



# FREEDOM CORP NEWSLETTER

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PUBLIC ORDER EMERGENCY COMMISSION

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HOPE UNITY

*“Striving to bring Canadians together Coast to Coast and  
seek accountability for those that trample our rights and liberties”*



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## THE LUCKI TESTIMONIES

### Day 23

Sitting in her uniform, retired RCMP Commissioner Brenda Lucki swore an oath to provide the truth during the Public Order Emergency Commission on November 15: Day 23 of the public hearings. On this day she was joined by Deputy Commissioner, Michael Duheme, and both officers would be offering their replay of the events which transpired. The testimony on Day 23 is intriguing. The observer is prompted to analyze the mask-wearing ex-Commissioner and left to conclude a high-risk pattern of behaviour noted within powerful government operations.

The examination begins with Mr. Gordon Cameron asking Ms. Lucki to describe her role within the RCMP, specifically related to the convoy and protests in Ottawa January/February 2022. Ms. Lucki indicates she oversees operations and administration for the organization and became actively involved in the Ottawa protests through working with Ottawa Police Chief Sloly; briefing the Deputy Minister community, as well as Ministers Marco Mendicino and Bill Blair — don't forget these names. As time evolves, she begins to liaise with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau who, halfway through the protests, initiated an "Incident Response Group" - this group reports on all convoy and protest related events happening within the country of which would be shared by Ms. Lucki who had also been in communication with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). With her hands full into the Ottawa operation, she reminds us she was still at the top managing Canada's federal policing program, responsible for 5000 people across the country. Clearly she had a big job in front of her.

Ms. Lucki explains the job demanded she and her colleagues look at the convoy "through a lens of protective policing" and she would be identified as

a part of the "gold command structure" as she worked to co-ordinate a plan with the Ontario Police Service (OPS) of which, she confirms, looked to her for decisions. Deputy Commission Duheme adds that part of the protective policing mandate is to provide security for elected officials and information coming in indicated some enforcement was required at the Prime Minister's home and Rideau Hall. Mr. Duheme continues to describe how the RCMP was providing "strategic threat advisory bulletins", implementing a Combined Intelligence Group with a focus being on the protective aspects of their duties. He reiterates that earlier communications with the OPS result in his satisfaction that they had everything under control as Ms. Lucki continues her testimony stating many of the federal resources who were called to task, in Ottawa, were changing their primary roles by changing into a uniform.

In the beginning days as truckers rolled into Ottawa, the RCMP provided an additional 30-50 officers to support the OPS. Ms. Lucki affirms government officials were not involved with any of the decision-making and again describes the RCMP's role as a service provider for the OPS. By February 10th, Brenda Lucki is facilitating several briefings a day with Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and Prime Minister. At the end of it all, approximately 1100 RCMP officers and administrative employees assisted the OPS with federal resources being pulled from across the country, culminating in the invocation of the Emergencies Act.

Within Lucki's testimony she advises that as time progressed, the Government of Canada starts to lose confidence in how the OPS are dealing with the situation — this after the number of protesters starts to increase exponentially indicating great support of the convoy itself which doesn't seem to be coming to an expected end.



# FREEDOM CORP - THE LUCKI TESTIMONIES

She clarifies the OPP technically were the organization next in line to assist with the growing numbers and, leading up to the use of the Emergencies Act, it was believed the OPS continued to have the situation under control. Ms. Lucki indicates she received questioning from various departments (law enforcement and political) about resolving the situation.

As she goes on to refer to the Mass Casualty Commission, here is where this writer becomes interested with the words being exchanged. Serving as a brief background, recall the brutal mass murder in Nova Scotia (April 2020) which prompted a large investigation into the actions of the RCMP. Choosing to wear civilian clothes as opposed to wearing her uniform, Lucki testified during the Mass Casualty Commission (taking place in August 2022), "Sometimes I forget I'm the Commissioner". During this investigation, Lucki confirmed she provided a list of firearms used in the Nova Scotia massacre to the Canadian government; yet she wasn't able to ascertain the difference between a restricted and prohibited firearm. Surely you think the most senior administrator of the Canadian Firearms Program would understand such basic jargon. The answer is a staggering no. Brenda Lucki explained, "[t]he fact that I gave the wrong information is what frustrated me the most" despite having "subject matter experts" to advise her. Unfortunately, due to the actions and misinformation presented to the Ministers noted above, by this civil servant, millions of Canadians would be adversely affected by amendments made to Bill C-21 through an Order In Council — so much for Canadian democracy — it seems a strange foreshadowing.

