The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
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November 26th, 2026

SENT VIA E-MAIL:

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Mélanie Joly, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Industry Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
melanie.joly@parl.gc.ca

Re: Urgent Request for Federal Tariff Relief for Stanpac, Smithville, Ontario — Point of No Return December 1, 2026

Dear Prime Minister Carney and Minister Joly,

On behalf of Town Council and the residents of Grimsby, I am writing to urge an immediate, personal intervention to keep Stanpac's manufacturing in Canada. Without federal support in the coming days, approximately 350 Canadian jobs will be lost, and the equipment that supports them will begin moving to the United States on December 1st, 2026.

Stanpac is a Canadian, family-owned food packaging manufacturer that has grown in Smithville, Ontario for over 70 years to become a sector leading corporation in North America. Both its head office and main production facility are right here, employing approximately 500 people in the Niagara community. This past year could have been the company’s strongest show to date. Instead, due to the imposition of 50 per cent

tariffs by the United States this past August, Stanpac has been paying over $500,000 a week to ship ice cream and beverage packaging into the US market.

While Stanpac has done what we would ask of any responsible employer by drawing on its own cash reserves to protect Canadian workers, the costs are simply unsustainable. The funding and relief response thus far has been to focus on those businesses pivoting away from the U.S. market. For Stanpac, this is not a feasible solution. As the United States has the world's largest market for ice cream consumption, they would become unviable without it. Tariff relief programs do not address the specific constraints faced by Canadian manufacturers like Stanpac.

Stanpac now plans to reduce its Canadian workforce by about 70 per cent and shift production to its existing U.S facilities in Texas, New Jersey, and Wisconsin. December 1st is fast approaching, and once the equipment moves, it is unlikely we will see these impacts reversed. As a neighbouring community, the Town of Grimsby will be affected by the loss of revenue generated by Stanpac in West Niagara, its many contributions to our community as a partner, and of course the loss of jobs and the impact on employees –some of whom are Grimsby residents.

Stanpac's employees are our neighbours, family members, and friends. Many are supporters of our local businesses and programs here in Grimsby. Their loss is ours. We know that the impact of losing 500 jobs in our Niagara West community would extend well beyond Smithville and the Township of West Lincoln.

We therefore respectfully ask the Government of Canada to:

1) **Meet with Stanpac before December.** Direct senior officials from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and the Department of Finance to meet with Stanpac's leadership in the coming days to put a bridging solution in place before equipment begins to move.
2) **Provide direct, time-limited tariff relief**. Establish targeted support, such as a bridging contribution or tariff offset funded from the counter-tariff revenues Canada is collecting, for integrated cross-border manufacturers that must keep their U.S. market share to survive.
3) **Adapt existing programs to fit firms like Stanpac.** Give officials the flexibility to make companies of Stanpac's size and cross-border structure eligible under the Strategic Response Fund, including the new Canada Strong Diversification Fund, or the Large Enterprise Tariff Loan facility, without requiring a pivot away from the U.S. market.

4) **Prioritize dairy and food packaging in trade discussions with the United States.** Seek the removal of tariffs on ice cream and dairy packaging as part of Canada's ongoing negotiations.

The Town of Grimsby stands ready to support this work in any way we can, and we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your officials, together with Stanpac, at your earliest convenience.

Canada has asked its manufacturers to stand firm through this trade dispute. Stanpac has done exactly that and at a great cost. We are asking the federal government to stand with them now, before the jobs, the equipment and the investment leave our community and country.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jeff Jordan, Mayor

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