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While updating reporters on the war in Iran, Trump stopped in the middle of his remarks to admire the White House curtains. SAUL LOEB/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE

Pundits questioning president's health

Even supporters raising concerns on mental state

Phillip M. Bailey
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump's behavior and comments have long led political opponents to question his mental health, but now the accusation that he is unhinged is coming from more than the usual liberal suspects.

Prominent conservative pundits – including former Fox News hosts Megyn Kelly and Tucker Carlson to conspiracy theorist Alex Jones and podcaster Candace Owens – are suggesting the president is unwell.

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"Experts have repeatedly warned that the President has been exhibiting signs consistent with dementia and cognitive decline," says Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Maryland. BRIAN STUKES/GETTY IMAGES FOR STAND UP FOR SCIENCE FILE

Canadian PM: U.S. ties have become a weakness

Amanda Stephenson
REUTERS

CALGARY – Canada's close ties to the United States were once a strength but have become a weakness, Prime Minister Mark Carney said on April 19 in a video message to his country in which he also praised the heroism of military leaders who fought against U.S. invasion more than two centuries ago.

Holding up a small toy soldier depiction of Gen. Isaac Brock, the British military leader who died defending what is now Canada from a U.S. invasion in the War of 1812, Carney said Canada can't control the disruption coming from its U.S. neighbors, and can't bet its future on the hope that it will suddenly stop.

"The situation today feels unique, but we've faced down threats like this before," Carney said, referencing Brock and several other Canadian historical figures, including Chief Tecumseh who united Indigenous nations across the Great Lakes to resist U.S. expansion in 1812.

Carney, who recently secured a parliamentary majority for his Liberal government, has said his electoral win will help him deal more effectively in the trade war started by President Donald Trump.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick recently slammed Canada as a difficult trading partner.

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Ice breaking set to open more shipping

Jillian Fellows
Sault Ste. Marie News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The U.S. Coast Guard was set to open more waterways in the Straits of Mackinac over the weekend.

According to an announcement from Coast Guard Sector Northern Great Lakes, the South Channel was set to open on Sunday, April 19. This is a commercial shipping lane located north of Cheboygan and south of Bois Blanc Island.

Grays Reef Passage was set to open on Saturday, April 18. This serves as a federal navigation channel in northeastern Lake Michigan between Grays Reef and Vienna Shoal.

Coast Guard officials added that all recreational ice users should plan their activity carefully, use caution on the ice and stay away from shipping channels, as ice-breaking activity weakens the ice far beyond the tracks created by ice-breakers.



The USCGC Mackinaw breaks ice in 2022. MARK HOFFMAN/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL FILE

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