By February 13th, in collaboration with the RCMP Integrated Planning cell and the OPP, the OPS created a plan which was about to be implemented to put an end to what they were referring to as an illegal blockade. Ms. Lucki was satisfied with the plan and believed enforcement options were still available without resorting to the Emergencies Act.

Although considering herself to be the representative of all law enforcement at the time, for some reason, the fact that a plan was being implemented by the OPS seems to evade the Government of Canada. Brenda Lucki stammers through her testimony using hindsight as a justification when asked why she didn't share her information with the Government of Canada as they prepared to use the Emergencies Act; also admitting she did not share her professional opinion that there were options not fully exhausted prior to implementing the Act, "I guess in hindsight, yeah, that might have been something significant [to share]." Perhaps she forgot she was the Commissioner on that day.

Mr. Duheme looks on with a blank look on his face and eventually describes how relationships are built within government departments which result in communications being lost. Mr. Duheme confirms the National Security Intelligence Advisor (NSIA) gave advice to the Government of Canada to invoke the Emergencies Act, for the first time ever, with the advice manifesting from people under the command of these two highly ranked officers. Mr. Duheme is unsure if he was fully briefed on this or not.

Many hours of meetings and discussions required to gain some control over the situation unfolded in Ottawa during those weeks — but as we sit on this side of history, there is much room for speculation: who exactly are the characters in charge of our country? Through this testimony we become receptive to the flaws in human nature when striving for power, particularly when it comes to governance and high stress situations. Bottom line from what is gathered: the people who (currently) represent our government offices were unable to respond to the Canadian public with transparency and accountability yet are the first to denounce Canadian patriots who stand for everything Canada is. It is evident that all options were not explored — and those of us who supported the truckers knew it. The truckers were the light we all needed.



## THE FREELAND TESTIMONIES

### Day 30

On Thursday November 24th Deputy Prime Minister and Canadian Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland marked the 30th day of the Public Order Emergency Commission with her testimony. She starts her testimony talking about being focused on supply chains due to the strain put on them during the pandemic and inflation issues also due to the covid lockdowns. “We knew that we were moving into an environment where the challenge was reopening and elevated inflation, and how do you deal with that. And that made us particularly concerned, again, about the supply chains, because they posed a challenge to elevated inflation.” She goes on to talk about the U.S. Build Back Better incentives to build EVs in the U.S. being bad for Canada to the extent that she and Trade Minister Marry Ng sent a letter to the U.S. threatening retaliation “at scale” - \$100 Billion U.S. imports - should the Build Back Better measures be passed into law. As she finishes describing these negotiations the name Brian Deese is brought forth, the U.S. President’s Economic Advisor. Freeland goes on to say that the Russia and Ukraine conflict was another big focus for her during January of 2022. She describes the invasion of Ukraine as the biggest challenge to Canada’s national security since the Second World War.

Chaudhury, Commission Co-lead Counsel, clarifies that Freeland’s focus on the Freedom Convoy came on the Sunday of the second weekend. Freeland states her focus until then was 90% budget with some focus on trade and some on the potential Russia/Ukraine situation. Freeland goes on to describe that the start of the Ambassador Bridge blockade on the 7th of February was what had escalated things for her. “...from a finance/economic perspective, that escalated things exponentially; that’s what made it a hugely significant economic action.” She details that she started to get really worried on Sunday the 6th and by Monday the bridge was blocked. She talks about a thought process with Michael Sabia, Deputy Minister of Finance in regards to a memo sent on February the 9th titled “Potential measures to address the use of Canada’s financial system to fund

activities harmful to Canada’s economy. In this memo, Freeland testifies they established

First they established the situation as a huge problem “we need to find a way to stop this.” Secondly Freeland says the order was everyone looks into their tool boxes to find out what can be used to put an end to the situation. In this second aspect of their thinking they established that FINTRAC, which Freeland describes as “the centre that sort of monitors financial transactions, money laundering, terrorist financial activity,” and the the Bank Act where she felt authorities could utilize this avenue as well, however, she explained that when they looked at these tools, everything that could be utilized was already being put into action. Her last option was legislation to create authority.

