nation.

It's not the first time that his community has had discussions about connecting to the power grid. Mr. Sewap said the commu-



A University of Winnipeg professor says not renewing electricity export contracts with the U.S. may not be the most prudent move as Manitoba Hydro has nearly \$25-billion in debt and needs \$31-billion to upgrade its aging infrastructure. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

nity spoke with the provincial and federal governments 10 years ago, but those plans fizzled out after all parties had leadership changes

Mr. Sewap said there have not been any recent discussions, and the first he heard of the new plan was when Premier Wab Kinew announced it at a press conference this week.

On Tuesday, Mr. Kinew said the province would "repatriate" 500 megawatts of power by not renewing expiring U.S. export contracts. The next day, he signed an agree-ment with Nunavut Premier P.J. Akeeagok to provide 50 megawatts to electrify communities in Nunavut and Northern Manitoba. The move would add extra power to Nunavut through the proposed 1,200 kilo-metre Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link line. The project is estimated to cost \$1.6-billion, and both premiers are asking the federal government to chip in funding.

Shovels are expected in the ground by 2028 and Inuit-owned Nukik Corp., which is overseeing the project, hopes to begin operations by 2032.

Mr. Kinew said his government will work with the Manitoba First Nations to get off diesel power, to determine the project route and to manage the caribou herds.

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Grand Chief Garrison Settee said he's been advocating for the four communities to get connected to the power grid for seven years, but said past governments lacked the political will to do it. MKO is an advocacy group that represents 26 Manitoba First Nations.

"It's inconceivable that we're living in this point in time where we still have four communities that aren't connected to the grid, and yet we have been exporting power and energy to outside sources," he said.

Any government project to expand the ower grid needs to account for the lands First Nations people use and how to com-pensate them, Mr. Settee said. He remembers seeing the environmental devastation when Manitoba Hydro did projects in his own community of Cross Lake. Hunting grounds were destroyed and fishing spots were polluted, he said. Malcolm Bird, a University of Winnipeg

ssociate political sciences professor, said there's clear benefits to bring power north for those communities, including as an act of reconciliation, improving economic development and getting away from burning diesel

But because of Manitoba Hydro's precarious financial and infrastructure conditions, it raises the question of whether it's the best of use of resources, he said.

The Crown corporation has nearly \$25billion in debt and needs \$31-billion to upgrade its aging infrastructure. Mr. Bird says not renewing electricity export contracts with the U.S. may not be the most prudent move, considering Manitoba Hydro's debt and the projected provincial deficit this year of \$2-billion.

"This is a major problem, and this government is solving its problems by spend-ing money, and this could end very badly for us," he said.

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Business: Canadian companies say they're taking steps to grow at home

FROM B1

Mr. Trump's latest round of tariff blows may have been lighter than anticipated for some sectors of Canada's economy, but it hasn't slowed a patriotic push to shift our dollars away from our biggest trading partner.

Experts warn the path forward won't be easy. They say Canada's waning manufacturing base and barriers to efficiency demand that our political leaders streamline regulatory requirements to spur investment.

But, for now, many Canadian companies say they're already taking steps to grow at home, where business is booming, and they have Mr. Trump to thank.

At Ideal Can Inc. in Saint-Apollinaire, Que., Erick Vachon has tripled the number of shifts at his manufacturing plant from one to three since Mr. Trump's trade war began in March, owing to strong demand for his Canadian-made cans for food, industrial uses and aerosol. The Ideal Can president and co-founder has more than doubled his production, from approximately 200 million to 500 million cans a year.

million cans a year. Unexpectedly, tariffs have led to better prices for Mr. Vachon, because he no longer has to go through American distributors and he deals directly with overseas steel mills.

He has also finally been able to enter discussions with Hamiltonbased steel maker ArcelorMittal Dofasco, the Canadian arm of global giant ArcelorMittal SA, which he has struggled to work with in the past because the quantity of steel he needed was minuscule compared to ArcelorMittal Dofasco's U.S. buyers.

Operating out of a brand-new manufacturing facility that opened in 2023, Ideal Can wants to increase its number of production lines. It's currently running three lines, with two more ordered and the capacity for up to seven. Mr. Vachon said U.S. tariffs have put him in a position to fulfill demand similar to what he saw during the COVID-19 pandemic, when international supply chains were disrupted.

With his new facility already open when Mr. Trump's trade war began, Mr. Vachon said the timing couldn't have been better for him to up Ideal Can's capacity.

"Everything is changed," Mr. Vachon said.

Similarly, Anil Abrol is also enjoying a well-timed boost to his Canadian manufacturing capacity. The CEO and founder of Eco Guardian Inc., a compostable packaging company headquartered in Newmarket, Ont., plans to open his first domestic manufacturing facility at the end of 2025.

Currently, Mr. Abrol said many Canadian companies buy their single-use packaging from the U.S., which means they're likely subject to Canada's retaliatory tariffs on the country.

Soon, he'll be able to offer them a more sustainable, more Canadian alternative. Mr. Abrol said major players in the food and beverage industry have already reached out to him since he announced the new facility, which will be in Aurora, Ont., more than a month ago.

He actually moved the announcement up, Mr. Abrol added, and is aiming to open the facility at full capacity immediately, instead of easing into it at a lower capacity as he had planned. Planning for the facility began a year and a half ago, but its urgency has

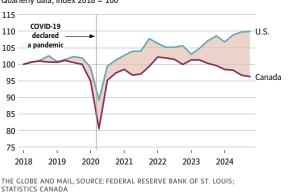


Erick Vachon, president and co-founder of Saint-Apollinaire, Que.-based of Ideal Can, has tripled the number of shifts at his manufacturing plant since the trade war with the U.S. began, in reponse to growing demand for his food, industrial and aerosol cans. RENAUD PHILIPPE/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

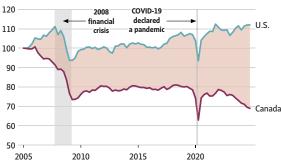


James McInnes, CEO and co-founder of Odd Burger, works the line beside his sister and director of operations, Katie McInnes, at their facility in London, Ont., earlier this month. GEOFF ROBINS/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Real GDP in manufacturing, Canada vs. U.S. Quarterly data; Index 2018 = 100



Real GDP per capita in manufacturing, Canada vs. U.S. Quarterly data; Index 2005 = 100



report by Reuters detailed how several giants, including Honda Motor Co. Ltd., Hyundai Motor Co., LVMH and Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd., were considering moving their manufacturing to the U.S.

And in Canada, Quebec-based transportation and logistics leader **TFI International Inc.**, announced plans to move its headquarters to the U.S., before quickly backpedalling owing to investor feedback. In a move that experts told The Globe and Mail was likely connected to Canada's heightened sense of nationalism, the freight operator retracted its decision after major shareholder Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec expressed its distaste for the relocation.

Businesses typically invest over the long term and outlays are sensitive to uncertainty. Access to the U.S. is now in flux and the macro environment is weak, said Nicholas Li, an associate professor of economics at Toronto Metropolitan University. tion, the number of regulatory requirements in Canada increased by more than a third between 2006 and 2021, and the bank said that resulted in a 9 per cent fall in business investment.

Competing with imports is another challenge Canadian companies regularly face at home.

For years, the growth strategy for many Canadian companies has been to expand in the U.S., said Jonathan O'Hara, an international trade lawyer with McMillan LLP. But many are now turning their attention back to the Canadian market, believing they can pay their bills if they scoop up more customers back home.

"In the past decade or two, some are realizing, they have ceded a lot of their market share to offshore imports. For example, from China or Vietnam," Mr. O'Hara said.

In trade law, there is a very potent mechanism to deal with that: trade remedy laws, also known as anti-dumping laws. These are measures designed to prevent foreign companies from flooding the Canadian market with unfairly low-priced goods.

Canadian businesses may have not bothered to enforce their rights in this area in the past because they were too busy pushing into the American market, but the Trump administration's tariffs have changed that.

"In the next year, we are going to see – almost for sure – an unprecedented surge in unfair trade cases against China, I think," said Mr. O'Hara, who regularly handles these types of actions.

In March, Pierre Cléroux, vicepresident of research and chief economist at the Business Development Bank of Canada, told The Globe that if every Canadian household redirected \$25 per week from foreign products to Canadian ones, it would boost GDP by 0.7 per cent and create 60,000 jobs.

A bigger emphasis on the Canadian market – and other non-U.S. ones – is exactly what some politicians are touting in response to Mr. Trump's trade actions.

In late March, Prime Minister

increased given the tariffs.

"In any challenge, there are different opportunities," Mr. Abrol said.

Brad Bourne, president of Firan Technology Group Corp., is also searching for those opportunities to grow within Canada. The aerospace and military electronics firm has 10 sites worldwide: three in Canada, five in the U.S. and two in China.

He said he now thinks of the U.S. as a separate market, isolated from the rest of the world.

"There's a wall going up and either you're inside the wall or outside the wall, and if you're inside the wall, try to do everything inside the wall," he said.

He's not looking to stop his U.S. operations; it's where the majority of his sales come from. But he wants FTG's facilities there to function independently, and that means making some small adjustments.

"I have about \$5-million of stuff I am building in the U.S. that goes to the rest of the world and I'm trying to move that outside the wall right now, because it's got to be on the right side of the wall for where the customers are," he said.

That \$5-million worth of revenue in the form of commercial aerospace product is in the proc-

THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS; STATISTICS CANADA; BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

ess of being moved to one of FTG's Toronto sites, Mr. Bourne said. He also plans to hire additional salespeople in Canada and Europe to help the company pursue growth in those markets.

Even giants such as Montrealbased Transcontinental Inc. have alluded to taking advantage of opportunities within Canada amidst Mr. Trump's tariffs. In a recent conference call, CEO Thomas Gaston-Louis Morin said the printing, packaging and media company was actively looking at acquisitions within Canada and its in-store marketing branch, in response to a question about increasing potential for mergers and acquisitions within Canada, owing to tariffs.

Despite these pockets of opportunity, some experts warn tariffs will deter business spending and delay Canadian economic independence.

Beverly Lapham, an economics professor from Queen's Universi-

ty, said she's "not optimistic" the Trump tariffs will cause Canadian firms to shift their investments away from the U.S. in any sizable amount, especially in the shortto-medium-term.

Higher prices caused by U.S. tariffs and Canadian retaliatory tariffs, and the potential increased costs of selling to a smaller market, will likely discourage Canadian investment, she said.

Businesses typically invest over the long term and outlays are sensitive to uncertainty. Access to the U.S. is now in flux and the macro environment is weak, said Nicholas Li, an associate professor of economics at Toronto Metropolitan University. He, too, is skeptical that businesses will commit to large and irreversible investments in Canadian plants to produce items for a domestic market alone.

Decisions being made by major international companies reflect Mr. Li's concerns. In March, a Spurring business investment is possible, but it will require major policy shifts, said Stéfane Marion, chief economist and strategist at the National Bank of Canada. This means slashing regulatory red tape, and it could include delaying decarbonization targets in exchange for manufacturing more in defence, he said.

Since 2005, Canada's per-capita manufacturing output – a key proxy for growth – has contracted by 30 per cent relative to the country's population, according to a December report from the bank.

The U.S. manufacturing sector has grown by 10 per cent in real terms since 2018, while Canada's sector shrunk by 5 per cent. Manufacturing made up 9 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product in 2024, the lowest proportion in the Group of Seven industrialized countries.

To reverse this erosion, Mr. Marion said, Ottawa should begin by reviewing the red tape damp ening business spending. According to National Bank's calculaMark Carney said Canada must fundamentally reshape its economy to become less reliant on the U.S.

At an election campaign stop in Windsor, Ont., the Liberal leader promised an "all-in-Canada" manufacturing network for car parts. Then, in Calgary, he pledged to supercharge Canada's energy sector, proposing a new federal office to fast-track project reviews. Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre has proposed a similar office, but for all regulatory approvals across all levels of government.

Alberta Premier Danielle Smith has been vocal about her interest in diversifying the province's crude oil export market, which saw around 97 per cent of shipments abroad go to the U.S. in 2023, according to the Canada Energy Regulator.

Challenges aside, Canadian business owners are finding opportunity in uncertainty and latching onto it. It's not that Odd Burger will never grow into the U.S., Mr. McInnes said, it just won't be happening any time soon.

"It's just the uncertainty of the economics. We have no idea what the tariffs will do."

With reports from Robyn Doolittle

How to navigate the housing market in 2025 with confidence

ith one in three Canadians expected to renew their mortgage in the next two years', many are wondering how to approach the market with confidence. Between fluctuating interest rates, a shifting political landscape and tariffs coming from south of the border, 2025 is shaping up to be a pivotal year for home buyers and mortgage holders alike.

According to Scott McGillivray, real estate expert and television host, the only constant this year is uncertainty. "[That uncertainty] usually happens

when there's a year of political change," says Scott McGillivray. "But we've got political changes happening here in Canada [and in the U.S.], so for the first time in a long time, decisions that are being made south of the border are directly influencing our market."

Uncertainty doesn't always mean bad news though. Mr. McGillivray points out that in any volatile market, there can be opportunities if prices soften. Also, interest rates could drop more than expected this year "if the impact of tariffs becomes a bigger reality," he adds.

If you are one of those Canadians who is considering a home purchase or is renewing a mortgage this year, there are ways to navigate an ever-changing marketplace with confidence, says Mudit Jain, senior vice-president, specialized advice at CIBC. Just make sure you have a team of trusted advisors on your side.

"We surround our clients with a team of financial experts that can provide you the peace of mind that entering into this purchase won't impact your ability to meet your other financial goals," Mr. Jain says. "Down payment strategies, managing monthly payments, fixed versus variable [mortgages] – exploring your financial options is so important to make sure you're choosing the right solution that works for you, especially in today's market."

Strike when the time is right

For those planning to purchase a home, timing is key, says Mr. Mc-Gillivray. Though you might expect to buy a new house and sell your

CIBC



Home-buying requires careful planning that goes beyond just securing a mortgage. GETTY IMAGES

"

Exploring your financial options

is so important to make sure you're

choosing the right solution that works for

you, especially in today's market.

Mudit Jain

Senior vice-president, specialized advice, CIBC

current home afterwards, that might be a risky move in this market.

"This may not be the year when you buy a house and then put yours up for sale and expect it to be sold by the time you close on the other one," he says. It might be a better move to sell first and buy after, since the home you want to purchase will likely still be on the market. "Don't gamble with being stuck owning two."

Mr. Jain points out that there are ways to mitigate the challenges of carrying two homes at once. He gives the example of a client one of his colleagues worked with -a young couple with kids who were relocating to a new city but struggling to navigate the financial complexities of selling their current home while purchasing a new one.

"This is a common situation, where you've seen a new home you're really excited about and you don't want to let it slip through your fingers, and at the same time you don't know the exact price your current home will sell for or how long it will take to sell." The couple's CIBC mortgage advisor helped them explore bridge financing – a short-term loan that allowed them to secure their new home before finalizing the sale of their existing property. "The advisor also worked with them to reassess their budget

them to reassess their budget, factoring in the cost of living in their new city and ensuring the mortgage aligned with their long-term financial goals," he says.

Timing is also key for those who are renewing a mortgage, says Mr. Jain. If you're concerned about getting a good rate, start early. "There's no reason to wait [until there are just] days or weeks prior to the renewal. Start working with your mortgage advisor early in the process, especially if you're uncertain regarding rates," he says. "If you start early and you're comfortable where rates are, you can lock in rates earlier and provide some protection against potential interest rate fluctuations."

Before buying, understand the true cost

Because buying a home is such a major financial decision, it's important to understand the true cost before making a purchase, especially during challenging economic times, Mr. Jain says.

