



International Union of Operating Engineers

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

March 12, 2025

To: All Canadian Business Managers

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As you know, our organization proudly represents a record number of Operating Engineers across the United States and Canada – two proud nations; one great union.

The escalating tariff dispute between the two countries has been quite concerning for all of us. Tariffs placed on Canadian made aluminum and steel and reciprocal tariffs on American goods entering the country will drive up costs for consumers and businesses of both nations. The daily back and forth and the continued uncertainty as additional tariffs are threatened, including potential actions on critical minerals and energy procurement, is undermining a strategic partnership that has endured for generations.


To be clear, there can be no winners in this trade war. The implementation of tariffs by the United States, and the retaliatory tariffs by Canada, will only negatively impact the economies of both countries and disrupt employment opportunities for Operating Engineers on both sides of the border.

For this reason, the International Union of Operating Engineers strongly opposes these policies and stands proudly with our Canadian brothers and sisters against these harmful tariffs.

The International Union will dedicate its resources to opposing these tariffs and working to restore normal economic relations. We will continue to leverage our extensive industry and political relationships to pressure the American government to pursue a more reasonable arrangement—one that benefits both countries and fosters economic cooperation, ultimately serving the best interests of all Operating Engineers.

Thank you for your commitment to our members and your contribution to our collective strength. Rest assured, Operating Engineers will continue to stand together as one great union across North America.

In Solidarity,


John L. Downey
General President

JOHN L. DOWNEY
GENERAL PRESIDENT

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