Back to Brian Deese, Freeland explains that normally it is very difficult to get Deese on the phone, he is the most important advisor to President Biden and usually communication is not easy. A memo sent from Freeland to Sabia details the potential plan between Deese and Freeland in which Freeland asked him for tow trucks, to threaten protesters with inability to travel to the United States and requested a call between Biden and Trudeau. She expresses her concern over the trade relationship between Canada and the United States because of the Windsor Bridge and the United States looking for more ways to protect their economy in another crisis like Covid.

During a text message exchange with Alan Kestenbaum, Mr. Kestenbaum expressed concern over how the situation was affecting the Steele industry and asked Freeland if it might be wise to change course on the vaccine mandates in the name of protecting the industry. “I know it sucks politically to back down and reverse course but does it really pay to carry on the policy in support of a mandate for a vaccine that doesn’t prevent the spread of Omicron and which seems to be vanishing



# FREEDOM CORP - THE FREELAND TESTIMONIES

naturally anyway?” In Freeland’s testimony she remarks that it wasn’t relevant for him to give her a solution, his only relevant stance was that he was expressing concern about the effects the situation would have on the industry.

Chaudhury takes Freeland through a 3 page document about her communications with the banks, she points to Freeland calling the response to the freezing of bank accounts an “attack on democracy.” Someone in the call with banks suggests putting military in place to keep the border crossings moving “even after protesters are removed. To send a clear signal.” Further, one of the bank CEOs on the call expressed to Freeland that the bank systems cannot be politicized, cannot be used as an arm of the government. They state that it is important to keep in mind that “90+% of adults are vaccinated yet we have the greatest restrictions.” And that the government needs to show a plan for the removal of restrictions. Again this is ignored by Freeland and she focuses on options of punishment for Canadians. When another CEO expresses that they had spent some time in the USA the prior week they were told that an investor would not invest another cent in Canada’s “banana republic.” When Chaudhury asked about this, Freeland brushes it off as unimportant. Another CEO remarks that if the protesters were labeled as terrorists the banks could move quickly. Freeland says to him “All options are on the table.”

When the testimony turned to cross examinations Brendan Miller asked Freeland if Tamara Lich was a terrorist, she responded by putting the responsibility of that determination on to intelligence agencies. Brendan Miller pushed her further, directing her to page 12 of document SSM.CAN.00008764\_REL.001 in which she wrote a note to someone named Dave, Miller inferred it was Dave from CSIS, in which Freeland says “you need to designate the group as terrorists.” Freeland tries to say that this is a not a note to David Vigneault, that she had no meeting with Dave from CSIS but fails to provide to name of the person she was writing the note to.

As Ewa Krajewska, Canadian Civil Liberties

Association goes through her cross examination if Deputy Prime Minister Freeland she asks Freeland about the Emergencies Act being used to squash political dissent or be used against demonstrators. Freeland agrees that this is the case. When pressed further about other demonstrations, including blockades that caused economic impact, Freeland excuses those demonstrations as having little impact financially compared to the Freedom Convoy and other inspired demonstrations across the country. When asked about the western support for blockades in Poland during the Solidarity general strike Freeland excuses it as a legitimate protest against an authoritarian regime. Freeland goes on to say that political debate is a healthy sign in society, that the commission itself is a sign of a healthy society, but when pressed further refuses to answer what protests she would deem acceptable in a healthy democratic society.

It is important to note here, at no time during the Freedom Convoy did Chrystia Freeland, Justin Trudeau or other any other politician come to speak with the organizers of the convoy. It has continued to be illustrated through Freeland’s testimony that the government of Canada’s first initial instinct was to try to punish the citizens of Canada rather than have a dialogue. Any thought of working with Canadians and changing policy was ignored even when coming from those that expressed grave concern over the effects of the protest on their industries. Freeland demonstrated in her testimony that a democratic society can only have healthy protest if her government agrees with the protest. That change in policy affecting millions of Canadians is not an acceptable ask. The concern for saving face far outweighed the concerns for the well being, financially and otherwise of the people protesting in Ottawa. Democracy is a greek term coined from demos (people) and kratos (rule). Throughout her testimony, Freeland has shown that she has forgotten the root of a democratic society. She has forgotten that she works for the people, she does not rule over the people with punishment when they take a stand against authoritarian policies. Canada is fractured, and Deputy Prime Minister Freeland stands holding a stone.