"We factor in all the costs associated with the mortgage – property taxes, maintenance, insurance – to really get a full view of what it's going to cost you," he says. "If we can define that early on, you will go into the purchase with a higher degree of confidence that you'll be operating in a comfortable price range."

Home-buying requires careful planning that goes beyond just securing a mortgage, he notes. That's why an effective advisor will consider their client's overall financial situation – income, debt, savings, credit history and more – to help them understand what they can afford and how their mortgage payments should be structured.

structured. Mr. McGillivray agrees that when it comes to deciding on a mortgage, getting good advice from a professional is crucial. "This isn't just guessing and clicking a button," he says. "This is a conversation you need to have."

Keep uncertainty at bay with informed choices

Buying a home or renewing a mortgage can be stressful, but both Mr. Jain and Mr. McGillivray say you can mitigate that stress by focusing on what you can control.

"Market conditions, geopolitical tensions, interest rates, all that stuff ebbs and flows. It's really outside of your control," says Mr. Jain.

"But by taking the proactive steps of understanding your financial situation and working with an expert or a specialist to explore your mortgage options, it will help you approach all of the uncertainty with confidence."

This article is part of the 'Thriving through change' series, which delves into personal stories at crucial life moments, underscoring the benefits of a consistent investment strategy with CIBC Imperial Service.

 CIBC Homeowners Poll conducted by Ipsos on behalf of CIBC from January 20 to 28, 2025, with a sample size of 1,500 Canadians aged 18-plus, interviewed online.

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GLOBE INVESTOR

Sharing meals, conversations and expenses

To save money, some retirees are moving in together and living the Golden Girls way

BRENDA BOUW

or the past eight years, Louise Bardswich has been living with three other women in Port Perry, Ont., sharing meals, expenses and some good conversation, often over a lightly competitive game of cards.

The women, all single in their 60s, 70s and 80s – affectionately known in their community as the Golden Girls of Port Perry (after the 1980s U.S. sitcom) - came together to age in place in their retirement years.

"For me, the original motiva-tion was financial," said Ms. Bardswich, one of the original co-owners and designers of the home that was custom-built for the co-living arrangement. She came up with the idea about a decade ago, after putting her mother in a retirement home and hearing about how much those costs increase annually.

"I thought, 'holy crap,' when I'm 80 years old I won't be able to afford that," Ms. Bardswich, 73, said with a laugh.

Her other motivation was having people around for safety and some company. "The companionship has been

great, especially during the pan-demic years," she said. Ms. Bardswich and the Golden

Girls of Port Perry are a part of a group of seniors redefining retirement living. Many are widowed, divorced or never married and looking for togetherness to save money, avoid isolation and have more control over how live the last chapters of they their lives. For some, it's more appealing than a seniors' residence.

"It's a way for people to main-tain their independence," said Susan Latremoille, co-founder and partner at Toronto-based Next Chapter Lifestyle Advisors, which helps people prepare for the non-financial side of retirement.

She expects senior co-living arrangements to increase in Canada in the coming years, espe-cially as people – particularly women – live longer, healthier lives. Co-habitation can also help people stay healthy, Ms. Latremoille said, citing research showing that social isolation puts



Louise Bardswich, from left, has a co-living arrangement with Sue Hawley, Carol Thornton and Susan Micklewright. The women, known in their Ontario community as the Golden Girls of Port Perry, are among a group of seniors redefining retirement living. SHAY CONROY/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

seniors at greater risk of death than obesity and physical inactivity

"Being with other people creates a sense of camaraderie and oftentimes a shared purpose," said Ms. Latremoille, who has also talked with some of her friends about this type of living arrangement later in life.

Co-habitation can also give seniors – and their adult children - peace of mind knowing that other people are around if they fall or get suddenly ill, Ms. Latremoille said.

To make it work financially, Ms. Latremoille recommends having a formal document outlining how to split costs such as utilities, landscaping and snow shovelling, while discretionary items such as food and entertaining would either be pooled or in-dividually tracked. She also recommends each occupant chip in to a contingency fund to help pay for unforeseen expenses such as a roof leak or a broken furnace, especially if the occupants are co-owners of the property.

"There should also be a written understanding that if one person is no longer able to live independently, there is a process for them to be moved to a retirement or nursing home, she said. "Similarly, when someone dies, there is provision for the estate to be settled with their part of the ownership/rent adjusted.



Being with other people creates a sense of camaraderie and oftentimes a shared purpose.

SUSAN LATREMOILLE CO-FOUNDER AND PARTNER AT NEXT CHAPTER LIFESTYLE ADVISORS

Ms. Bardswich said her home was designed so each co-owner has a large bedroom and an ensuite bathroom for additional privacy. There's a shared living space, dining room and kitchen two dishwashers. The with

owners also share the cost of a cleaner and the home also has an elevator built wide enough to carry someone in a wheelchair and a caregiver, if needed.

The owners also abide by a legal agreement that enables someone to sell their quarterstake as long as the other owners approve of the new buyer. If they can't find someone in 12 months, the other residents will buy them out. Jackie Porter, a certified finan-

cial planner at Carte Wealth Management in Mississauga, says the co-living aging-in-place arrangement occasionally comes

up with her clients. "A lot of women, especially single ones, are looking further down the road asking themselves 'what will my life look like when I'm older,' " said Ms. Porter, who's also discussing the lifestyle with her friends given that she has no kids and a spouse who's 20 years older.

"I don't want to be alone," she said. "Having a community of women to share my later years is essential with to my

well-being."

There are also financial benefits when sharing housing costs such as taxes, utilities, subscriptions and groceries.

That's money you can put towards an emergency foud can put to-or your hobbies," Ms. Porter said. Co-habitating with others hasn't been a problem for Cathe-

rine Rutherford, who lived in an ashram in India on and off for 10 years in the 90s. "You learn how to be a room-

mate, to close doors quietly and be as considerate as possible," said Ms. Rutherford, 65, who rents a large third-floor bedroom in an older seven-bedroom home in Gatineau, Que.

Ms. Rutherford shares a bathroom with another renter, and everyone in the home shares the

"If you can do it, it really does help financially," she says, but adds that the social engagement is also a big herefit is also a big benefit.

"As a single person, it helps me expand as a human being," she says. "When you live alone, you can get stuck in your ways."

WHAT INVESTORS NEED TO KNOW FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Euro zone and U.K. markets closed (10 a.m. ET) U.S. leading indicator

TUESDAY

Euro zone consumer confidence (8:30 a.m. ET) Canada's industrial product and raw

construction investment for February Earnings include: Danaher Corp.; GE Aerospace; Lockheed Martin Corp.; Tesla Inc.; Verizon Communications Inc.; West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd.; 3M Co.

WEDNESDAY

Japan and Euro zone PMI (8:30 a.m. ET) Canada's new housing price index for March. Estimate is a month-over-month annualize rate gain of 0.9 per

cent. (2 p.m. ET) U.S. Beige Book is released.

Earnings include: AT&T Inc.; Boeing Co.; Cargojet Inc.; Choice Properties REIT; IBM; Newmont Corp.; NextEra Energy Inc.; Philip Morris International Inc.; Rogers Communications Inc.; Texas Instruments Inc.; TFI International Inc.; Waste Connections Inc.; Whitecap Resources Inc.

Payroll Survey: Job Vacancy Rate for February (8:30 a.m. ET) U.S. initial

jobless claims for week of April 19. Estimate is 222,000, up 5,000.
■ (8:30 a.m. ET) U.S. durable

and core orers for March. The Street is projecting month-over-month gains of 1.5 per cent and 0.2 per cent, respectively.
(10 a.m. ET) U.S. existing

home sales for March. Consen sus is an annualized rate decline of 2.8 per cent.

Also: G20 Financial Ministers

ences Inc.; PepsiCo Inc.; Procter & Gamble Co.; Secure Energy Services Inc.; T-Mobile US Inc.; Teck Resources Ltd.; Union Pacific Corp.; Winpak Ltd.

FRIDAY

China industrial profits (8:30 a.m. ET) Canadian retail sales for February. Consensus is a month-over-month decline of 0.4 per cent. (8:30 a.m. ET) Canada's

materials prices indexes for March. Estimates are monthover-month increases of 0.5 per cent and 0.1 per cent, respectively.

(8:30 a.m. ET) Canada's

decline of 0.2 per cent and flat year-over-year.

- (9:45 a.m. ET) U.S. S&P Global PMIs for April
- (10 a.m. ET) U.S. new home sales for March. Consensus is an

THURSDAY

- Japan machine tool orders
- Germany business climate
- (8:30 a.m. ET) Canada's

and Central Bank Governors meeting

Earnings include: Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.; Amazon.com Inc.; Caterpillar Inc.; Comcast Corp.; FirstService Corp.; Gilead Scimanufacturing sales for March (10 a.m. ET) U.S. University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index Earnings include: AbbVie Inc.; Colgate-Palmolive Co.

MEETING DATES

DATA SUPPLIED BY ISSUING COMPANIES THROUGH THE SERVICE OF CDS CLEARING AND DEPOSITORY SERVICES INC

= CHANGE IN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INFORMATION % = CANCELLED MEETING; @ = ADJOURNED MEETING; A = ANNUAL; S = SPECIAL; G = GENERAL; X = EXTRA; E = EXTRAORDINARY

	RECORD MEETING TYPE		RECORD MEETING TYPE	· · ·	RECORD MEETING TYPE	1	RECORD MEETING TYPE		RECORD MEETING TYPE
	DATE DATE		DATE DATE		DATE DATE		DATE DATE	l	DATE DATE
dynaCERT Inc.	May 06 Jun 25 A	BluEnergies Ltd.	Apr 29 Jun 03 AS	Global Atomic Corporation	May 06 Jun 25 AGS	Metalla Royalty&Streaming Ltd	May 07 Jun 24 A	The Inx Digital Company, Inc.	May 08 Jun 19 AS
i-80 Gold Corp.	Apr 23 Jun 17 AS	Bonterra Resources Inc.	May 06 Jun 11 AG	Gold Terra Resource Corp.	*Apr 29 Jun 04 AGS	Minco Capital Corp.	May 14 Jun 20 AG	The North West Company Inc.	May 07 Jun 11 AG
Adex Mining Inc.	May 07 Jun 16 AG	Bragg Gaming Group Inc.	May 06 Jun 17 AG	GoviEx Uranium Inc.	May 05 Jun 27 AGS	Minco Silver Corporation	May 14 Jun 20 AG	ThreeD Capital Inc.	May 06 Jun 18 AS
Advantex Marketing	May 07 Jun 16 AG	BuildDirect.com Technologies	May 08 Jun 20 AGS	Greenbriar Sustainable Living	May 15 Jun 20 AG	Netramark Holdings Inc.	May 05 Jun 09 AG	Touchstone Exploration Inc.	May 08 Jun 19 A
Agrinam Acquisition Corp.	May 05 Jun 10 S	Canagold Resources Ltd.	May 05 Jun 12 AG	Grey Wolf Animal Health Corp.	May 05 Jun 19 AS	Northstar Clean Tech	May 13 Jun 17 AS	Triumph Gold Corp.	May 12 Jun 19 AG
Algoma Steel Group Inc.	May 05 Jun 24 A	Cascadia Minerals Ltd.	May 13 Jun 25 AG	Grounded Lithium Corp.	May 02 Jun 18 AGS	NorthIsle Copper and Gold Inc.	May 08 Jun 25 AG	Twyford Ventures Inc.	May 13 Jun 17 AG
Alvopetro Energy Ltd.	May 05 Jun 18 AGS	CaNickel Mining Limited	*May 02 Jun 11 AGS	Groupe Dynamite Inc.	May 08 Jun 17 AG	Nurexone Biologic Inc.	May 07 Jun 18 AGS	TVI Pacific Inc	May 16 Jun 27 AG
Amaroq Minerals Ltd.	May 09 Jun 13 AS	Centurion Minerals Ltd.	May 08 Jun 25 AG	Gunnison Copper Corp.	May 07 Jun 26 AG	Orezone Gold Corporation	May 05 Jun 12 AGS	Ucore Rare Metals Inc.	May 09 Jun 13 AGS
American Tungsten Corp.	May 05 Jun 12 AGS	Chesapeake Gold Corp.	Apr 28 Jun 18 AG	Halmont Properties Corporation	May 08 Jun 27 AG	Organto Foods Inc.	May 06 Jun 25 AG	Ultra Lithium Inc.	May 07 Jun 11 AGS
Anfield Energy Inc.	May 07 Jun 13 AS	China Gold International	May 09 Jun 26 AG	Harfang Exploration Inc.	May 07 Jun 19 AG	Orla Mining Ltd.	May 09 Jun 24 AGS	Unigold Inc.	May 09 Jun 24 AGS
Angus Gold Inc.	May 07 Jun 19 AGS	Cinaport Acquisition Corp. III	May 08 Jun 17 AS	Hercules Metals Corp.	May 07 Jun 17 AG	Opus One Gold Corporation	May 06 Jun 10 AGS	Velocity Minerals Ltd	May 02 Jun 17 AG
Argo Corporation	May 06 Jun 20 AGS	Clip Money Inc.	May 06 Jun 25 AG	High Tide Inc.	Apr 17 May 29 AGS	Pace Metals Ltd.	Apr 14 May 20 AGS	Village Farms International	May 09 Jun 20 AG
Atha Energy Corp.	May 08 Jun 25 AG	Colibri Resource Corporation	May 09 Jun 13 AG	Imaflex Inc	May 05 Jun 11 AG	Pelangio Exploration Inc.	May 09 Jun 25 AGS	Vitalhub Corp.	May 08 Jun 27 A
Aura Minerals Inc.	May 07 Jun 16 A	Collective Mining Ltd.	May 09 Jun 16 A	International Zeolite Corp.	May 05 Jun 16 AG	Power Metals Corp.	May 05 Jun 09 AG	Volt Lithium Corp.	May 09 Jun 18 AS
Aurora Spine Corporation	May 07 Jun 16 AS	Coppernico Metals Inc.	May 08 Jun 24 AG	Intouch Insight Ltd.	May 06 Jun 19 A	Precore Gold Corp.	Apr 16 May 28 AG	Voxtur Analytics Corp.	May 08 Jun 27 AGS
Automotive Finco Corp.	May 15 Jun 19 AGS	Core Assets Corp.	May 07 Jun 11 AG	Invesque Inc	May 07 Jun 18 AG	Prime Mining Corp.	May 05 Jun 19 AGS	Waskahigan Oil & Gas Corp.	Apr 30 Jun 04 S
AuMEGA Metals Ltd.	Apr 15 May 15 AGS	CBLT Inc.	May 08 Jun 17 AS	Ionik Corporation	May 07 Jun 26 AS	Principal Technologies Inc.	May 09 Jun 27 AGS	Waverley Pharma Inc.	May 05 Jun 23 AS
Avant Brands Inc.	*Apr 14 May 30 AGS	CVW CleanTech Inc.	May 09 Jun 27 AGS	IsoEnergy Ltd.	May 09 Jun 25 AG	Probe Gold Inc.	May 07 Jun 26 AGS	Well Health Technologies Corp.	May 07 Jun 19 AG
Axis Auto Finance Inc.	*Apr 14 May 30 S	Decisive Dividend Corporation	May 09 Jun 24 AGS	IC Group Holdings Inc.	May 05 Jun 12 AS	Reem Capital Corp.	*Mar 11 May 09 AS	Wescan Goldfields Inc.	May 06 Jun 18 AGS
Ayurcann Holdings Corp.	May 09 Jun 23 AG	Discovery Silver Corp.	May 06 Jun 25 AGS	Kane Biotech Inc.	%Apr 17 May 28 AS	Rocky Mountain Liquor Inc.	May 08 Jun 24 AGS	West Vault Mining Inc.	May 09 Jun 24 AG
ADYA INC.	May 05 Jun 11 AS	D2 Lithium Corp.	May 13 Jun 27 A	Kane Biotech Inc.	May 09 Jun 25 AS	RTG Mining Inc.	*Apr 21 May 23 AGS	Westshore Terminals Investmer	it May 06 Jun 17 AG
AGF All World Tax Advantage Gr	May 12 Jun 26 AS	Emerita Resources Corp.	May 09 Jun 19 AS	Kraken Energy Corp.	May 06 Jun 11 AGS	Serrano Resources Ltd.	May 05 Jun 09 AG	Xtra-Gold Resources Corp.	May 06 Jun 20 AG
AGF GIbl Sustain. Grth Eqty Fd	May 12 Jun 26 S	Empress Royalty Corp.	May 06 Jun 10 AGS	Kraken Robotics Inc.	May 06 Jun 23 AGS	Skeena Resources Ltd	May 07 Jun 23 AG	Yangaroo Inc	May 09 Jun 26 AGS
AMG Acquisition Corp.	May 06 Jun 10 AG	Euromax Resources Ltd	May 14 Jun 24 AG	Latin Metals Inc.	May 27 Jul 10 AG	Sol Strategies Inc.	May 09 Jun 19 AS	Zeb Nickel Corp.	May 09 Jun 25 AG
ANB Canada Inc.	May 16 Jun 23 AG	Faction Investment Group Corp.	May 08 Jun 17 AGS	Lite Access Technologies Inc.	Apr 16 May 26 AGS	Solaris Resources Inc.	May 06 Jun 24 AG	Zero Candida Technologies Inc.	May 05 Jun 18 AGS
Base Carbon Inc.	May 09 Jun 25 AG	Fortune Minerals Limited	May 07 Jun 24 AG	Lithium Americas Corp.	*Apr 15 Jun 11 AGS	Source Rock Royalties Ltd.	May 08 Jun 17 AGS		
Bayridge Resources Corp.	May 07 Jun 26 AGS	FuelPositive Corporation	May 09 Jun 24 AGS	Magma Silver Corp.	May 08 Jun 12 AG	Sparc Al Inc.	May 06 Jun 13 AG		
Bitfarms Ltd.	*May 07 Jun 16 AS	FLINT Corp.	May 05 Jun 24 AG	Martinrea International Inc.	May 06 Jun 11 AG	Sticklt Technologies Inc.	May 05 Jun 18 AGS		
Blacksteel Energy Inc.	May 22 Jun 26 AS	Glacier Media Inc.	May 15 Jun 19 AG	Marwest Apartment REIT	May 07 Jun 16 AS	Tesoro Minerals Corp.	May 09 Jun 16 AGS		

