



ECAM NATIONAL DIRECTOR SPECIAL NOTICE



**Dave Cook,
National Director**

Dave Cook, born in Thompson, Manitoba, has built a career in the electrical industry since becoming a journeyman in 1995. His journey within Static Electric saw him rise from a first level apprentice to journeyman to Operations Manager to a Co-Owner and currently to the role of President.

Dave is deeply invested in the well-being of the trade and its workers. He actively participates in discussions and drives initiatives aimed at ensuring fair treatment, upholding safety standards, and fostering professional development within the electrical sector. As the ECAM Social Committee Chair, he plays a pivotal role in promoting a supportive and inclusive environment within the industry.

Outside of work, Dave's passions include spending time with his family, cooking, playing golf, and watching hockey.

Canada's Economic Response to the Ongoing Trade Dispute

Tuesday's announcement from the federal government marked Canada's economic response to the breakdown of trade negotiations between Canada and the United States last Friday. Effective September 8, 2026, Canada will be moving forward with reciprocal tariffs of 15, 25, and 50 per cent on incoming U.S. products, with individual product rates based on the matching U.S. rate for the same goods. These counter tariffs will apply to products covering \$27.6 billion in imports, focusing heavily on the steel, electronics, agricultural equipment and appliance industries. Of importance as well, announced from Minister Champagne this morning, is that the remissions framework will remain available to assess requests for exceptional relief. In terms of the list of products where counter tariffs will apply, the federal government is maintaining a similar approach to what it had adopted last year; largely consumer-driven products where a Canadian or other alternative are generally available, in order to mitigate the impact on Canadian consumers and support "Buy Canadian" efforts.

A full list of products is available online [here](#).

In addition to announcing today's counter tariffs, the government also announced a \$7.5 billion support package, including, but not limited to:

Supports for Businesses

Expanded Regional Tariff Response initiative

- Cap on non-repayable contributions will increase from \$1 million to \$3 million.
- Liquidity support will be available for up to \$2 million, in addition to existing support for pivot or capital investment plans.
- Program delivery through Regional Development Agencies

Business Development Bank of Canada *Pivot to Grow*

- Second \$500m liquidity stream providing working capital to businesses facing cashflow shortfalls.
- Will be available to companies directly impacted by tariffs, regardless of sector.
- Loans range from \$250,000 to \$5 million, with interest only payments over 36 months.
- Annual revenue requirements for applicants lowered to \$1 million.

Canada Strong Diversification Fund

- New stream of Strategic Response Fund – with an additional \$2 billion in funding, expanded flexibility to support tariff impacted companies with shovel ready projects that support ongoing capital maintenance.

Expanding Large Enterprise Tariff Loan Facility

- Providing the flexible liquidity needed to bridge large employers by a) increasing the size of liquidity supports from 24-36 months of liquidity needs and b) increasing max loan term from 10-15 years.

Other

Employees

- Extending the temporary measures to a) waive the 1-week waiting period b) allow receipt of benefits without first using up separation payments by one year
- Extending the temporary measure that provides an extra 20 weeks of regular benefits for long tenured workers by 8 months
- Introducing a 1-year measure allowing workers who have voluntarily left jobs are no longer penalized when they want to access EI (as long as their most recent job loss is through no fault of their own).

Employers

- Introducing new Workforce Retention and Retraining program, combining existing EI Work-Sharing program and Worker Retention Grant into a single streamlined program. Employers will be eligible for additional funds to cover training and admin costs (up to \$1,000 per participant).

More information on these supports is available [here](#).

MCAC STATEMENT

With today's announcement, MCAC has offered the following statement:

In the face of an escalating trade conflict, the Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) recognizes the need to take a principled stand in the face of aggressive trade practices, and we remain committed to supporting a strong and resilient Canadian economy through the hard work of Canada's mechanical, electrical, and plumbing contracting sector. At the same time, MCAC recognizes that any ongoing trade conflict will only serve to reduce investment in the North American economy through supply chain challenges and ongoing economic uncertainty, and the association remains supportive of efforts to end trade hostilities between Canada and the United States.

As an association, we will continue to advocate for the best interests of our members and our sector as the country faces economic headwinds because of this ongoing trade dispute.