

Mark Carney's Liberals to protect Canada's national identity by strengthening CBC/Radio-Canada

In this time of crisis, protecting our culture and identity is a critical part of keeping Canada strong. In that regard, CBC/Radio-Canada is one of Canada's most important institutions: it's where we tell our own stories, in our own languages. It's where Canadians go for timely, relevant, and reliable news. It's where we go to see a reflection of ourselves: a strong, proud, sovereign people.

Canadian identity is under threat. Protecting it is part of what it means to secure Canada. We need to strengthen our institutions for generations to come, not tear them down with a snap of our fingers. This is a moment for us to come together and celebrate what makes us strong: our shared national identity, forged over centuries and expressed in English, French, and countless other languages. CBC/Radio-Canada has a critical role to play in protecting that identity and the people who define it: everyday Canadians.

Radio-Canada is particularly important in the protection and promotion of French in Canada. From the Montrealer following the latest Orange Line service interruption; to the fisherman monitoring the latest storm approaching les Îles de la Madeleine; to the mother in Sudbury monitoring the progression of regional forest fires, Radio-Canada is there to keep French Canadians informed and safe. It's also there to celebrate francophone culture, whether it's playing the latest Coeur de Pirate hit on the radio or bringing Céline Dion's captivating performance at the Olympics right into our living rooms. Regardless of the medium, Radio-Canada is there to keep francophones informed, safe, and entertained - all in their own language.

Pierre Poilievre wants to dismantle all of this. With our sovereignty under threat, he blames Canadians. With our identity questioned, he attacks the institutions that celebrate who we are. With misinformation proliferating, and with natural disasters growing in frequency and intensity every year, he seeks to cut Canadians off from a vital source of reliable news.

Pierre Poilievre wants to end CBC/Radio-Canada. Mark Carney won't let him.

The Liberal plan to strengthen CBC/Radio-Canada will address its mandate and funding:

- → We will strengthen its mandate by:
 - » Developing a governance plan with CBC/Radio-Canada to improve accountability, empower leadership, streamline processes, and tap into the institution's innovative spirit;
 - » Equipping them to further promote and support Canadian culture, including Quebec's unique culture which is at the heart of our national identity;

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- » Strengthening local news with more local bureaus and reporters, so that Canadians from coast to coast to coast have access to timely, relevant, and reliable news;
- » Adding to their mandate the clear and consistent transmission of life-saving information during emergencies;
- » Fully equipping them to combat disinformation, so that Canadians have a news source they know they can trust; and,
- » Bolstering innovation and investing in new digital tools so that they can deliver the news when and how Canadians want it.

- → We will enhance CBC/Radio-Canada's available resources and secure stable, long-term funding by:
 - » Enshrining and protecting their funding by making it statutory, thereby empowering Parliament and the Canadian people - not ideologues - to decide the future of this critical institution; and,
 - » Providing an initial \$150 million funding increase, while directing CBC/Radio-Canada to develop a strategic plan consistent with this new mandate. That is expected to require a long-term funding level in line with the average funding of other national public broadcasters over time.