Part 4 of The Globe's ETF Buyer's Guide

In the current global trade war, a lot of investors decided they very much need international exposure



.S. President Donald Trump has accomplished a nearimpossible task in getting investors to diversify their portfolios Exposure to international mar-

kets is foundational diversifica-

tion, but it's been a struggle to get investors interested. U.S. stocks outperformed massively, have and domestic stocks have a perennial advantage through the home-country bias of Canadian investors. International stocks who needs them?

In the global trade war that began in early 2025, a lot of investors decided they very much need international exposure. Money poured into this fund category at levels many times higher than usual.

If you're looking to markets outside North America, this edition of the 2025 Globe and Mail ETF Buyer's Guide can help. All the funds presented are suitable for core exposure to developed international markets, which are

dominated by exposure to Europe and Asia. Japan is the top holding in all cases, generally followed by Britain and France. Canada and the United States are excluded

Many of these funds come in versions with and without currency hedging, which eliminates the effect of fluctuations in the value of our dollar on returns. Un-hedged funds are more popular for the most part, and thus they're the focus in this edition of the ETF guide. It's widely thought that hedging is unnecessary if you're a long-term investor holding a diversified group of international stocks.

This year's ETF Buyer's Guide has so far covered Canadian equity and bond funds and U.S. equity funds. Still to come: Canadian dividend funds and asset allocation funds.

For the tax implications of holding international funds in a non-registered account, consult our ETF tax primer (tgam.ca/ETFtax-primer). Here's a look at the investing

terms used in the ETF Buyer's Guide:

Assets: Shown to give you a sense of how interested other investors are in a fund.

Management expense ratio (MER): The main cost of owning an ETF on a continuing basis; published returns are shown on an after-fee basis.

Trading expense ratio (TER): Reflects the cost of stock trading to maintain the portfolio. TERs tend to be much larger for international equity ETFs than other fund categories

Yield: An annualized number based on the latest dividend payout. Dividends from international stocks are not eligible for the dividend tax credit in non-registered accounts.

50-day trading volume: Average number of shares traded daily over the previous 50 days; it's easier to buy and sell at competitive prices if an ETF is heavily traded. **Returns:** Shown on an an-

nualized total return basis, which means share price changes plus -dividends.

Launch date: The older an ETF is, the more likely it is that you can look back at a history of returns through good markets and bad.

THE 2025 GLOBE AND MAIL ETF BUYER'S GUIDE, VOL. 4 - INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUNDS

MARKET DATA TO APRIL 11 TOTAL ANNUALIZED RETURNS TO MARCH 31 (%) 50-day Launch date TEI Assets average No. of Top co yield (%) Ticker (\$-mil.) (%) (%) price (\$) volume holdings weightings (%) 1-year 3-year 5-year (mm-dd-yyyy) BMO MSCI EAFE Index ETF ZEA 8,457 0.22 0.04 23.14 2.8 72,286 699 Japan 22 11.9 11.5 12.2 02/10/2014 UK 15 France 11 Rob Carrick's comments: The definitive index for developed markets outside North America is the MSCI Europe Australasia Far East Index, known as EAFE. The combined MER and TER for this hugely popular fund is expensive compared to Canadian and U.S. equity ETFs, but that's the state of play in the international category. For hedging, there's a much smaller version with the ticker ZDM. 0.44 0.04 2014-11-05 BMO International Dividend ETF 7DI 457 24 07 л 15.325 102 Japan 20 134 13.8 14.6 UK 15 France 15 The all-in cost of owning this fund is considerable at almost half a percentage point. But if your emphasis as an investor is generating income, ZDI delivers. ZDH is the hedged version 0.54 0.12 Fidelity International High Dividend ETF FCID 99 26.80 4.1 5,036 UK 20 14.8 12.4 2018-09-13 109 14.1 Japan 18 Australia 11 A pricey fund that hasn't found much of a following. But if you're looking for dividends from your international exposure, this fund is one that has performed well while also producing a comparatively high yield. 0.51 0.12 Fidelity International High Quality ETF FCIQ 755 39.11 1.6 10,694 120 Japan 27 10.2 9.3 11.2 2019-01-18 UK 16 France 11 This fund has managed to produce competitive returns by focusing on a compact portfolio of companies with strong balance sheets and stable cash flows, a strategy that sounds kind of appealling in the investing world of 2025. bal X Intl Dev Markets Equity Index Corporate Class ETF HXDM 466 0.22 0.50 47.45 14,642 10.8 10.9 11.5 2017-09-26 n/a n/a Japan 22 UK 15 France 11 HXDM is a specialty product for investors willing to pay high fees in exchange for a structure where the unit price roughly reflects the changing price of underlying stocks and dividends together. No cash dividends means no foreign withholding taxes to undermine returns, and potential for additional tax advantages in non-registered accounts. For high earners, dividends can be taxed at a higher rate than capital gains. Global X recently launched the Global X MSCI EAFE Index ETF (EAFX-NE), a traditional international equity ETF with an MER of 0.25 per cent. iShares Core MSCI EAFE IMI Index ETF 10.4 11.7 04/10/2013 10,304 0.22 0.01 11.4 XEF 38.07 2.7 298,320 2.488 Japan 24 UK 14 France 10 IMI means investable market index, a reference to the fact that XEF goes beyond the large companies held in a basic EAFE fund or similar to include small and medium companies. There should theoretically be a reward for XEF's greater diversification, but it's not apparent just now. The hedged version of XEF is XFH. The iShares family also includes a straight-up EAFE fund, XIN, which is hedged. Mackenzie International Equity Index ETF QDX 958 0.18 0.02 119.38 2018-01-24 25 4 588 905 Japan 24 11.5 11 117 UK 13 France 9 Kudos to Mackenzie for competing hard on fees with index-tracking ETFs like QDX. This fund uses a competitor to the MSCI EAFE family of indexes, the Solactive GBS Developed Markets ex North America Large & Mid Cap CAD Index TD International Equity Index ETF TPE 2,575 0.19 0.05 22.33 2.4 44,929 900 EU 51 11.4 10.9 11.8 2016-03-22 Japan 25 Uses the same index as QDX, but ends up with a somewhat higher combined MER and TER. Worth considering if you use the TD Easy Trade app to invest in ETFs. No-cost trading of TD's own ETF products Japan 19 Vanguard FTSE Develped ex NA High Dividend Yield Index ETF VIDY 316 0.31 0 32.69 3.6 35,104 709 19.6 14.8 15.97 2018-08-21 UK 17 Switzerland 11 The returns stand out, but so does the 37 per cent weighting in financial stocks. Canadian investors typically have lots of financials thanks to the sector's dominance in the S&P/TSX composite index and in ETFs that hold dividend stocks 5,390 Vanguard FTSE Developed All Cap ex North America Index ETF 0.23 145,700 12/01/2015 VIU 0 34 52 2.6 3.842 Japan 23 9.9 9.7 11.4 UK 15 France 9 diversification via the 3,842 stocks in the portfolio, but the underlying FTSE Developed All Cap ex North America Index has in recent years lagged EAFE and Solactive competitors. The MER is a tick higher than others

on this list, but the zero TER demands attention

ROB CARRICK AND JOHN SOPINSKI/ THE GLOBE AND MAIL SOURCE: ETF COMPANY WEBSITES; GLOBEINVESTOR.COM; MORNINGSTAR CANADA; TMX MONEY

For many women, divorce leads to a crash course in money management

MEERA RAMAN







that many women haven't established a credit score in their own name, so it's important to open a bank and credit account in your name and update any authorizations on existing accounts.

Finally, it's important to update all legal documents and

'I didn't have any savings." said the designer and realtor, now 65, based in Etobicoke, Ont. "I had to start over."

Like many women of her generation, Ms. McLeod grew up in a household where money wasn't discussed openly. That led to a lack of financial literacy, which continued into her marriage.

Ms. McLeod's experience is not unique. For many women - especially those in heterosexual relationships where finances were traditionally handled by their husbands - the end of a marriage can lead to a crash course in personal finance.

Although Ms. McLeod saved during her marriage, much of her income went toward raising her family. After her divorce, she had to rebuild. With help in the form of a loan from her sister, she bought a home. Then she sought out a financial adviser and chatted with her friends in similar situations. It was then that she realized that she wasn't alone in feeling financially behind after divorce.

"It was talking to other women that really opened my eyes to how little we knew," she said. "Thank goodness I'm not the only one, but holy cow, our financial literacy is in dire need [of help]." According to Zena Amundsen,

Although Nancie McLeod saved during her marriage, much of her income went toward raising her family. After her divorce, she had to learn to rebuild her finances. DUANE COLE/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

certified financial planner based in Regina, gendered divi-sions of labour in the home often result in men taking the lead on financial decisions. "Many wom-en are focused on running the family and caregiving," she said. The lack of financial education isn't about intelligence, it's about exposure."

A 2024 survey by Edward Jones found that only about one-quarter of Canadian women said they learned money management in school, compared with 35 per cent of men.

That lack of exposure becomes

painfully clear during divorces. One example is that many women are surprised to learn that they can no longer income-split with their spouse, a move that can significantly reduce taxes.

It's common that women don't have the knowledge they need to navigate financial challenges later in life, said Julie Petrera, a senior strategist at Edward Jones. "Up until that point, they might have had somebody else in their household that was helping them or managing that for them. They were never formally taught, and were never informally they

taught or practised household financial management.'

For women going through divorce, experts recommend a few kev steps.

First, assess your financial situation, Ms. Petrera said. Tally your assets, debts and sources of income. Next, adjust your financial goals to reflect your new life. A financial or retirement plan created during a marriage may no longer fit after a separation, especially with one fewer income.

Another common shock, according to Toronto-based divorce financial consultant Eva Sachs, is authorizations, such as a will, power of attorney and beneficiary designations, Ms. Petrera said.

Now Ms. McLeod is determined to help her children learn about saving. Her two sons, both in their mid-20s, have a standing deal with her: Whatever they contribute to their tax-free savings account each month, she'll match it. It's her way of helping them build financial security early something she wishes she'd had herself.

"Women need to understand finances, and they need to understand that they may be on their own," Ms. McLeod said, "I wish I knew more, but I'm still learning."

It's also a smart idea to work with a financial adviser for guidance during and after the process.

For Lori Germain, who lives in Toronto and separated from her husband in 2021, preparation made all the difference. During the divorce proceeding, she went through her "finances line by line with an adviser," said Ms. Germain, 60. "Because of that process, I wasn't hung out to dry as much as some people."

"It certainly left me feeling fairly empowered, in a world where that doesn't happen very often to women."

O THE GLOBE AND MAIL | MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

SPORTS

Jays reliever Schultz fans | Gilgeous-Alexander, eight in record-tieing debut vs. Mariners **B12**

Jokic, Antetokounmpo finalists for NBA MVP **B13**

-[MAPLE LEAFS VS. SENATORS]-



Setting the tone at home

Maple Leafs forward Steven Lorentz, left, checks Senators forward Dylan Cozens during the first period, in Toronto, on Sunday. The Maple Leafs defeated the Senators, 6-2, for a 1-0 series lead. Read more NHL playoff coverage at GLOBESPORTS.COM

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leafs skate to dominant Game 1 win vs. Sens

PAUL ATTFIELD

First blood in the Battle of Ontario went the way of the Toronto Ma-ple Leafs on Sunday, as they leaned heavily on special teams to skate off with a comfortable 6-2 victory against the Ottawa Senators in their playoff series opener.

Mitch Marner, who had just three points in last season's firstround ouster against the Boston Bruins, matched that output in Game 1 with a goal and two assists. And the power play – which, like Marner, came in for heavy criticism after going 1-21 in last year's playoffs – cashed in three times on six opportunities as the Leafs took a 1-0 edge in the best-of-seven first-round series.

In addition to being Easter Sunday the series opener also took place 21 years to the day since the two provincial rivals last went toeto-toe in the Stanley Cup playoffs, in Game 7 of the 2004 Eastern Conference quarter-finals. That series, like the other three that had preceded it, went the way of the Maple Leafs. But that was 7,669 days ago, and back then players like Jake Sanderson and Nick Roberston were still learning to walk, never mind skate, while Brady Tkachuk was still months away from his fifth birthday. But as the Senators captain explained in the hours preceding Game 1, that was a generation ago and the hockey played in those days, like a lot of things, was poles apart from the current game "It's a little bit of a different era now," he said Sunday morning. 'You saw a lot of the physicality of the fights, the grabbing at the face and neck area. So I don't know if you'll be seeing that much this series The opening exchanges un-folded much as he had predicted and the penalty box sat unused for the entire first period while Ot-tawa just shaded the physicality thanks to a 20-19 edge in hits. But with the neighbourly greet-ings out of the way, it was the Leafs who jumped into the ascendency

where it really counts. Oliver Ekman-Larsson, who had missed the last four games of the regular season through injury, had been reinserted into the lineup for the series opener. Just past the sevenminute mark, he repaid head coach Craig Berube for that faith, taking a pass from Scott Laughton in the high slot and beating Linus Ullmark under the glove hand with Toronto's second shot of the game

It could have been much worse shortly afterwards for Ottawa and its former Vezina Trophy-winning goaltender, but Calle Jarnkrok, who had provided the secondary assist on the opener, could only hit the post from the edge of the crease, and his shot was cleared off the goal-line and away to safe-

ty.

