

September 2, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.

Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Maintaining the Federal Fuel Excise Tax Suspension Beyond September 7, 2026

Chambers of commerce and boards of trade across Alberta, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, representing businesses of every size and sector, urge the Government of Canada to maintain the temporary suspension of the federal fuel excise tax beyond its scheduled end date of September 7, 2026.

The temporary rate reduction to zero, applied to unleaded gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuels effective April 20, 2026, has provided meaningful, practical relief at a time of elevated fuel prices driven by global supply disruptions. For Canadian businesses and households, this measure has been particularly important. Canada's geography, long supply corridors, and widely distributed communities mean that personal vehicles, trucking, rail-connected road haul, marine links, and aviation are essential to moving goods, serving customers, and accessing work, school, and essential services. Fuel costs therefore have a direct impact on competitiveness, operating margins, and the cost of living in every province and territory.

Reinstating the federal excise tax on September 8 would reverse this relief precisely when many businesses continue to face elevated input costs and consumers remain under pressure. Trucking, delivery, and logistics operators would see immediate cost increases that flow through national supply chains. Small and medium-sized enterprises already navigating workforce, regulatory, and interprovincial trade challenges would absorb higher transportation expenses. Resource, agriculture, construction, tourism, and aviation-dependent communities would feel the impact quickly. Households filling tanks for work, school, and essential travel would feel it at the pump.

Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade have long advocated policies that lower the cost of doing business and support affordability without compromising long-term fiscal responsibility. The current suspension aligns with those priorities. We therefore call on the federal government to:

- Extend the suspension of the federal fuel excise tax on gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuels beyond September 7, 2026;
- Provide clarity as soon as possible so that businesses and consumers can plan accordingly; and
- Consider making this relief a permanent policy.

Maintaining this measure would deliver tangible support to the businesses and communities that form Canada's economy while reinforcing the government's stated focus on reducing costs for Canadians.

Sincerely,

Alberta Chambers of Commerce

Atlantic Chamber of Commerce

Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce

Burin Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

Cape Alliance Chamber of Commerce

Central & Northern Carleton Chamber of Commerce

Chaleur Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce for Greater Moncton

Chambre de commerce de Rivière-du-Portage

Chambre de commerce du Haut-Madawaska

Chambre de commerce Restigouche Chamber of Commerce

Chestermere Chamber of Commerce

Clareville & Area Chamber of Commerce

Deer Island Chamber of Commerce

East Hants Chamber of Commerce

Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce

Fort Saskatchewan & Lamont County Regional Chamber of Commerce

Fredericton Chamber of Commerce

Grand Falls Valley Chamber of Commerce

Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce

Great Northern Chamber of Commerce

Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce

Greater Miramichi Chamber of Commerce

Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce

Greater Woodstock Chamber of Commerce

Halifax Chamber of Commerce

Hanna & District Chamber of Commerce

High River & District Chamber of Commerce

Kensington & Area Chamber of Commerce

Labrador North Chamber of Commerce

Labrador West Chamber of Commerce

Leduc Nisku Wetaskiwin Regional Chamber of Commerce

Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce

Lunenburg Board of Trade

Mount Pearl-Paradise Chamber of Commerce

Okotoks & District Chamber of Commerce

Peace River & District Chamber of Commerce

Pictou County Chamber of Commerce

Placentia Chamber of Commerce

Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce

Saint John Chamber of Commerce

Sheet Harbour & Area Chamber of Commerce

Shelburne & Area Chamber of Commerce

Sherwood Park & District Chamber of Commerce

Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce

South Queens Chamber of Commerce

South Shore Chamber of Commerce

St. Albert and District Chamber of Commerce

St. Andrews Chamber of Commerce

St. Stephen Area Chamber of Commerce

Strait Area Chamber of Commerce

Sussex & District Chamber of Commerce

The Board of Trade

Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce

Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce

Yarmouth & Area Chamber of Commerce

cc:

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Finance

The Honourable Tim Hodgson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources