



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saskatchewan's Trucking Industry Faces Economic Pressures Amid Rising Costs and Regulatory Challenges

Regina, SK – (February 4, 2025) – The Saskatchewan Trucking Association (STA) is raising concerns about the mounting financial pressures facing the province's trucking industry as companies struggle with rising operational costs, supply chain disruptions, and regulatory challenges.

Tariffs and Rising Costs Threaten Industry Stability

The trucking industry, responsible for moving 80% of goods in Canada, is already navigating higher equipment, fuel, and maintenance costs. Now, the introduction of potential U.S. tariffs could further disrupt Saskatchewan's key sectors, including agriculture, energy, manufacturing, and retail, leading to:

- Lower freight volumes as export demand declines.
- Increased operating costs for fleets due to tariffs on truck parts, fuel, and imported goods.
- Cross-border delays with additional paperwork and compliance requirements.
- Competitive pressures on small carriers, who may struggle to absorb higher costs.

"Our industry continues to push forward despite the mounting challenges placed upon us," said Rob Ruiters, STA Board Chair. "Ethical, reliable transportation is vital to our economic sustainability. Any interruptions to our cooperative and seamless cross-border transportation, which U.S. tariffs would most definitely cause, would further add disruptions to an already challenged industry—some may not be able to survive."

Regulatory Challenges & Industry Advocacy

The STA continues to work alongside government and industry partners, including the Canadian Trucking Alliance, to address barriers that are restricting efficient trucking operations. Advocacy efforts include:

- Pushing for the removal of interprovincial trade barriers, such as restrictions on oversized loads, designated routes, and Long Combination Vehicle (LCV) harmonization.
- Requesting enhanced commercial vehicle enforcement, including fully staffed weigh scales and increased roadside inspections to ensure compliance and road safety.
- Calling for the removal of the Carbon Tax on diesel fuel, which is a major financial burden for trucking fleets. With another tax increase scheduled for April 2025, transportation costs will continue to rise, leading to higher prices on essential goods like groceries.

"We need to ensure we are doing all we can to support growth and sustainability within our trucking industry," Ruiters added. "That also includes increased regulatory oversight and putting an end to those companies not involved in ethical, professional trucking practices."

A Call for Industry Engagement

The STA is urging its members to engage with U.S. customers and policymakers to highlight the economic consequences of tariffs on both sides of the border. Saskatchewan's trucking industry plays a crucial role in supporting international trade, and disruptions could negatively affect both Canadian exporters and American supply chains.

"Saskatchewan's economy is built on trade, and tariffs will only add pressure to an industry already dealing with rising costs and a tough regulatory environment," said Susan Ewart, Executive Director of the STA. "This will ultimately impact not just trucking companies, but businesses, farmers, and consumers who rely on a strong transportation network."





The STA remains committed to advocating for fair and sustainable policies that protect Saskatchewan's trucking sector and the businesses that rely on it.

About the STA

The Saskatchewan Trucking Association is the voice of the trucking industry in Saskatchewan, advocating for safety, compliance, and growth within the sector. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, the STA ensures the continued success and integrity of the industry.

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