Janecke scores OT winner as U.S. beats Canada for women's world hockey gold

DONNA SPENCER CESKE BUDEJOVICE

The United States wrested the gold medal back in its tug of war with Canada with a 4-3 over-time win Sunday at the women's world hockey championship.

The two countries have met in the tournament's gold-medal game 23 times. Sunday's contest was the 10th to go to overtime or a shootout and their record is 5-5.

Tessa Janecke ended it at 17:06 of a 20-minute overtime on a defensive-zone turnover by Canada. Janecke shovelled by puck by goalie

Ann-Renee Desbiens on a Taylor Heise feed. Canada beat the U.S. 6-5 in overtime in Utica, N.Y., last year after the U.S. prevailed 6-3 in Brampton, Ont. in 2023. The Americans earned an 11th gold medal behind Canada with 13.

U.S. captain Hilary Knight extended her re cord for the most world championship gold medals (10) and medals (15) won by a player.

"For us, it's being ready to win," said Knight, whose black eye from hitting her face on the ice

clash between Canada and the U.S. without an extra layer of drama.

The Americans lost goaltender Aerin Frankel to a hard collision with Canada's Laura Stacey when the two raced for the puck early in the third period.

Gwyneth Philips, who is in her rookie year with the PWHL's Ottawa Charge, drew in and stopped 17 of 18 shots after Frankel's 27 saves.

"Every time we're in one of these, I don't want to say you should just throw out a scout-ing report, but it never comes to fruition," said U.S. coach John Wroblewski

"Like anything you think the game could go, it takes a turn and then takes another turn, and then it's a roller coaster every single time. I don't like roller coasters, but I like these games. They're fun to be in."

The rivalry for women's hockey supremacy continues into next year's Olympic Games in Milan and Cortina, Italy, where Canada will at-tempt to defend their gold. The U.S. defeated Canada to be Olympic champions in 2018.

Marner succeeded where his teammate had failed on the Leafs' very next shot on goal. Taking a defence-splitting pass from Auston Matthews, Toronto's leading regular-season point scorer broke in all alone on Ullmark, beating the Swedish goaltender bar down at the 12.18 mark

With the white rally towels being waved wildly around Scotiabank Arena, the Senators were handed a route back into the game with under four minutes left in the first. Anthony Stolarz, making his first career playoff start, was unable to hold onto a routine shot from Dylan Cozens, and Drake Batherson was only too happy to bundle home the loose puck

Stolarz, who won the Stanley Cup last season as a backup in Florida, was gifted a couple of chances for redemption at the start of the second period though, first denying Tkachuk on a breakaway before standing tall to stymie Shane Pinto.

The importance of those saves was further amplified 30 seconds later. With Tim Stutzle in the box after drawing the first penalty of the game, John Tavares cashed in his own rebound to restore a twogoal lead, with Marner and Wil-liam Nylander earning the assists. LEAFS, B13

in the semi-final required icing between periods Sunday.

"That was what this tournament was about. Accepting the opportunity to win and that's hard. It's hard to close out games, especially against a Canadian squad that's been here time and time again and proven themselves year after vear.'

It wouldn't be a high-stakes women's hockey

Caroline Harvey and Abbey Murphy scored for the U.S. in a 29-second span followed less than a minute later by Canada's Danielle Serdachny and Jennifer Gardiner within 55 seconds of each other in the second period.

Desbiens, who made 26 saves in the game, didn't secure a Kendall Coyne Schofield lob from centre ice when Murphy raced in to tap the puck in.

WORLDS, B13



U.S. forward Tessa Janecke scores against Canada in the gold medal game at the Women's Ice Hockey Championship, in Ceske Budejovice, Czechia, on Sunday. PETR DAVID JOSEK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oilers optimistic as 'underdogs' vs. Kings

Edmonton has defeated Los Angeles in three straight playoffs, but is the lower seed this year

GEMMA KARSTENS-SMITH LOS ANGELES

ike tulips poking their heads out of the dirt, playoff a matchups between the Edmonton Oilers and L.A. Kings have become a sure sign of spring.

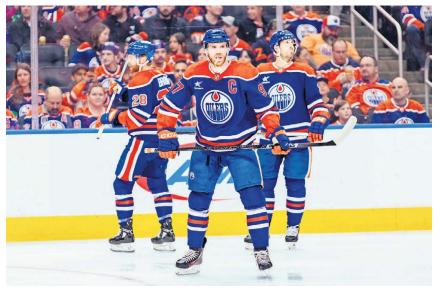
The two sides will face off in Game 1 on Monday, marking the fourth year in a row they've met in the first round of the NHL postseason.

This year, though, the Oilers have ceded home-ice advantage for the first time and aren't the favourites heading in.

"For our team, we're fine being the underdog, under appreciated. We've got some good players, but it's fine to be the underdogs," head coach Kris Knoblauch said Sunday.

"I think a lot of people have a lot of questions about our team. We didn't finish high in the standings. The second half of the season, we weren't pulling off as many victories as we had in the past. And we're playing a team that a lot of people believe is a stronger, more powerful team."

Edmonton has beat L.A. in the first-round matchup three years in a row. Last year, the team went on to the Stanley Cup final, losing



After a slew of injuries toward the end of the regular season, Oilers captain Connor McDavid, centre, says the team is feeling energized and refreshed heading into the playoffs. KAEDEN DUPRE/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

to the Florida Panthers in a sevengame series.

While the Oilers have learned some important lessons against the Kings, they know this postseason will be unlike any other. "Every playoffs is a new oppor-

tunity. Doesn't matter what happened the year before, doesn't matter what went on all year, doesn't matter where you start, nothing." said captain Connor McDavid. "It's a new a new challenge, and we're excited about

that opportunity to just get back to this point in the season, and get rolling.'

Edmonton struggled at times this season, including a stretch from late January to late February when the Oilers went nine games without a regulation win.

Injuries plagued the squad late in the campaign, but the Oilers finished third in the Pacific Division with a 48-29-5 record after winning seven of their last 10 outings.

"We had another 100-point season and probably, at times, didn't play our best hockey," said centre Leon Draisaitl, who earned the Rocket Richard trophy for the most goals (52) in the league. "That's what makes me very

optimistic about us being a good team. We have some of the best players in the world that can make a big-time difference."

L.A. finished second in the division with a 28-25-9 record and eight wins in its last 10 games.

Asked whether he's glad to see another post-season matchup with the Oilers, Kings head coach Jim Hiller said the opponent doesn't matter.

"I'm glad we're in," he said. "And I'm glad we get a chance to break through anybody. We haven't broke through for a while. It's time for use. I don't think it carries any special weight that it's the Oilers. ... This is about us and we want to push through.'

Edmonton missed several key players down the stretch, including McDavid, Draisaitl and starting goalie Stuart Skinner.

Many are expected to return for Game 1, but defencemen Mattias Ekholm and Troy Stecher, and forward Evander Kane will not be available Monday, Knoblauch said. The Oilers head into Monday's

contest feeling energized and re-

freshed, McDavid said. "It seems like things are coming together at the right time, which is a good thing," he said. "It's tough to be banged up and his fough to be balled up and playing in the playoffs. But, thankfully, we're getting healthy at the right time." With players coming back from injurt there could be come

from injury, there could be some juggling of the forward lines early in the series.

'There's going to be a lot of evaluating right at the start of the game, a lot of seeing who's ready to go, who's ready to contribute," Knoblauch said. "Because we're going to need them right away."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stankoven scores twice as Hurricanes best Devils

AARON BEARD RALEIGH, N.C

The Carolina Hurricanes just wanted to be healthy going into the Stanley Cup Playoffs, even as it meant resting key players and stumbling down the stretch of the regular season.

The first payoff came Sunday. Logan Stankoven scored two second-period goals in his first playoff game with Carolina as the Hurricanes beat the New Jersey Devils 4-1 to open their first-round series. Carolina led 3-0, more than doubled New Jersey's shot output and kept the pressure on in a strong start to the postseason.

"Obviously it was pretty clear that I think we were looking forward to this day for a bit now," goaltender Frederik Andersen said.

Jalen Chatfield scored a firstperiod goal for the Hurricanes, who kept steady pressure on Devils netminder Jacob Markstrom. Andrei Svechnikov added an empty-net clincher late in the third.

Carolina had lost seven of its last eight regular-season games since clinching its seventh straight playoff trip on April 3, several coming with stars and key contributors out of the lineup. In that sense, it had been a long wait to get here, back on home ice with a rowdy home crowd in playoff mode.

"There's always that worry that maybe you come out a little slug-gish or whatever," coach Rod Brind'Amour said. "But obviously that wasn't the case. And we were healthy, a healthy group. So it was

puck past Andersen during a 4on-4 chance in the second. Carolina finished with a 45-24

shot advantage. "They're not doing anything special," Hischier said. "They play simple hockey, hard hockey, and we've just got to match that.

Markstrom finished with 41 saves on what turned out to be a rough afternoon physically for the Devils, who had multiple players skating to the tunnel with injuries.

First defenseman Brenden Dillon went down in the second period after getting tangled with Carolina's William Carrier, then struggled to stay on his feet before being helped to the tunnel. Coach Sheldon Keefe said Dillon wanted to return but doctors held him out

Later, the Devils lost two players on a single chaotic sequence in the third, which started with defenseman Luke Hughes laying in the net then doubled over in pain while reaching for his left shoulder. Almost immediately, Markstrom took a whack at Svechnikov near the top of the crease only to inadvertently hit center Cody Glass and knock him to the ice

While Hughes was able to return Glass was assisted to the tunnel and Keefe had no update on

Glass afterward. Chatfield got the Hurricanes off to a quick start with a goal just 2:24 into the game. Then it was a big day for Stankoven, who was primary return in a tradedeadline deal that allowed Carolina to pivot out of its big-swing January addition of scoring winger Mikko Rantanen.

'Best team in the league': Canadiens throw pressure on favoured Capitals

DANIEL RAINBIRD BROSSARD, QUE.

artin St. Louis is putting the pressure on Washington. While the Montreal Canadiens

L clawed their way into the playoffs, the Capitals flirted with first place in the NHL all season.

So who should be feeling the heat when the two teams meet in the first round of their NHL playoff series Monday night in the U.S capital?

"I feel it's the best team in the league ' the about his opponent. "You do the math." Led by captain Alex Ovechkin, who eclipsed

Wayne Gretzky's all-time goal-scoring record April 6, Washington topped the Eastern Confer-ence with 111 points this season.

Montreal, meanwhile, clinched the final wild card with 91 points – a number that wouldn't have qualified in the West – and a minus-20 goal-differential.

But playing the underdog is nothing new for the Canadiens. They've already defied the odds just to reach the post-season. A rebuilding team, Montreal missed the play-

offs in three consecutive years before this season's surprise run.

Late-April hockey looked out of the question when the Canadiens ranked 31st on Dec. 1, and again when St. Louis' squad sputtered before February's 4 Nations tournament break.

Captain Nick Suzuki and rookie sensation Lane Hutson then played key roles in a complete team effort to climb the standings, and Montreal rallied with a 15-5-6 in the final quarter of the season.

"They're the one seed and we just snuck in, but I think we don't really feel like we're an eight Suzuki said. "We've been playing really seed, good hockey. We're a really confident group."

The Canadiens - with an average age of 25.8 years - are by far the youngest team to make the playoffs. But Suzuki believes they've gained plenty of experience in pressure-packed games down the stretch.

"We've been fighting for our lives to get in this position for the last few weeks now

"We're looking forward to the challenge, so I think we can live up to it."

The post-season berth marks the return of playoff hockey to one of the sport's most passionate markets.

The Canadiens are back in the playoffs for the first time since reaching the Stanley Cup final in the pandemic-shortened 2021 season. And fans will have the chance to fill the Bell Centre for a playoff game for the first time since 2017.

A season ago, the Capitals were in the Canadiens' shoes, squeaking in to the playoffs despite their negative goal-differential.

Now they're the top seed and heavily fa-voured to advance, but head coach Spencer Carbery reminded reporters they've exceeded preseason expectations all season.

"I'm not too concerned with betting odds," he said. "No one had us in this spot before the season started, and just because we've had a great regular season and we're sitting as the first seed in the East, I can promise you this, there's no overconfidence.

"Not part of our DNA."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadiens' rookie Demidov focused on winning ahead of matchup with Ovechkin

a calculated risk maybe but at least after Game 1, that was the right decision."

Andersen finished with 23 saves for Carolina, including a key stop on Timo Meier near the crease midway through the third. The Hurricanes also turned away a Devils power play with about eight minutes left to stay in firm control.

Nico Hischier got New Jersey's only goal by taking Jesper Bratt's cross-ice pass and blasting the

Stankoven first zipped the puck past Markstrom off a feed from Jordan Martinook, who had forced Hischier into a turnover along the boards, at 6:37 of the second. He struck again on the power play, with Stankoven blasting a shot past Markstrom and off the inside of the left post for the 3-0 edge.

Game 2 of the series is Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



New Jersey's Paul Cotter, centre, battles Carolina's Jaccob Slavin, left, and Brent Burns for the puck in the third period of Game 1, at Lenovo Center, in Raleigh, N.C., on Sunday. GRANT HALVERSON/GETTY IMAGES

DANIEL RAINBIRD BROSSARD, QUE

van Demidov is excited to face off against Alex Ovechkin - but more importantly, he wants to win.

The 19-year-old Russian is focused on helping the Montreal Canadiens upset the topseeded Washington Capitals in the first round of the NHL playoffs.

"Yeah, a little bit," Demidov said when asked if facing the Capitals captain – and Rus-sian legend – added significance to the series, beginning Monday in Washington. "But now I just want to help my team win.

"The Habs are a good team, and I just want to help. I want to bring energy.' So far, he has done just that.

Selected fifth overall at the 2024 draft, Demidov has energized the Canadiens fan base since – and well before – arriving in Montreal from Russia's KHL a little more than a week ago.

Demidov routinely lit up social media feeds with highlight-reel plays while setting a KHL under-20 scoring record for SKA Saint Petersburg this season.

He lived up to the hype in his NHL debut, dishing a slick assist before scoring a spectacular first NHL goal in the first period of Montreal's shootout loss to the Chicago Blackhawks last Monday.

"Really bleeping good," was winger Cole Caufield's scouting report. "His drive, his compete level, obviously his skating and puck handling have been really fun to watch.

"He's so skilled and he's got so much talent. I'm sure he's gonna get better every game,"

added defenceman Kaiden Guhle. "It's definitely a piece that I'm not gonna complain about."

Demidov had a quieter night in his second NHL game, but the shifty and poised winger still showed no sign of nervousness in Wednesday's playoff-clinching win over the Carolina Hurricanes.

Martin St. Louis is still figuring out the full extent of how he'll use Demidov's top-shelf talent just two games into his NHL career, but the possibilities are intriguing for the Canadiens head coach.

"You see his touches and his change of di-rection, it's really dynamic," St. Louis said. "I knew he had that, but maybe not at this level. He gets here at the end of the season and he's able to create separation in space, it's special."

Demidov has skated on the Canadiens' second scoring line alongside Alex Newhook and Patrik Laine while taking reps on Montreal's second power-play unit, which practised Sat-urday at CN Sports Complex.