# FREEDOM CORP - EVIDENCE

## EVIDENCE IN ORDER IT IS REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE ARTICLE

Department of Finance / Ministère des Finances Canada

MEMORANDUM / NOTE DE SERVICE

PROTECTED B - Limited Distribution

Officer Paradis Béland  
Charlene Davidson

POJ-L13223556-171724

2022FNS10668

TO: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance

FROM: Michael Sabia

SUBJECT: Potential measures to address the use of Canada's financial system to fund activities harmful to Canada's economy.

**For information:**

- Recent activities in Canada have highlighted the use of Canada's financial system to fund activities that are harmful to Canada's economy. This note presents two legislative options to address this issue together with next steps.
- Financial Implications: None.
- Recommendation: None.
- Timing Considerations: At Minister's discretion.

**Background**

This memorandum sets out legislative amendments that would provide the government with additional tools to address the issues surrounding the use of the financial system to support activities that cause significant harm to the Canadian economy.

**Potential Legislative Measures**

- Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering and Terrorist Finance Act) (PCMLTFA)*

Recent activities have highlighted that certain entities such as crowdfunding platforms (e.g., GoFundMe, PledgeMusic, etc.) and some payment processors (e.g., PayPal, Square, Moneris, Stripe, etc.) are not currently captured under the PCMLTFA. The risks associated to crowdfunding

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platforms and payment processors have already been assessed as being medium and high respectively in the government's most recent update to the *Assessment of Illicitness Risks of Money Laundering and Terrorist Risks in Canada*.

The PCMLTFA could be broadened to cover crowdfunding platforms and all payment processors. While broadening the coverage would not modify any powers of the Minister or FINTRAC nor change the purpose of the Act, it would however ensure that these entities are subject to obligations under the PCMLTFA which include:

- Customer due diligence, such as verifying the identity of persons and entities involved in certain transactions.
- Recordkeeping, including related to accounts, transactions, and client identification.
- Reporting to the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), including large value (above \$10,000) and suspicious transactions.

As such, crowdfunder PCMLTFA requirements to crowdfunding activities and payment processors facilitating crowdfunding would help mitigate risks that these platforms receive illicit funds, increase the quality quantity of intelligence received by the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), and make more information available to support investigations by law enforcement. While foreign crowdfunding platforms and PSPs would be captured, enforcement of regulatory requirements under the PCMLTFA would be limited. For example, there will be no compliance exams conducted outside of Canada and ability to enforce administrative monetary penalties (AMPs) will be restricted. However, similar to requirements for foreign money services businesses, there is a requirement for registration with FINTRAC and to have an office in Canada. In addition, enforcement based on this intelligence produced by FINTRAC will fall to the RCMP and other policing bodies which already have high demand for their resources.

FINTRAC does not have the authority to track or monitor financial transactions in real time, nor does it have assets or investigate potential criminal activities. The RCMP and other policing bodies would remain responsible for investigating crime.

**2. Bank Act**

The second measure would leverage your responsibility over the banking sector. It would involve creating a new authority in the *Bank Act* that would enable the Governor in Council to issue banking directives to banks in cases where the Minister of Finance is of the opinion that such an order would be necessary to maintain the strength and security of the national economy, and to protect Canada's national security and the safety of Canadians. We have developed two options.

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**Option 1**

This option would provide the Governor in Council with a broad authority that includes the ability to direct banks to suspend the access of specific individuals or entities to their account (e.g. freeze the account).

**Option 2**

An alternative option would be to provide the Governor in Council with a general authority, which could be used to direct banks to conduct a review of their existing business relationships to ensure that those business relationships do not further the activities related to those threatening the economy and do not undermine the integrity of the financial sector. The measure would provide banks with the ability to suspend access to accounts on a temporary basis (e.g. the duration of the GIC order) if they suspect an account is being used to further an illegal activity.

**Considerations**

These measures will be helpful and will make available to the government additional tools to address the current issue by increasing the quantity and quality of intelligence received and by giving a strong signal that the government is serious about taking measures to counter the illicit use of funds. As the amendments to the *Bank Act* are novel, consumers may raise concerns. Canadians generally expect to have access to their funds except in rare circumstances (e.g. as a

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result of a court order or the Canada Revenue Agency acting for a freeze). Some Canadians may also see interference in their banking relationships, for what may not be illegal activity sanctioned by an independent tribunal, in an overreach by the Government. Banks may also have some concerns and it will be important to talk with them.

