Federal Tariff Relief Support for Canadian Businesses

Regional Tariff Response Initiative (RTRI)

Applications are still open for FedDev Ontario delivering nearly $160 million in targeted support for business, with a special focus on the steel and automotive industry.

Strategic Response Fund

The new $5 billion Strategic Response Fund helps trade-exposed Canadian businesses pivot by supporting major projects that protect industrial capacity and open new markets. It funds pre-development and capital work so firms can retool, stay competitive, and keep skilled jobs in Canada.

Support for the Canadian Steel Sector

Provides $1 billion through the Strategic Innovation Fund to support the steel industry's transition toward new lines of business and to strengthen domestic supply chains. Additionally, Canada's new government is implementing the Buy Canadian Policy, which requires that all contracts worth over $25 million prioritize Canadian materials – including steel and lumber.

Support from the Accelerated Growth Service

Connects businesses with the right support through tailored needs-based advice and grants access to a custom built government team drawn from 50+ federal, provincial. municipal and non-profit partners.

The Large Enterprise Tariff Loan (LETL) facility

Provides liquidity assistance to large Canadian enterprises who are negatively affected by tariffs.

Business Development Canada (BDC) Pivot to Grow Program

Assists Canadian SMEs transition to new markets and productivity with a $500 million fund. Designed to help boost cash flow while businesses adapt to a new trading landscape

Financial Support for Canadian agriculture and agri-food industries

Current open programs include: AgriInsurance, AgriMarketingProgram, AgriInvest, Agristability, the Dairy Direct Payment Program, the Advance Payments Program. See full list of available programs here: Agricultural programs and services - agriculture.canada.ca

Eligible E! Work Sharing Program

Helps employers and employees avoid layoffs during temporary decreases in normal business activities. Recent increase in the income replacement rate from 55% to 70% for affected workers to be implemented January 2026

Guides on CUSMA Compliance

Supports Canadian businesses to better understand CUSMA compliance and tariff classification of goods through Canada Tariff Finder, step-by-step guides to exporting and support from a Trade Commissioner in Canada.

To explore programs and stay informed, download the Canada Business App or visit ***https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/programs/international-trade-finance-policy/canadas-response-us-tariffs/support-canadian-businesses-workers.html***

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