And St. Louis hinted that a promotion to the top unit could be in store eventually. The Canadiens have just one power-play goal – a fortunate bounce off Juraj Slafkovsky's skate in their last 20 attempts.

"I have a bunch of cards I can use," he said. "We got Demidov now, it's a new card. I don't know exactly how I'm gonna use all these cards, but we have plenty."

Ovechkin said he's looking forward to meet-"It's going to be an interesting matchup. Ob

viously he's a talented guy," said Ovechkin.

In a losing cause, 27-year-old rookie gives Jays a lift

Schultz strikes out eight in his debut to tie club record and match 39-year-old major-league record

TIM WHARNSBY TORONTO

Paxton Schultz made quite a first impression on his new Toronto Blue Jays teammates

The 27-year-old rookie reliever fanned eight Seattle Mariners in his debut outing to etch his name in the franchise and major-league baseball's record books Sunday.

His eight strikeouts over 4 1/3 innings in Toronto's 8-3 loss matched the major-league record for most strikeouts by a reliever in his debut. It also tied the Toronto mark for most strikeouts in a debut outing, starter or reliever.

Schultz was tossed into a difficult situation. He was summoned from the bullpen after starter Easton Lucas struggled in giving up two homers, six runs and seven hits in just 1 3/3 innings.

With runners on first and third and two out, Schultz threw a fastball on a 2-2 count that Seattle first baseman Donovan Solano whiffed on for a strikeout

"It happened so fast," Schultz said. "I didn't have time to think about it."

Schultz's first pitch was outside for a ball, but he swiftly turned the count to his favour with two strikes.

"The nerves went away after the first pitch," he said.

Not bad for a pitcher who wasn't even invited to the Blue Jays main camp this spring.

He's also been forced to deal with a lack of innings because of rainouts and weather delays while pitching for the triple-A Buffalo Bisons in the first few weeks of their season.

"This was something you work for," said Paxton, who was given the ball from his Solano strikeout and the lineup card to "That's cool," he said. "I'll get some players to sign [the card]."

Schultz was told by Bisons manager Casey Candaele on Saturday evening that



Blue Jays relief pitcher Paxton Schultz throws to a Seattle Mariners batter in his major league debut during the third inning, in Toronto, on Sunday. Schultz's eight strikeouts in a relief debut tied the record set by Barry Jones in April, 1986. JON BLACKER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

there was a chance the Blue Jays would Utah. On Sunday morning, he hopped in a car to drive across the border with Bisons teammate Dillon Tate because of an injury to Nick Sandlin (strained right lat).

"I just told them I'm going to Toronto to watch Dillon Tate pitch," Schultz said when asked what he told the customs agent at the border.

When he arrived at Rogers Centre, he greeted the Blue Jays coaching staff and signed his major-league contract on manager John Schneider's desk. A few hours later, he made his major-

league debut, allowing just two hits in his 64-pitch outing. His changeup was his most effective pitch.

"He really picked us up," Schneider said.

Schultz's eight strikeouts in a debut tied the club mark set by Trent Thornton (March 31, 2019), who pitched a shutout inning in relief for the Mariners on Sunday, and Anthony Kay (July 9, 2019). He matched the major-league record for most strikeouts by a reliever in a debut, set by Barry Jones of the Pittsburgh Pirates in April, 1986.

RALEIGH STAYS HOT

PGA TOUR

RBC HERITAGE

J.T. Poston, \$480,000

Sam Burns, \$364,000

Patrick Cantlay, \$364,000

Cameron Davis, \$364,000

Sepp Straka, \$364,000

Sunday At Harbour Town Golf Links Hilton Head, S.C. Purse: \$20 million Yardage: 7,213; Par: 71 FINAL ROUND

(x-won on first playoff hole)

x-Justin Thomas, \$3,600,00061-69-69-68-267 Andrew Novak, \$2,160,000 68-65-66-68-267

Daniel Berger, \$960,000 70-67-68-65—270 Brian Harman, \$960,000 66-69-66-69—270

 Brain Harman, \$960,000
 66:69:66:90-270

 M. Hughes, \$960,000
 68:66:69:67-270

 Maverick McNealy, \$960,000
 68:66:69:67-270

 Muserick McNealy, \$960,000
 67:66:68:70-270

 Nussell Henley, \$580,000
 68:66:64:70-272

 Stolles Scheffler, \$580,000
 68:76:66:74-272

 Sundie Scheffler, \$580,000
 68:76:67:47-272

 Sunglae Im, \$480,000
 69:69:68:77:167-273

 J. Poston, \$400,000
 68:77:167-273

Viktor Hovland, \$364,000 69-68-68-69-274

 Sepp Sinala, \$364,000
 70-70-67-72-775

 Kegan Bradley, \$226,056
 67-66-772-775

 Eric Cole, \$226,056
 67-73-67-82-775

 Tom Hoap, \$226,056
 77-70-66-69-275

 Tom Hoap, \$226,056
 77-70-66-69-275

 Shane Lowny, \$226,055
 70-70-66-92-775

 Shane Lowny, \$226,056
 68-70-677-0275

 Jordan Spieth, \$226,056
 67-70-69-88-715

 Jordan Spieth, \$226,056
 67-70-69-89-7275

 Jake
 67-70-69-69-275

Taylor Pendrith, \$64,143 73-71-67-68—279

Corey Conners, \$48,000 70-71-71-68-280

69-69-68-67-273 68-67-71-67-273

69-69-69-67-274 67-69-67-71-274

70-66-67-71-274

70-70-67-67-274

Mariners slugger Cal Raleigh crushed a two-run shot in the first inning for his

NBA PLAYOFFS

EASTERN CONFERENCE CLEVELAND (1) VS. MIAMI (8)

(Cleveland leads series 1-0) Sunday Cleveland 121. Miami 100

Wednesday, April 23 Miami at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m. BOSTON (2) VS. ORLANDO (7) (Boston leads series 1-0)

(Boston leads series 1-0) Sunday Boston 103, Orlando 86 Wednesday, April 23 Orlando at Boston, 7 p.m. NEW YORK (3) VS. DETROIT (6) (L) V leads variant 30

(N.Y. leads series 1-0) Saturday New York 123, Detroit 112

Monday, April 21 Detroit at New York, 7:30 p.m

Saturday Indiana 117, Milwaukee 98 Tuesday, April 22 Milwaukee at Indiana, 7 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

OKLAHOMA CITY (1) VS. MEMPHIS (Okahoma City leads series 1-0)

INDIANA (4) VS. MILWAUKEE (5) (Indiana leads series 1-0)

FIRST ROUND

ninth homer to tie Oakland Athletics infielder Tyler Soderstrom for the majorleague lead.

Raleigh has belted seven homers and 14 runs-batted in over 11 career games at Rogers Centre.

HOWDY ROWDY

Former Blue Jays first baseman Rowdy Tellez slammed a two-run pinch-hit homer for the Mariners in the seventh to give him three longballs in the three-game series. It's the first time Tellez has homered in three consecutive outings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS DIVISION SEMIFINALS

EASTERN CONFERENCE TORONTO (1) VS. OTTAWA (WC Sunday Ottawa at Toronto Tuesday, April 22 Ottawa at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 24 Toronto at Ottawa, a, 7 p.m Saturday, April 26 Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m

TAMPA BAY (2) VS. FLORIDA (3) Tuesday, April 22 Florida at Tampa Bay, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 24 Florida at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.

WASHINGTON (1) VS. MONTREA

(WC2) Monday

Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m Wednesday, April 23 Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m. Friday, April 25 Washington at Montreal, 7 p.m. Sunday, April 27 Washington at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.

CAROLINA (2) VS. NEW JERSEY (Carolina leads series 1-0) Sunday Carolina 4, New Jersey 1 Tuesday, April 22 New Jersey at Carolina, 6 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE WINNIPEG (1) VS. ST. LOUIS (WC2) (Winnipeg leads series 1-0) Saturday Winnipeg 5, St. Louis 3 Monday St. Louis at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 24 Winnipeg at St. Louis, 9:30 p.m. Sunday, April 27

Winnipeg at St. Louis, 1 p.m. DALLAS (2) VS. COLORADO (3) (Colorado leads ser Saturday Colorado 5, Dallas 1 o leads series 1-0)

	MLB			
	AMERICAN LE	AGUI	E	
	EAST DIVISION			
		W	L	Pct
1)	New York	14	8	.636
	Toronto	12	10	.545
	Boston	12	11	.522
	Baltimore	9	12	.429
	Tampa Bay	9	13	.409
	CENTRAL DIVISIO	DN		
	Detroit	13	9	.591
	Cleveland	12	9	.571
	Kansas City	9	14	.391
	Minnesota	7	15	.318
	Chicago	5	16	.238
	WEST DIVISION			
	Texas	13	9	.591
	Seattle	12	10	.545
	Houston	10	10	.500
AL.	Los Angeles	10	10	.500
	Athletics	10	12	.455
	Sunday			
	Chicago White So:		ston 4	
	Seattle 8, Toronto			
	Kansas City 4, Det			ings
	N.Y. Yankees 4, Ta	impa Bi	ay O	
	Saturday			
	All Times Eastern Detroit 3, Kansas (C1		
(2)	Seattle 8, Toronto		nina	-
(3)	Boston 4, Chicago			
	nings	wille	302.3	, 10 11
	Tampa Bay 10, N.Y	Y Yank	005 8	10 in-
	nings			2011-
	Monday			
	Chicago White So	v ICann	00.0	2) -+ R

Chicago White Sox (Cannon 0-2) at Boston (Buehler 2-1), 11:10 a.m. N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 0-0) at Cleveland (Williams 1-1), 6:10 p.m Toronto (Gausman 2-1 (Brown 2-1), 8:10 p.m an 2-1) at Houston

INTERLEAGUE

nday ...A. Dodgers at Texas Atlanta 6, Minnesota 2 Cleveland 5, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings Cincinnati 24. Baltimore 2 Athletics at Milwaukee San Francisco at L.A. Angels

	EAST DIVISION				
GB		w	L	Pct	GB
—	New York	15	7	.682	_
2	Philadelphia	13	9	.591	2
21/2	Miami	9	12	.429	5:/
41/2	Washington	8	12	.400	6
5	Atlanta	8	13	.381	6:/
	CENTRAL DIVISIO	DN			
-	Chicago	14	9	.609	_
1/2	Milwaukee	12	10	.545	1:/
41/2	Cincinnati	11	11	.500	2:/
6	St. Louis	9	13	.409	4:/
71/2	Pittsburgh	8	15	.348	e
	WEST DIVISION				
-	San Diego	15	6	.714	_
1	Los Angeles	16	7	.696	_
2	San Francisco	14	7	.667	1
2	Arizona	12	9	.571	3
3	Colorado	3	16	.158	11

N.Y. Mets 7. St. Louis 4 Arizona at Chicago Cubs Washington at Colorado, 1st game Washington at Colorado, 2nd game

Saturday Philadelphia 11, Miami 10 Chicago Cubs 6, Arizona 2 Washington 12, Colorado 11 N.Y. Mefs 3, St. Louis 0

Saturday Texas 4, L.A. Dodgers 3

Cleveland 3, Pittsburgh 0 Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 5

Athletics 3, Milwaukee 1

Houston 3, San Diego 2

San Francisco 3, L.A. Angels 2

Atlanta 4, Minnesot

Monday

All Times Eastern Cincinnati (Lodolo 2-1) at Miami (Meyer 1-2), 6:40 p.m 1-2), 6:40 p.m. Philadelphia (Nola 0-4) at N.Y. Mets (Me-gill 2-2), 7:10 p.m. St. Louis (Fedde 1-2) at Atlanta (Schwel-lenbach 1-1), 7:15 p.m. Milwaukee (Priester 1-0) at San Francisco (Ray 3-0), 9:45 p.m.

Nick Taylor, \$48,000 70-70-68-72—280 Adam Hadwin, \$41,500 72-74-68-68—282 **CHL PLAYOFFS** CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-7. All Times Eastern)

OHL Sunday Oshawa 4 Brantford 1 Barrie at Kingston Windsor at Kitchener

Also

Saturday Oshawa 3 Brantford 2 Kingston 1 Barrie 2

(Okanoma Cry Jeads Series 1-0) Sunday Oklahoma City 131, Memphis 80 Tuesday, April 22 Memphis at Oklahoma City, 7:30 p.m. HOUSTON (2) VS. GOLDEN STATE (7) Sunday, April 20 Golden State at Houston. 9:30 p.m. Golden State at Houston, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 23 Golden State at Houston, 9:30 p.m L.A. LAKERS (3) VS. MINNESOTA (6) (Minnesota le ds series 1-0) (Minnesora reads series 1-0) Saturday, April 19 Minnesota 117, L.A. Lakers 95 Tuesday, April 22 Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m. DENVER (4) VS. L.A. CLIPPERS (5) (Denver leads series 1-0) Saturday Saturday Denver 112, L.A. Clippers 110, OT Monday, April 21 L.A. Clippers at Denver, 10 p.m.

ENGLAND PREMIER LEAGUE GP W D L GF GA Pts Liverpool 33 24 7 2 75 31 79 33 18 12 3 61 27 66 Arsenal 33 18 12 3 61 2 36 12 76 Newcastle 33 18 5 10 62 44 59 Man City 33 17 7 9 64 42 58 Chelsea 33 16 9 8 58 40 57 Nott-Forest 32 17 6 9 51 38 57 Bournemouth 33 16 9 8 54 04 49 Fulharm 33 12 12 9 51 48 48 Brighton 33 12 12 9 53 54 48 Grystal Palaece 33 13 7 13 56 50 46 Crystal Palaece 33 13 7 13 56 54 44 Arsenal Crystal Palace 3 11 11 11 41 45 44 Everton 33 8 14 11 41 40 38 Man United 33 10 8 15 38 46 38 Wolves 33 11 5 17 48 61 38 Tottenham 32 11 4 17 60 49 77 18 Ipswich 33 4 9 20 37 71 12 1 14 17 64 37 71 12 1 14 17 64 37 71 12 14 11 41 40 32 17 18 80 37 73 13 14 13 37 73 18 32 37 73 18 14 11 41 44 44 44 44 44 44 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 15 36 36 37 <t Leicester 0, Liverpool 1

Saturday, April 19

Brentford 4, Brighton 2 Crystal Palace 0, Bournemouth 0 Everton 0, Man City 2 West Ham 1, Southamptor Aston Villa 4, Newcastle 1

Monday All Times Eastern Tottenham vs. Nottingham Forest, 3 p.m.

NSL

Saturday Montreal 1 Toronto 0

TELEVISION

MONDAY (ALL TIMES EASTERN)

BASEBALL

MLB: Chicago White Sox vs. Boston, SN Ontario, East, West, Pacific, 11 a.m. MLB: Toronto vs. Houston, SN 1, 8 p.m.

Colorado at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

VEGAS (1) VS. MINNESOTA (WC1) Sunday Minnesota at Vegas, 10 p.m. Tuesday, April 22 Minnesota at Vegas, 11 p.m.

LOS ANGELES (2) VS. EDMONTON (3) Monday Edmonton at Los Angeles, 10 p.m. Wednesday, April 23 Edmonton at Los Angeles, 10 p.m. Friday, April 25 Los Angeles at Edmonton, 10 p.m. Sunday April 27 Sunday, April 27 Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

San Diego at Houston

2025 IIHF WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

At Ceske Budejovice, Czechia Sunday THIRD PLACE inland 4 Czechia 3 (OT) CHAMPIONSHIP United States 4 Canada 3 (OT) Saturday FIFTH PLACE Switzerland 3 Sweden 2 SEMIFINALS United States 2 Czechia 1 Canada 8 Finland 1

Monday — All Times Eastern San Diego (Vásquez 1-1) at Detroit (Mon tero 0-1), 6:40 p.m.