**Next Steps**

Subject to your views on the above, immediate next steps would be to finalize drafting instructions and table these amendments as quickly as possible should the government decide to do so.

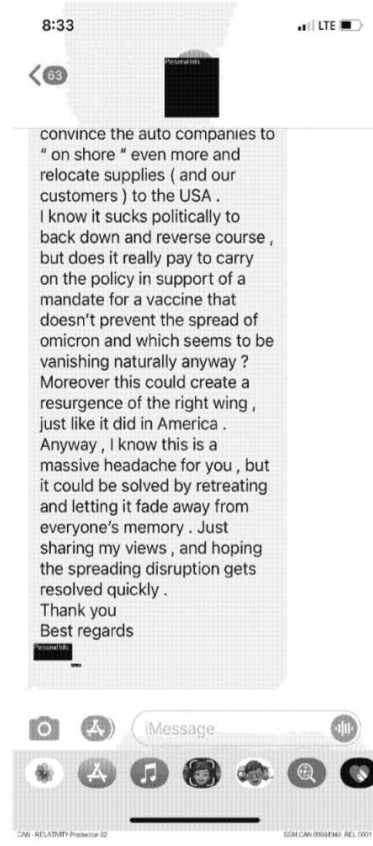
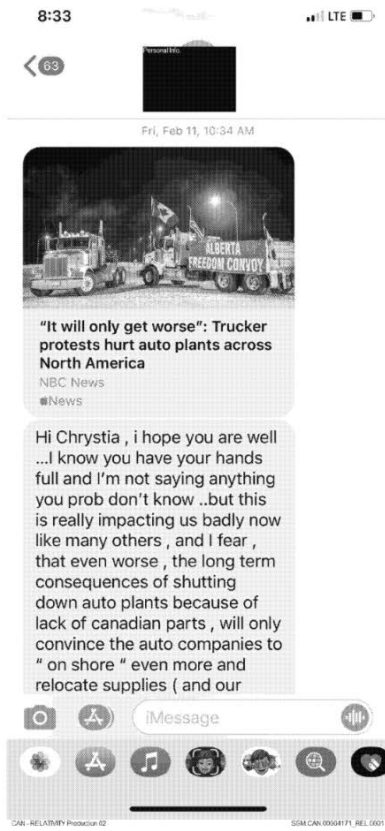
We are mindful of the growing role of cryptocurrencies in funding these types of activities, which is complex and requires further examination. As such, we will undertake a comprehensive review and return to you with advice.

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# FREEDOM CORP - EVIDENCE





# FREEDOM CORP - EVIDENCE

## Readout - banks call

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 Date: Sun, 13 Feb 2022 19:53:18 +0000

A very productive call, with some helpful advice in a few places on framing about the financial system as a whole.

Anthony – you may want to see the DPM's exchanges with the new CEO of Person

DPM: Let me start by saying all options are on the table and we take very seriously what is happening. Want your inputs on what we might do.

Will start with Person and thank you to Person for what you did this week.

Person: Canada's reputation is at stake. I am very proud of the Canadian banking system this week, we have responded well. But if you have information on particular people we need a way to share that information. The big hole in our financial system is these platforms, which are effectively money service businesses that are not being regulated as such.

DPM: And what would you need for us to do on that?

Person: I am told that this is a Public Safety lead but if you list them as people subject to sanctions (i.e. as if they are terrorists) we could act swiftly. But we likely need new rules to deal with this kind of situation, especially to regulate the platforms too.

What we did on Friday was precisely because of what our AML systems were able to identify. BUT we are taking a big reputational hit, lots of backlash on social media for it. Fox News is telling people to take their money from us. We need your help to find a better way to communicate with Canadians.

DPM: I am very prepared to come out and speak about this. This is an attack on democracy. We need to educate Canadians about this.

Person: This also highlights why we need to be concerned about balanced approach between open banking as offense for innovation, while also shoring up our defences. If we are going to respond here, this cannot be just about the banks. It has to be about all of the financial system. There are 6,000 different businesses they could use to move funds in Canada.

