



POLICY *Brief*

The Need for a New Approach to Canada-U.S. Diplomacy

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Policy Brief: Context

- U.S.-Canada relationship is complex, rich and asymmetrical
- It has enriched both economies
- Canada is the United States largest market
- The Canada-U.S. border is safe and secure
- Canada enjoys U.S. protection and profits from its markets
- Key comparative advantage is Canada's proximity to U.S
- Arrive of Trump administration presents unique challenges

Policy Brief: Considerations

- Canada has taken a passive diplomatic approach to U.S.
- Goal has been to keep relationship “under the radar”
- Now the relationship has been fundamentally transformed
- Canadian sovereignty is being challenged by Trump
- Economic and trade relationship threatened by U.S. tariffs
- Our long-standing U.S. diplomacy has become obsolete
- Need to rethink our diplomatic approach with the U.S.

Policy Brief: Questions

- What should be our objective and goals?
- What changes in our diplomatic strategy are needed?
- Are there changes necessary in how we organize our efforts?
- Is relationship too important to be left to one department?
- What about a whole of government approach?
- Who needs to lead the initiative?