MLS

Saturday Austin 1 L.A. Galaxy 0 Charlotte 3 San Diego 0 Cincinnati 3 Chicago 2 Cincinnari 3 cincago 2 Colorado 2 Houston 2 D.C. 2.N.Y. Red Bulls 1 Dallas 0 Minnesota 0 Kansas City 5 San Jose 3 Los Angeles F.C. 3 Portland 3 Miami 1 Columbus 0 New England 2 New York City F.C. 0 Orlando 0 Montreal 0 Philadelphia 3 Atlanta 0 Seattle 3 Nashville 0 Toronto 1 Salt Lake 0 Vancouver 0 St. Louis 0

Tuesday All Times Eastern Oshawa at Brantford, 7 p.m.

Kingston at Barrie, 7 p.m Kitchener at Windsor, 7:05 p.m.

QMJHL

Sunday Rimouski 4 Chicoutimi 1

Tuesday All Times Eastern Chicoutimi at Rimouski, 7 p.m.

WHL

Saturday Lethbridge 5 Calgary 1 Everett 8 Portland 4 Spokane 5 Victoria 4 (OT)

SPEED BUMP



MEN 5 DOUBLES — CHAMPIONSHIP Andre Goransson, Sweden, and Sem Verbeek, Netherlands, def. Kevin Krawietz and Tim Putz (1), Germany, 64, 64.

MEN'S SINGLES — CHAMPIONSHIP Holger Rune (6), Denmark, def. Carlos

Alcaraz (1), Spain, 7-6 (6), 6-2. DOUBLES — CHAMPIONSHIP

Luke Johnson, Britain, and Sander Arends. Netherlands. def. Neal Skupsk

and Joe Salisbury, Britain, 6-3, 6-7 (1), 10-6.

Sunday At Munich

MEN'S

MARATHON

Boston Marathon, TSN 5, 9 a m

HOCKEY

NHL: Montreal vs. Washington, SN On-NHL: Montreal VS. Washington, SN Off-tario, East, West, Pacific, 7 p.m. NHL: St. Louis vs. Winnipeg, CBC, 7:30 p.m. NHL: Edmonton vs. Los Angeles, SN On-tario, East, West, Pacific, 10 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA: Detroit vs. N.Y. Knicks, TSN 1, 3, 4, 5, 7:30 p.m. NBA: Clippers vs. Denver, TSN 4, 10 p.m.

RESULTS AS OF SUNDAY APRIL 20, 9:30 P.M.

CORNERED



'Sorry – I meant to say, 'Keep your eyes on the road and vour hands on the wheel.'"









BIZARRO



Gilgeous-Alexander, Antetokounmpo, Jokic revealed as NBA MVP finalists

Stephon Castle, nominated for Rookie of the Year, could become the second-straight Spurs player to win it

TIM REYNOLDS

It's now reasonable to think that Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo finished third in this season's balloting for the NBA MVP award.

The NBA released the three finalists for its major trophies on Sunday night, with Anteto-kounmpo on the MVP list alongside Oklahoma City's Shai Gilge-ous-Alexander and Denver's Nikola Jokic, the runaway frontrunners for the award. Jokic was last season's MVP

and is bidding for his fourth MVP award in the last five years. Gilgeous-Alexander, the NBA's scoring champion this season and the leader of a Thunder team that won 68 games while setting a league record for scoring margin, is seeking his first MVP trophy.

They were considered such big favourites that BetMGM Sports book didn't even offer realistic odds toward the end of the regular season on anyone else winning. Gilgeous-Alexander was the favourite, Jokic was the second choice and nobody else had odds shorter than 500-1

Given that All-NBA voting now essentially mirrors MVP voting, being an MVP finalist basically guarantees an All-NBA first-team nod. It'll be the ninth appearance on that team for Antetokounm-po, the seventh for Jokic and the third for Gilgeous-Alexander.

Last year's MVP finalists were Jokic, Gilgeous-Alexander and Luka Doncic - then of Dallas, now of the Los Angeles Lakers.



Oklahoma City's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander was the NBA's scoring champion this season and the leader of a Thunder team that won 68 games while setting a league record for scoring margin. KYLE PHILLIPS/AP

A panel of writers and broadcasters who cover the NBA voted on the awards last week. The NBA will announce the winners of the various awards, along with the All-NBA and All-rookie teams, over the coming weeks.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Finalists: Kenny Atkinson, Cleveland; J.B. Bickerstaff, Detroit; Ime Udoka, Houston.

This is how good a race this vas: Mark Daigneault, who won last year, led Oklahoma City to a 68-win season and didn't get into the top three. Atkinson led the Cavaliers to a

64-win season, the best in the Eastern Conference. He was announced Saturday as the winner of the National Basketball Coaches Association's coach of the year award, a separate trophy from the NBA honours

Bickerstaff, in his first year

with the Pistons, and Udoka took their teams to the playoffs, and the Rockets got the No. 2 seed in the West.

Last year, Daigneault won, with Minnesota's Chris Finch and Orlando's Jamahl Mosley the other finalists.

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Finalists: Stephon Castle, San Antonio; Zaccharie Risacher, Atlan-ta; Jaylen Wells, Memphis.

Castle – the No. 4 pick in last year's draft – could be the second consecutive NBA Rookie of the Year from San Antonio, after Victor Wembanyama was the unanimous winner last season.

Risacher and Wells were the No. 3 and No. 4 rookie scorers this season behind Castle. A notable omission: Washington's Alex Sarr, who averaged 13 points this season.

Last year, Wembanyama won,

with Oklahoma City's Chet Holmgren and Charlotte's Brandon Miller the other finalists.

SIXTH MAN OF THE YEAR

Finalists: Malik Beasley, Detroit; Ty Jerome, Cleveland; Payton Pritchard, Boston.

Pritchard is the overwhelming favourite, though voters clearly took note of what Beasley did off the Pistons' bench – making more than 300 3-pointers – and Jerome was particularly steady for the

Cavs all season. Last year, Minnesota's Naz Reid won, with Sacramento's Malik Monk and Milwaukee's Bobby Portis the other finalists.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER

Finalists: Cade Cunningham, Detroit; Dyson Daniels, Atlanta; Ivica Zubac, Los Angeles Clippers Cunningham led Detroit's wild turnaround year - a 28-game losing streak last season, the No. 6 seed this season - and should be an All-NBA selection as well. Daniels and Zubac both had exceptionally good seasons, particularly on the defensive end.

Last year, Philadelphia's Tyrese Maxey won, with Houston's Alpe-ren Sengun and Chicago's Coby White the other finalists.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Finalists: Dyson Daniels, Atlanta; Draymond Green, Golden State; Evan Mobley, Cleveland.

Daniels was a steals machine, Mobley has the gift of being able to defend the rim with physicality but not foul, and Green is seeking his second award after winning it in 2016-17.

Minnesota's Rudy Gobert remains on four DPOY awards, tied with Basketball Hall of Fame inductees Dikembe Mutombo and Ben Wallace as winners of the most. Wembanyama - who won the blocked-shots title this season - probably would have won this award in a runaway had he not been sidelined since the All-Star break with deep vein thrombosis in one of his shoulders.

Last year, Gobert won, with Miami's Bam Adebayo and Wembanyama the other finalists.

CLUTCH PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Finalists: Jalen Brunson, New York; Anthony Edwards, Minnesota: Nikola Jokic, Denver.

Can't go wrong here. Edwards had 157 points in clutch time this season, Brunson had 150 and Jokic had 140.

Last year, Golden State's Stephen Curry won, with DeMar De-Rozan - then of Chicago, now of Sacramento - and Gilgeous-Alexander the other finalists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thunder rout Grizzlies with 51-point victory in record-setting Game 1

TIM REYNOLDS OKLAHOMA CITY

Oklahoma City's playoff run got off to a record-setting start. The Thunder beat the Memphis Grizzlies 131-80 in Game 1 of their Western Conference playoff series on Sunday, the fifth-biggest victory margin in NBA postseason history and the largest in a Game 1.

"We were amped up," Thunder coach Mark Daigneault said. "Give the guys a lot of credit for the week of practice that we had. It's a sneaky tough week because it's a lot of days without games and it gets you out of rhythm of games.'

The 51-point margin capped a stat-filled Sunday in OKC. Some highlights:

A 51-POINT WIN

For a while, it seemed like the Thunder had a chance at the biggest playoff win ever.

There have been two 58-point playoff margins: Denver beating New Orleans 121-63 on April 27, 2009, and the Minneapolis Lakers beating the St. Louis Hawks 133-75 on March 19, 1956.

The Los Angeles Lakers beat Golden State by 56 (126-70) on April 21, 1973 and the Chicago Bulls beat the Milwaukee Bucks by 54 (120-66) on April 30, 2015.

A 56-POINT LEAD

The Thunder led by as many as 56 points, the biggest lead in

Opening week of Northern Super League gets positive reviews but hard work awaits

NEIL DAVIDSON TORONTO

eek 1 of the Northern Super League is done, to positive reviews. Now the hard work really begins.

High-profile opening games at Vancouver's B.C. Place Stadium and Toronto's BMO Field drew an-

nounced crowds of 14,018 and 14,518. Vancouver Rise FC raised the

curtain on the six-team league with a 1-0 win over Calgary Wild FC on Wednesday. And Montreal Roses FC hung on for a 1-0 victory over AFC Toronto on Saturday after Tanya Boychuk turned a defensive blunder into a ninth-minute winner.

Kevin Blue, CEO and general secretary of Canada Soccer, believes the new league will have a lasting effect.

"I think certainly [it will] solid-

ify and continue to accelerate Canada as a global leader in wom-en's football," he told reporters at halftime of the Toronto game.

Blue, who was also at the Vancouver opener, paid tribute to league co-founder Diana Matheson.

"It's just amazing what Diana has been able to build here and I think it's important that everyone recognize that," he said. "The perseverance, the determination, the savvy, the business skills, the entrepreneurial spirit. It's just an extraordinary accomplishment. And it's such an amazing contribution to the growth of women's football in Canada."

The future was on display Sat-urday, from Toronto's 17-year-old forward Kaylee Hunter and 22vear-old midfielder Nikki Small to Montreal's standout 23-yearold goalkeeper Anna Karpenko.

While the football in both

opening games was a little scrappy, as one might expect from teams taking their first steps, there was plenty to admire.

'Women in Quebec, women in Canada, they deserve this," said Montreal coach Robert Rositoiu. And I really hope that as a league we're going to keep showing what we showed today, what we showed Wednesday. A good show, to convince more young girls that they can dream. It's on."

Vancouver and Toronto will play the rest of their home schedules on smaller stages with Vancouver at Swangard Stadium and Toronto at York Lions Stadium.

All six teams are in action next week with Calgary visiting Hali-fax Tides FC on Saturday at Wanderers Ground. On Sunday, it's Toronto at Ottawa Rapid FC at TD Place and Montreal at Vancouver.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leafs: Stolarz makes 22 saves in first playoff win

still to play, Toronto had just 10 short lived, as Morgan Rielly's

a playoff game since Denver led New Orleans by 58 points in that 2009 game.

OKC held leads of 127-71 and 129-73. The Grizzlies scored seven of the game's final nine points, which kept Memphis from enduring the biggest playoff loss ever.

SIZZLING FROM THE START

The week off for the Thunder didn't slow down the NBA's best team this season – one that won 68 games and set a league record for point differential at 12.9 per game.

The Thunder opened a 35-point lead in the first half. That was the biggest first-half lead of any playoff Game 1 in the league's digital play-by-play era that goes back to 1996-97.

Oklahoma City had 35-point leads twice - 61-26 and 63-28. The Thunder settled for a 68-36 lead at halftime, the biggest halftime lead of any playoff game in franchise history, as well as the biggest halftime deficit ever for the Grizzlies in a playoff game.

A RARE 1ST-HALF MARGIN

Since 1997, there have been only two NBA playoff games where a team led by more than 35 points. Both were done by the Cleveland Cavaliers when LeBron James played there.

The Cavs led at Boston by 41 points twice (70-29 and 72-31) in the first half of Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals on May 19, 2017. And the Cavs led Atlanta by 38 points (74-36) in Game 2 of the East semi-finals on May 4, 2016.

AND SHAI ONLY HAD 15

The Thunder won by 51 points on a day where their MVP favourite, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, put up only 15 points. "I was impressed with how the guys came out and

played," Daigneault said.

Less than three minutes later the power play would get another op-portunity. With Ridly Greig and Adam Gaudette in the box for a pair of cross-checking calls, Tavares found Nylander off a faceoff, and coming off his 45-goal regular season, the Swede needed little invitation to shoot. Still, the decision was made easier as the three Senators skaters on the ice parted in front of their goaltender, and Nylander needed only to pick his spot.

With more than half the game

shots on goal but sat on a 4-1 lead

Tempers started to flare at the end of the period, with Tkachuk and Laughton earning coincidental minors for roughing with Ottawa staring down a 1-0 series deficit, and with arguably good reason. Historically, teams that win Game 1 in a best-of-seven series go on to advance 68 per cent of the time.

The Senators got a spark four minutes into the final period, Greig firing home a loose puck from the edge of the crease. But any momentum from that was point shot was tipped past Ull-mark by Matthew Highmore's glove 45 seconds later to restore Toronto's three-goal advantage.

Matthew Knies and the Toronto power play solved Ullmark once more with 6:47 to play to put the game firmly out of reach, with Matthews and Marner picking up their second assists of the game.

Stolarz made 22 saves to pick up his first career playoff win, while Ullmark made 27 in picking up the loss.

Game 2 in the series will take place Tuesday in Toronto.

Worlds: Finland bests Czechia for bronze

FROM B10

The U.S. was on its first power play of the game in the third period when Stacey's charging penalty made it a two-player advantage. Heise scored on it, but Sarah Fillier drew Canada even later in the period.

Canada sought a fourth world title in five years, and felt the sting of losing the gold medal less than a year out from the next Olympic Games.

That one's gonna suck for a little bit, but we've got to go back to work. There's a big tournament coming up in 2026," said Canadian captain Marie-Philip Poulin, who was named MVP after leading the tournament with four goals and eight assists in seven games.

Philips repelled a streaking Fillier early in overtime and stopped Stacey on a couple of good chances

"The margins for error are so small," Canadian head coach Troy Ryan said. "Multiple times in that overtime or even in the third, either group could have

won it."

Natalie Spooner, the PWHL's MVP in its inaugural season with the Toronto Sceptres and the IIHF's player of the year in 2024, was scratched Sunday for the third game of the tournament.

She missed the first 15 games of this PWHL season, as well as Canada's five-game Rivalry Series after a knee injury in last year's PWHL playoffs require surgery-Finland downed host Czechia 4-3 in overtime to win bronze.

Piastri wins in Saudi Arabia to take F1 lead

McLaren racer now leads teammate Norris by 10 points and rival Verstappen by 12

ALAN BALDWIN JEDDAH

Oscar Piastri won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix on Sunday to seize the lead in the Formula One world championship from McLaren teammate Lando Norris with his third win in five races.

Red Bull's four-times champion Max Verstappen was runner-up, 2.843 seconds behind the Australian, after starting from pole at Jeddah's Corniche circuit but collecting a five-second penalty for a first corner clash with Piastri.