Canada's reputation is indeed at risk. We need to show the world proactively that we won't let this happen again and that our trade corridors will remain open. We should think about putting the military in place to keep the border crossings moving even after the protestors are removed. To send a clear signal.

DPM: Couldn't agree more with those points. We must make clear that 1) we will resolve this 2) we won't let this happen again.

Sabia: To your point Person about the broader financial system, what could that mean?

Person: Need to include everyone in what you do, not just banks.

Person: I am very concerned about the banking system being seen as a political weapon of the government. We can't politicize the banks.

DPM: Explain that...

Person: If we are directed to close accounts, etc. that could be seen by critics as the sector being used as an arm of the government. A few points to keep in mind:

- Need to start talking about post-pandemic economics. 90%+ of Canadian adults are vaccinated yet we have the greatest restrictions in the OECD. Because of that we are getting lots of questions about what is happening in Canada.
- Need to show a plan for how to remove restrictions.

Person: We need court orders to act. We had identified an individual who is an organizer who had several hundred thousand dollars move into their accounts, we flagged it to Fintrac and started work on a court order and because of the delay of 4 hours, the money was withdrawn before we could stop it.

DPM: Was the problem there because of a gap in the current system or because it moves too slowly?

Person: hours was too long. The problem is AML is focused on finding bad money turning to good. This is about good money turning to bad. A Person said, if we listed them as terrorists we could move fast.

And let's be clear, they will eventually all move to crypto. The money has to go somewhere. If we list them as terrorist we could act more comprehensively.

Person: To Person point we at Person don't even have a court order yet. We just filed.

Person: PayPal and Stripe are big unregulated parts of the system as payment processors. Need to bring them into the regulated system.

We have spent billions to work on AML. But the key is having the info to find people. We need to find a way to share info. Perhaps we can all build a utility model to share that between government and institutions.

Person: Agree with my colleagues. The reputation at Canada is at risk. Just spent a lot of time in the US last week, and we were being called a "joke" by people. I had one investor say "I won't invest another red cent in your banana republic in Canada". That adds to an already tough investment perspective on Canada.

In terms of economic impact, we see this stuff cutting GDP by 10 basis points per week in Q1.

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US already doing better because of lack of restrictions.

If you labelled these guys terrorists we could act quickly. We need to bring the privacy commissioner in proactively.

This is a national crisis you need to act immediately.

DPM: You all need to know, I think this is indeed a crisis. It is a threat to our democracy and to peace, order and good government.

I care about privacy but I also care about restoring order in our society.

All options are on the table.

This is not just a job for Finance, but since the economy has been hit we are very much involved. Please tell everyone you talk to that we will resolve this, and we will not let this happen again.

To Person: If the investor you speak of is American, tell them we are not like the USA who had people literally invade their legislature. If they are a Brit, remind them of Brexit. If they are French, remind them of the Yellow Vests. If they are German, look at how badly they are handling Russia right now.

Our report card looks not to shabby. And we have come through COVID well. We have avoided so many more deaths and the economy is strong.

To Person: I am very resolute in ending this occupation of our democracy. But I will never support negotiating with those who hold our democracy hostage. No good thing comes of that.

Let us all live in the truth – the trucker mandate was also imposed by the USA. And the vast majority of restrictions were imposed by provinces, by Conservative governments.

Don't be confused that this is about a public policy issue. You don't shut down the Ambassador Bridge because of a public policy view.

We have to ensure Canada doesn't enter a post-COVID, January 6<sup>th</sup> spiral.

I hear you all on the importance of talking about this as the financial system, not just banks. I hear you on your concerns about open banking.

We all must act as leaders right now.

We are considering all options, some of which in normal times would be seen as draconian. And you've all highlighted some ideas we are already looking at.

Sabia: We will not take you by surprise, we will keep you updated before we do anything and make sure you are comfortable and that it is implement-able.

DPM: Thank you to all of you. You've done a lot for Canada during COVID. And it matters a lot to me, that as part of our western democracy, we have a banking system in Canada that is anchored by

banks owned by Canadians, headquartered in Canada, and that we can get on a call quickly on a Sunday afternoon like this to respond to threats.

**Tyler Meredith**  
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Dave

- we need a  
court order to  
act on trespass  
in divs.

→ we need to  
move faster!

- we need a new  
playbook

→ you need to  
designate the  
group as a

to work group  
to seize the assets  
& impair them