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22-MONTH GIC SPECIAL

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025

U.S. hikes tariffs to 35 per cent but majority of exports qualify for exemption

Trade deadline passes without deal

KELLY GERALDINE MALONE

ASHINGTON — U.S. President Donald Trump has signed an executive order pushing tariffs on Canada to 35 per cent beginning today, following through on a threat to raise duties if Ottawa didn't make a trade deal.

The White House confirmed the tariffs would not hit goods compliant with the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement on trade, commonly known as CUSMA.

A fact sheet from the White House said Canada "failed to co-operate in curbing the ongoing flood of fentanyl" and also pointed to Ottawa's implementation of retaliatory tariffs.

Canadian officials had been tempering expectations that a trade deal would materialize ahead of Trump's deadline and Prime Minister Mark

Carney has said he'll only make an agreement that is good for Canada.

Trump said earlier Thursday he had not "spoken to Canada" but did reference that "he's called" — suggesting Carney may have reached out hours before the 35 per cent tariff was set

The Canadian Press has contacted Carney's office for confirmation but has not yet received a response. CBC

reported the Prime Minister's Office would not confirm a call had been placed and would not release any information on on-going negotiations.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford posted on social media that "Canada shouldn't settle for anything less than the right deal." He repeated his call for the federal government to respond with a 50 per cent tariff on U.S. steel and aluminum.

"Now is not the time to roll over. We need to stand our ground," Ford said.

Trump dampened the prospect of a deal with Canada in a post on social media early Thursday morning that said it would be very hard to make a deal after Carney announced Wednesday that Ottawa intends to recognize a Palestinian state.

• TRADE, CONTINUED ON A2

Parents plead quilty to criminal negligence

Boy, 8, looked 'like he was from Auschwitz'

DEAN PRITCHARD

WHEN child welfare authorities arrived at his house, the eight-year-old boy was too weak to stand, so he was lying balled up on the floor, his body emaciated and skeletal, "like he was from Auschwitz."

The boy's father arrived at the house later that day, March 20, 2023, to find his wife and son gone and a Child and Family Services supervisor waiting.

The man was "yelling and irate," says an agreed statement of facts provided to court this week.

The man said "it was not like (the boy) was going to die today" and provided "no reasonable excuse for (his) condition.

The 36-year-old man and his 37-yearold wife, who are parents to five children, have each pleaded guilty to criminal negligence causing bodily harm in a case that has shocked veteran social workers and exposed concerning lapses in supports to protect vulnerable children.

The two accused cannot be named as it would identify their son and his vounger sister, both of whom were "malnourished and suffering serious medical consequences" when they were seized by CFS workers.

"The two children had food aversions and the parents didn't know how to deal with this, and didn't seek assistance, while (the boy) deteriorated and was in obvious need of medical attention," says the agreed statement of facts.

"While (the girl's) condition was less severe, she was on the same path as (her brother)," the court document

• NEGLECT, CONTINUED ON A2



DESPERATELY NEEDED AID ARRIVES

Food aid, including pallets delivered by Jordan on Canada's behalf, arrive in Gaza after Israel responded to international pressure to ease restrictions. Jordan's assist to Canada comes after Prime Minister Mark Carney said Canada would recognize Palestinian statehood subject to conditions. See coverage on Page A3, 5.

Doctors prescribe referral system upgrade

CAROL SANDERS

MANITOBA doctors say it's time to speed up the process of patient referrals to specialists by replacing fax machines and snail mail with a co-ordinated electronic system.

This fall, Doctors Manitoba is holding a summit with referring and consulting doctors, government and regulators to discuss making the referral system more efficient and eliminate delays and bottlenecks.

"I have more patients than I can

count over my career that have missed specialized appointments or diagnostics because of the vulnerability of that system," said Doctors Manitoba president Dr. Nichelle Desilets.

There are approximately a half-million specialist consultations in Manitoba annually — almost all of which are initiated by referral sent by fax or mail in a siloed system not designed for effective collaboration, says Desilets' organization, which advocates for physicians in the province.

A Statistics Canada report this week shows about 60 per cent of Manitobans wait up to three months to see a medical specialist once they've been referred by another doctor, and about seven per cent wait a year or longer. It also shows less than half of Manitoba patients are satisfied with wait times.

Retired FedEx delivery driver Jonathan Green was told last fall that he would have to wait a year for a consultation with a surgeon to look at his torn rotator cuff.

"If it's going to take at least a year just to see the surgeon, God only knows how long it's going to take for them to even say, 'Hey, we've got a surgery date for you," said Green, who decided to pay out of pocket and had the surgery done in Mexico last April.

"Had I waited to get this done here in Manitoba — and I'm being quite literal when I say this — I'd probably be dead before that happens."

He said he reached out to former radio announcer and acquaintance Dez Daniels, who faced an excruciating wait for hip-replacement surgery and in 2022 opted to pay for the operation in Mexico.

• DOCTORS, CONTINUED ON A4



WEATHER SUNNY. HIGH 27 — LOW 16



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