Charles Leclerc was third for Ferrari's first podium of the campaign and Norris clawed his way from 10th on the grid to fourth. Victory made Piastri, trium-

phant in Bahrain last weekend and China last month, the first Australian to lead the championship since his manager Mark Webber in 2010 and also the first back-to-back winner this season. He now leads Norris, whose

race was heavily compromised by a crash in qualifying, by 10 points



Red Bull's Max Verstappen and McLaren's Oscar Piastri lead into a controversial first corner at the start of the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix on Sunday in Jeddah. HAMAD I MOHAMMED/REUTERS

after starting the night three behind.

Piastri has 99 points to Norris's 89 and Verstappen's 87. Champions McLaren stretched their lead over Mercedes in the con-

structors' standings to 77 points. "It was a pretty tough race. I'm very, very happy to have won. Made the difference at the start. Made my case into Turn One, and that was enough," said the happy winner.

"Definitely one of the toughest races I've had in my career," he added after 50 laps in 30 degree temperatures around a super-fast track.

George Russell was fifth for Mercedes with Italian teammate Kimi Antonelli sixth and seventimes world champion Lewis Hamilton seventh for Ferrari.

Williams had Carlos Sainz and Alex Albon eighth and ninth with Racing Bulls' French rookie Isack Hadjar the final points scorer in 10th

There was immediate controversy at the start as Verstappen and Piastri went side-by-side inte the first corner, with the Red Bull emerging ahead after cutting across the runoff.

"He needs to give that back, I was ahead," Piastri told McLaren over the team radio. "He was never going to make that corner regardless of whether he was there or not."

Verstappen gave his version in similar fashion to Red Bull: "He just forced me off, there was no intention of him to make that corner."

Stewards decided the champion was at fault and handed him the penalty, with Verstappen re-acting by saying sarcastically "Oh, that is lovely'.

Red Bull boss Christian Horner did not let it lie after the chequered flag either, compliment-ing Verstappen and adding: "That first corner we've all got our opinions on".

The safety car continued a sequence of appearing at all five races in Saudi Arabia so far with an appearance at the end of the opening lap after Verstappen's teammate Yuki Tsunoda and Alpine's Pierre Gasly collided and crashed.

Both drivers retired, Tsunoda after getting his car back to the pits.

REUTERS

Liverpool needs one more victory to secure Premier League title

JAMES ROBSON

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

The Premier League title is so close Liverpool can almost touch it.

Trent Alexander-Arnold's second-half strike in Liverpool's 1-0 victory over Leicester on Sunday pushed the Merseyside club to within one more win of a recordequalling 20th English league crown.

It would not even require that if second-placed Arsenal loses to Crystal Palace on Wednesday. But regardless of any other result, Liv-erpool knows victory against Tottenham at Anfield next Sunday will be enough to seal the title.

"One win away now, it's very close." said Alexander-Arnold, who tore his jersey off in celebration after his decisive goal.

Arsenal had ensured Liverpool would have to wait a while longer for its crowning moment after routing Ipswich 4-0 earlier Sunday. And for long periods at the King Power Stadium, Leicester threatened to frustrate the league leader – even having a Conor Coady goal disallowed before Alexander-Arnold's winner. Defeat confirmed 2016 league

champion Leicester's relegation. Wolves sealed top-flight safety by beating Manchester United 1-0 after Pablo Sarabia's brilliant second-half free kick.

Chelsea moved up to fifth by rallying to beat Fulham 2-1 with two late goals.

TITLE EDGES CLOSER

One more win. That's all it will take for Liverpool to be crowned champion and move level with Manchester United's record title haul.

And the joy on Alexander-Arnold's face after crashing a leftfooted shot past Leicester goalkeeper Mads Hermansen in the 76th minute underlined the importance of the win.

While the title has looked destined for Anfield for much of the season, this was the latest occasion in recent weeks when the strains of the campaign have seemed to weigh on Liverpool.

Against a Leicester team that needed to win to hold off relegation, Liverpool struggled to find a

breakthrough despite hitting the frame of the goal – including twice in the buildup to Alexander-Arnold's strike.

Leicester also saw an effort from Wilfred Ndidi hit the post in the first half and Coady had a goal ruled out for a foul on Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson.

On came Alexander-Arnold. who is widely tipped to join Real Madrid at the end of the season, and he provided the decisive moment.

After a goalmouth scramble had seen Mohamed Salah and Diogo Jota hit the woodwork, Alexander-Arnold's shot went under the body of Hermansen. The goal sparked wild scenes as Alexander-Arnold ran to the corner to celebrate with the travelling supporters.

ARSENAL ROUT

After eliminating holder Real Madrid from the Champions League in midweek, Arsenal cruised to victory against an Ipswich team that is now all but certain to be relegated.

Leandro Trossard's low shot

gave Mikel Arteta's team the lead in the 14th and Gabriel Martinelli made it 2-0 before the break.

Trossard scored his ninth of the season in the second half and Ethan Nwaneri completed the rout late on.

Ipswich's fate is almost sealed. Sitting 18th in the standings, it can only pick up a maximum of 36 points by winning its remaining five games this season. That would still only put it level with 17th-placed West Ham's current points tally.

HIGHS AND LOWS

After the highs of United's epic Europa League comeback against Lyon on Thursday, Old Trafford was brought back down to earth after yet another Premier League defeat.

A 15th league loss of the season is a club record high for United in the Premier League era. United has not lost so many games in a season since the 1989-90 campaign when it was defeated 16 times in the old Division One. According to statistician Opta,

eight home defeats in the league

is the most since United was beaten nine times in 1962-63.

United is already certain to set the club's worst-ever points total in the Premier League. The latest loss left Ruben Amorim's team on 38 points. United's lowest total was 58 in the 2021-22 season.

"We have to score goals. We need to improve in that area of the game clearly. If you don't score goals, you don't win games," United coach Amorim said.

CHELSEA RISES

Chelsea's Champions League hopes looked set to take a hit when trailing 1-0 to Fulham and with time running out at Craven Cottage.

After Alex Iwobi's goal in the 20th minute, Chelsea left it late to score twice to win the West London derby and move to fifth, just above Nottingham Forest.

Tyrique George levelled the game in the 83rd and Pedro Neto got the winner in the third minute of added time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rune upsets Alcaraz in straight sets to win Barcelona Open, first ATP 500 title

BARCELONA, SPAIN

Holger Rune upset home-crowd favourite Carlos Alcaraz in straight sets on Sunday to win the Barcelona Open for his first title since 2023.

Rune defeated the Spaniard 7-6 (6), 6-2 for his first title since winning in Munich two years ago, and fifth overall. It was the Dane's first ATP 500 title.

"It means the world, it was such



TOP-SEEDED SABALENKA BEATS PAOLINI TO SET UP GRAND PRIX FINAL AGAINST UNSEEDED OSTAPENKO

STUTTGART GERMANY Topseeded Aryna Sabalenka won 7-5, 6-4 against Jasmine Paolini of Italy on Sunday to set up a clay-court Porsche Grand Prix final against unseeded Jelena Ostapenko.

The No.1-ranked Sabalenka

Slam titles and will aim for her 20th career title overall but her first at the Porsche Grand Prix, where she lost her three previous finals at the Stuttgart tournament.

The 27-year-old Ostapenko, who is Latvian, earlier won 6-4, 6-4 against Ekaterina Alexandrova and is bidding for her ninth career title. Ostapenko won the French Open in 2017 with a high-risk brand of big-hitting tennis and improbable winners.

a great match," Rune said. "In the beginning, I was a little bit stressed, because Carlos obviously plays bigtime tennis. I had to breathe a lot and find my rhythm."

Alcaraz was coming off a ninematch winning streak that included his first Monte Carlo Masters title He was searching for his third title of the year and 19th of his career. He won the Barcelona Open in 2022 and 2023.

Rune, runner-up to Jack Drap-

Denmark's Holger Rune defeated No. 2-ranked Carlos Alcaraz at the Barcelona Open for his first title in two years. JOAN MONFORT/AP

er at Indian Wells, rallied from a break down in the opener and converted his fourth set point. He cruised in the second set against Alcaraz, who twice needed treatment on his upper right leg.

Alcaraz will lose his No. 2 ranking to Alexander Zverev, who won his third Munich title Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

has conserved some energy in the tournament.

The 26-year-old Belarussian got a bye through the first round and a walkover in the second.

Sabalenka looked sharp against the fifth-seeded Paolini, last year's French Open runnerup, in breaking her serve six times

Sabalenka owns three Grand

It is her only major title so far. She reached a career-best ranking of fifth the following year and is now ranked 24th. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicago champ John Korir hopes to join brother as Boston Marathon winner

JIMMY GOLEN BOSTON

ohn Korir has the resume that proves he is fast enough to win the Boston Marathon and the family connections that might just help him do it. The reigning Chicago Mara-

thon champion has been getting tips on the course from his brother, Wesley, who won here in 2012. John Korir has finished fourth and ninth in two previous Boston attempts, and he thinks having a champion spilling his secrets could be the difference this time. "He knows the course well. He

knows where to make a move and also to relax the legs," said the younger Korir, whose time of 2 hours, 2 minutes, 44 seconds in Chicago is the second-fastest in Monday's Boston field. "So that's been a good help to me in train-

ing. I think it's good." John Korir, who is 28 and 14 years younger than Wesley, was still in school when his brother won one of the hottest Boston Marathons ever, fighting temperatures that hit 85 degrees at the finish. (This year's forecasts call for more comfortable marathon weather.)

Wesley Korir waited out an

early move from the pack at Heartbreak Hill, then passed the leaders when they tired. That kind of experience could be helpful in Boston which favours strategy over speed: Eliud Kipchoge, the world record holder at the time and considered the greatest marathoner ever, flopped in his only Boston attempt; Wesley Korir's time of 2:12:40 in 2012 was more than nine minutes slower than Geoffrey Mutai's course re-cord the year before.

But it was a win.

"It's always helpful to have somebody that has gone through it before you, so you don't have to make the mistakes that I've made," Wesley said. "For me, my goal is always to look at the mistakes during my running career and help him to prevent that so he can be ahead, ahead in life.'

The elder Korir followed his athletic career which also included two victories in the Los Angeles Marathon, by winning a seat in the Kenyan parliament, where he worked to provide clean water for his region. He used some of his Boston Marathon prize money to build a hospital in Kenya.

"The thing that I've been helping him to do is run for more than yourself. Have a purpose in running," he said

John Korir has pledged his Boston winnings to the Transcend Talent Academy, which provides an education for aspiring runners. Wesley Korir has also worked with the school.

"As I am getting old, he's coming to take over," he said. "So that makes me happy, as a person, as a big brother, to see him look at a cause that was very important to me, and taking it upon himself to say, I want to help you in this cause and continue what you started."

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DEATHS

DEATHS



DOUGLAS HAMILTON BARR

Douglas Hamilton Barr entered his eternal rest on February 13, 2025. He was Boggias halmen dan enter the second of th his foster son. Michael Lawson.

Doug was the consummate crusader for the underdog, working as a social worker, on boards of education, then as the CEO of nonprofits for 38 years. Doug first led the helm at the Children's Aid Society in Toronto, where Doug first led the helm at the Children's Aid Society in Toronto, where his love for the downtrodden was honed. Next was CEO for the Canadian Cancer Society, where Doug turned his focus to spearheading the ban against smoking on airplanes. He then served as CEO of Goodwill Southern California for 17 years, taking the organization from a budget of \$22 million to over \$141 million and making a difference in the lives of thousands of people. Doug loved his family cottage in Ontario, Canada, where he taught his kids and then grandchildren how to paddle a canoe and water ski. He also loved travelling, mainly to the Yorkshire Dales and to France. These trips were spent soaking up local culture, art galleries, symphonies, and theatre

From an early age, Doug's faith played a leading role in his life. Doug was a member of many churches, from being a choir boy at St. Clements Anglican church in Toronto, to later years when he and his wife, Lee, were members at the Church of Our Savior in San Gabriel, California; Holy Comforter in Charlotte, NC, and, finally, Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham, AL. He always loved the church and loved his Savior. After retirement, he served Anglican priests as an executive coach.

Doug was an avid reader and started a men's reading group called the Pink Panthers after his love of pink shirts and ties. We all remember his intelligent sense of humour, his love of music and culture, and especially his love for the people in his life. With faith in Christ, we know that death has no sting and we will see Doug again.

Donations in Doug's honour may be made to the Doug Barr Memorial Fund for Education & Job Training at Goodwill Southern California (c/o Patrick McClenahan, 342 North San Fernando Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90031) or to Jesus Online Ministries (jesusonlineministries.org/donate/).



MARGARET M. LEFEBVRE September 15, 1943 April 11, 2025

Margaret M. Lefebvre, ICD.D (nee Bobkowicz) passed away peacefully, with family at her side. Born in Warsaw, Poland, to Emilian and Stefania Bobkowicz, Margaret was predeceased by her brother, Dr. Andrew J. Bobkowicz (Sally); and is survived by son, Stuart Lawrence Lefebvre. Margaret helped build the family business in real estate and textiles as Director of Bobtex Corp (1967-85) and Emilian Bobkowicz Ltd. (1971-04).

Those who knew Margaret will remember her intellect, curiosity, wit, wisdom, passion for her community, her generosity, her quest for knowledge, and her service to English-Speaking Quebec and to Canada. A voracious reader Margaret's loyalty to friends, and diplomatic approach to problem solving touched all who knew her. She will be mourned and sorely missed by friends and family of all ages, provenance and interests.

Former Councilor of the city of Westmount, she was also proud westmooth, she was also produce past Board member of the National Research Council and Autozu. Founder and former Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Income Trusts. Former President of the Council factors of the Couchiching Institute on Public Affairs, Pillars Trust Fund, Canadian SPCA, English Speaking Catholic Council, and Canadian Centre for Ecumenism. Former Vice-President Alliance Quebec, Founding Vice-President Career Women's Network and former Director Centraide (United Way). Her past membership and role as Receiver and Vice-Commander of the Military and Hospitaler Order of St-Lazarus of Jerusalem was especially dear to her heart.

JEAN MOFFETT (née Waddington) August 12,1923 April 14, 2025

Jean was born in Ottawa to Elsie (Rigby) and Stanley. She spent her childhood years in North Bay with younger siblings, Roy (1929-2025) and Gail (1935-90). Jean met her husband, Joe Moffett (1924-91), while working in Toronto as a secretary at CNR. Their two girls, Mary Ellen (m. Stephen) and Jane (m. Einp) (user a soao) work pisod Jean was born in Ottawa to Elsie (m. Finn) (1954-2020) were raised in Leaside. Jean became a HAM radio operator in her later years using the call letters VE3WAD. She was a long-time volunteer at the Ontario Science Centre, where she helped to develop the HAM station VE3OSC and conversed with astronauts on the International Space Station. She was awarded the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. Jean will be dearly missed by grandchildren, Moffett (Emily Jin) and Emily Stephen, Brenna Tracy (John), and Corbett Smith (Cavell); and great arandchildren, James, Grace, grandchildren, James, Grace, Nolan, Hannah, Rachel, Liam and Aiden. Particularly dear to her were Mary and Randy MacDonald and their family.

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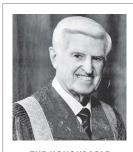
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THE HONOURABLE EDWARD C. LUMLEY P.C., C.M

Honourable Edward C. The Honourable Edward C. Lumley passed away at home, surrounded by family, on April 16, 2025. He leaves behind the love of his life, Patricia, his wife of 63 years; his five children, thirteen grandchildren: Bob and wife, Caroline (Jordan, Dani, Sean, Jacki and Nikki), Kelly and husband, Tom Leger (Chelsie, Travis), Dawn and husband, Roy Myllari (Taylor, Kristopher), Cheryl and husband, Geoff Dempster (Kurtis, Ryan), Chris and wife, Jennifer (Cooper, Paige); seven great-grandchildren; and his younger brother, Harry.

Born in 1939 in Windsor, Ontario Ed played football for A.K.O and earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of Windsor, where he returned as Chancellor 46 years later, retiring as Chancellor Emeritus.

Ed started his career as a teenage washing trucks for Coca-Cola, and later became a partner in a Coca-Cola bottling business in Cornwall. It was there that he put down his roots, raised a family, and began a lifetime of service to his community and country. Ed was a passionate and fiercely proud Canadian who believed in the honour of public service.

At the age of 32, Ed was elected Mayor of Cornwall. He brought major infrastructure and economic development projects to the area and established a vision for the waterfront that will continue to serve the people of Cornwall for generations.

In 1974, Ed had the privilege of being elected Member of Parliament for the riding of Stormont-Dundas. He was appointed to the Federal Cabinet in 1980 as Minister of International Trade. He held five ministerial portfolios over the next four years. Amongst his most notable contributions, as Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, were the initiation of the Canada US Free Trade discussions and the transformation of the Canadian automotive industry convincing Japanese automakers to build their cars in Canada.

In 1984, Ed's career transitioned to the corporate world. He served as the Vice Chairman of BMO Capital Markets and served on the board of several prominent Canadian companies

In 2014, Ed was awarded the Order of Canada for having served his community and his country. Until his passing, he served as Chairman of the Ron Joyce Foundation, supporting the social, economic, and emotional well-being of children and youth in Canada.

Yet, for all his public accolades and professional achievements, Ed's greatest legacy lies in the family he built and loved with all his heart. He will forever be remembered as a husband, father, grandpa, great-grandpa, and brother. He was a dedicated and loyal friend, a mentor and coach and an inspiring leader. He saw life from the perspective of a quarterback. He was always a few steps ahead and saw the big picture. He believed deeply in family, toughness, honour and obligation, and had the courage to do what he believed was right. Ed Lumley made a differe He lived a life worth celebrating and will be dearly missed by colleagues, friends and a family who loved him unconditionally. In keeping with Ed's wishes and In keeping with Ed's wishes and in recognition of his dedication, thoughtfulness, and deep concern for his family, a brief public visitation will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. at Lahaie & Sullivan Cornwall Funeral Home West Branch, 20 Seventh Street West, Cornwall, Ontario (613-932-8482). In accordance, funeral services will be held privately. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Cornwall Community Hospital Foundation (www.cornwallhospitalfoundation. ca) and/or the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) (www.cheo.on.ca). Messages of condolence may be left at www. lahaiesullivan.ca.

DEATHS



MARION ROLSTON WHEATON 1921 - 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Marion Rolston Wheaton, at the remarkable age of 103, surrounded by all eight of her children in Naples, Florida. Her extraordinary and beautiful life is one all her family aspires to.

Marion Rolston Sparling was born July 27, 1921, in Edam, Saskatchewan, the youngest of two children of Dr. William and Ann Sparling. Marion's father died three months before her birth. Because it was not easy, as a widow, to raise two small children in the small town of Edam, Ann Sparling moved her children to Battleford and then across the river to North Battleford. In 1938, the family of three moved to Saskatoon so George and Marion could attend the University of Saskatchewan. Marion went on to complete her Bachelor of Science, RN.

It was the move to Saskatoon that was the pivotal point in Marion's life. In Saskatoon, she met a handsome young man by the name of Donald Harold Wheaton. Although engaged to be married, their romance was interrupted in 1943 when Don enlisted in the RCAF and was posted overseas in 1944. Marion took a job nursing at the Saskatoon City Hospital and later the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, British Columbia. When Don was discharged from the RCAF, Marion and Don were married on July 7, 1948, in Saskatoon.

The couple moved to Porcupine Plain, Saskatchewan, in 1949, where Don and Marion bought into a general store, largely financed by the money Marion had saved while working as a nurse. No stranger to small town living, Marion settled in and had the first five of their eight children.

In 1961, an opportunity arose in Edmonton, Alberta, and the family moved and grew to eight children. While Don built the businesses the family has today, Marion nurtured and shaped the lives of eight children, 34 grandchildren, and 42 great-grandchildren.

Along the way, Don and Marion had countless camping adventures exploring northern Canada, including Yellowknife, Red Rock Lake, all the way up to Bathurst Inlet, from coast to coast to coast piloting their float plane. They motorcycled both the east and west coasts of Canada and travelled the world. As a couple, they were good square-dancers, very good plane bridge players, and shared the love of flying together. Don predeceased Marion in 2011.

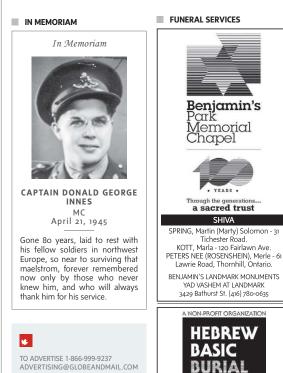
Marion approached life with a sense of adventure, curiosity, spirituality, and humour. She became an accomplished pilot, earning her private license, a twin-endorsement, an instrument rating, and a commercial license. She lived her later years with grace and dignity.

Marion did her yoga every day, with the exception of Sundays.

Marion raised her children, Jane, Ann (Ralph), Donald (Kim), William (Jadeene), David (Jackie), Ross (Trona), Ruth (Stephen), and Herbert (Scarlett) with patience, kindness, warmh, and a sense of duty to family and the community. Her love will always be with us.

The family will hold a private celebration of life.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Marion's memory may be made to her favourite charity, The Bissell Center in Edmonton (bissellcentre.org).



Margaret loved and was loved by her husbands, Mr. Ron Walker, Mr. Bernie Lefebvre and Mr. Bob White, all of whom predeceased her.

Margaret will be missed by her family, Brent Walker (Narda), Lesley Walker Wilson (John), Keith Walker (Sue), Mark Walker (Sheena); her many grandchildren, Scott (Stephanie), Kathryn (Ty), Lisanne (Dan), Thierry, Kyle, Erin, Rhonda, Kristen (Gianluca), and Jason; and her grastragadchildren. Charly her great-grandchildren, Charly, Liv, Quinn, Lana, Kai, Canon and Ginevra. Also, her nieces and nephews, Andrea T. Bobkowicz, Michael Bobkowicz (Heather), Kenneth Bobkowicz (Anna), and Catherine Bobkowicz Goyetche; her great-nieces and nephews, Aidan, Simon (Laurie), and Michelle (Chris); and great-great-niece and nephew, Chelsy and Augustus.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 25, 2025, at Ascension of Our Lord (375 Kitchener Ave., Westmount, Quebec) followed by a reception. Please consider a donation for a tree to be planted at her burial site.

Special thanks to the dedicated staff at the CLSC Rene Cassin/ Benny Farm.

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ALEX FAULKNER

ATHLETE, 88

NEWFOUNDLAND'S FIRST NHL PLAYER WAS A HIGH-SCORING HERO FOR DETROIT

Part of a famous hockey-playing clan, he had a devoted following in his home province, and although injuries limited him to 101 NHL games, the indefatigable forward kept playing competitive hockey until he was 45

TOM HAWTHORN

lex Faulkner became the first Newfoundlander to play in the National Hockey League when he skated onto the ice for the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1961.

Mr. Faulkner skated only two shifts in the first period of a game against the Montreal Canadiens before being returned to the minors.

The centre would be back in NHL action the following season with the Detroit Red Wings, where his scoring provess in the Stanley Cup finals made him a hero in Motown as well as in his

"Alex is to Newfoundland hockey fans what Babe Ruth was to baseball," the broadcaster Howie Meeker once said.

Injuries limited his playing time to 101 NHL games, though the indefatigable forward played his final game of competitive hockey at age 45.

Mr. Faulkner, who has died at 88, was a legend in Newfoun-dland and Labrador, where he was part of a famous hockey-playing clan, including an older brother who was the first from the province to sign a professional hockey contract. George Faulkner died in January at age 91

A slight but speedy forward, at 5-foot-8 and 165 pounds (1.73metres, 74 kilograms), the blond skater with a flat-top haircut was known for his stickhandling and crisp passing, skills learned while playing free-spirited games of shinny on the frozen Exploits River.

Selm Alexander Faulkner was born on May 21, 1936, in Bishop's Falls, a mill town in central Newfoundland. He was the third of seven children born to Olive (née Carpenter) and Lester Faulkner, a cook who became a firefighter at a papermill.

With no organized leagues in the town, Alex played pond hock-ey with area boys, including his brothers. By age 16, he was skat-ing against older players in senior hockey with the Bishop's Falls Woodsmen.

As he grew older, Mr. Faulkner emerged as the dominant goal scorer on the island. In just 25 games for the Conception Bay CeeBees in 1958-59, the centre scored 103 goals, averaging more than four a game. He also scored 23 goals in just eight playoff games, though the CeeBees lost the Herder Memorial Trophy as senior champions to the Grand Falls Andcos.

With his brother George as playing coach, the CeeBees won the championship the following season, as Alex led all skaters in regular-season goals and points only to surpass his output in the playoffs with 41 goals and 45 assists in just 11 games.

It was during an exhibition



Alex Faulkner poses for a portrait as a member of the Toronto Maple Leafs during the 1961-62 season, when he made his NHL debut. IMPERIAL OIL-TUROFSKY/HOCKEY HALL OF FAME



"

Alex is to Newfoundland hockey fans what Babe Ruth was to baseball.

HOWIE MEEKER BROADCASTER

Ferguson of the Cleveland Barons, an enforcer who then jump-ed on top of the slighter opponent to pummel him with both fists. Mr. Faulkner's nose was broken in several places, while the bone under his right eye was frac-tured. He also needed four stitches to close a facial cut.

Night in Canada, while taxis were impossible to find whenever the Red Wings were on the broadcast.

The adulation only became more intense when Mr. Faulkner capped his rookie season by scoring five goals in eight games in the 1963 playoffs. Three of the goals were game winners scored on Sunday nights, leading commenters to describe him as a player with "Sunday punch," a teasing description since he rare-ly engaged in fisticuffs.

After his two goals gave Detroit a 3-2 victory in the third game of the 1963 Stanley Cup finals against Toronto, Mr. Meeker, cov-ering the series for broadcast in Newfoundland, proclaimed, "They'll be dancing in the streets tonight."

"Alex's success is amazing," Mr. Meeker told the Toronto Star. "He has moved from the worst hockey league in the world to the best in two-and-a-half years and scored the winning goal in three Stanley Cup playoffs. It's almost unbelievable."

A photograph of the great Gordie Howe pinching his ear in a celebratory dressing room cemented his status. The Leafs won the Cup, but Mr.

Faulkner emerged as a future scoring star. He opened the following sea-

son just as strongly, averaging a point a game to be among the NHL's top scorers until he suffered a broken left hand after jamming it against Toronto de-fenceman Bobby Baun while following through on a shot. Soon after returning from that injury, he injured an ankle.

He skated for several seasons in the minor pros with such teams as the Pittsburgh Hornets, Memphis Wings and San Diego Gulls before returning home to

play senior hockey once again. Early in his working life, he worked in management for a frozen food company. Later, he op-erated a home for senior citizens.

He was always proud of having been the first from his province to play in the NHL. "No one remembers the sec-ond guy to walk on the moon," he

once told the Windsor Star.

He was inducted into the New-foundland and Labrador Hall of Fame in 1984, two years after his brother George had been en-shrined. In 1994, he was named to the Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador Hall of Fame.

Premier Andrew Furey presented Mr. Faulkner with a Newfoundland and Labrador Confederation 75th Anniversary Medal last year. After Mr. Faulkner's death, the premier noted on social media the pride he felt in do-

"Alex along with his brother George - another hockey great who passed less than three months ago – certainly made their mark on this province," the premier noted on social media.

Alex Faulkner died on April 7

game in St. John's that the Faulkner brothers caught the attention of the Maple Leafs organization. Mr. Meeker, a former Maple Leafs player and coach, was coaching the St. John's team, and his old Leafs coach, King Clancy, was in town to witness Alex score eight goals.

"I never saw anything like him for going in on the net," Mr. Clan-cy said. "He's a real prospect."

The centre asked for a fivegame amateur tryout with the professional Rochester (N.Y.) Americans.

'I figured if I didn't try. I'd never know whether or not I was good enough to make it," Mr. Faulkner said. "I want to know."

Rochester played in the American Hockey League, a minorleague circuit that included Cleveland, a city with a greater population than Mr. Faulkner's home province. On Christmas Day, 1960, he made his debut, as the Americans defeated the visiting Springfield Indians by 7-5. (The yuletide tilt included a Spring-field player named Noel Price Gordie Howe, centre, is seen after scoring his 544th career goal, tying the then-all-time NHL record on Oct. 27, 1963, in Detroit. Mr. Faulkner, centre-back, was a teammate of Mr. Howe during his time with the Red Wings. ALVIN QUINN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

taking part in a fight.) Mr. Faulkner signed his first pro contract early in the new year. He spent two seasons with the Americans.

Injuries to Toronto forwards Dave Keon and Ron Stewart led to Mr. Faulkner's temporary promotion to the Maple Leafs in 1961, a debut followed closely in Newfoundland.

While the young forward showed flashes of speed in two shifts in a game at the Forum in Montreal, he was benched after absorbing a bone-crushing bodycheck from Canadiens defenceman Al MacNeil who was from Cape Breton Island. The Canadiens won, 4-1.

Mr. Faulkner's week only got worse. The Canadian Press wire service moved a story for which it apologized days later.

"The story included purported comment by Faulkner, in connection with a bodycheck, that he was hindered by having his hockey pants on backwards; and by coach Punch Imlach that Faulkner was waving at the TV camera from the bench throughout the game and shouting, 'Hello, New-foundland,' " the Canadian Press said in a statement.

The wire service said the "imaginary comments were written as a personal exercise in al-leged humour." The culprit was not identified. The fake article was published by at least three daily newspapers in New Brunswick

centre returned to The Rochester, as expected. In a game three days after his NHL debut, he was sucker punched by John

The speedy blond became a fan favourite in Rochester, where he led the team in scoring in 1961-62 with 19 goals and 54 assists.

In June, 1962, the Detroit Red Wings claimed his rights from Toronto for \$20,000 in the interleague draft.

The flashy centre made the NHL team out of training camp, scoring 10 goals and 10 assists while playing a full schedule of 70 games. He centred Detroit's third line with wingers André Pronovost and Bruce MacGregor.

Back home, his climb to a regular job in the NHL solidified favourite son status. He received thousands of telegrams in support, while a chain of service stations in St. John's offered a free autographed hockey stick with every \$3 purchase of gasoline. A used-car dealership ran a contest where buyers were entered into a draw for a trip to Montreal to see the centre in action, a prize also offered by a potato chip company. The St. John's hockey teams were careful not to schedule games in conflict with Hockey

He leaves his wife, the former Do ris May Reid. The couple would have celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary later this month. He also leaves their adult children, Shawn, Alexandra and Tammy, as well as four grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters. He was predeceased by two brothers.

When he returned home after the 1963 season, he was taken on 100-kilometre а motorcade around Conception Bay accompanied by 1,000 horn-honking vehicles. Mr. Faulkner was presented with cheques and other gifts, including a silver tray. Premier Joey Smallwood told him he was Newfoundland's ambassador of goodwill.

A clearly nervous Mr. Faulkner told the premier he'd rather play hockey than take part in ceremo nies requiring public speaking because "it's easier."

"I'd rather do this," the loquacious premier replied, "because I'm no good at hockey."

Special to The Globe and Mail