



Hon. Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay, P.C., Q.C., M.P.
South Surrey—White Rock

For Immediate Release
February 14, 2022

**Hon. Kerry-Lynne Findlay’s Statement on Demonstrations at the Pacific
Highway Border Crossing**

“I know these last few weeks have been difficult for everyone and I see our community and our country in conflict.

“Peaceful protest is essential to any functioning democracy, and I support all Canadians who have chosen to exercise their Constitutional right to freedom of expression and assembly. Canadians have the good fortune of living in a democratic society where people believe in, and our laws uphold, freedom of speech, freedom of thought and the freedom to assemble.

“I also believe strongly in peace, order and good government and the rule of law and I denounce unconditionally any disrespect or desecration to our national monuments, or any unnecessary escalation of conflict.

“Before entering politics I had a career as a lawyer and mediator. I have studied advanced negotiation at Harvard Law School. I take great pride in having helped resolve conflicts big and small. I can say confidently, and without exception, that the best and most sustainable solutions to conflict come from engagement and dialogue, not force.

“Right now, I see a federal government that has refused to listen, and that has refused to acknowledge or address the hurt, pain, and mental health crises in our country caused by isolation, business and job loss, and separation from loved ones since COVID-19 arrived.

“The federal government has yet to table a forward-looking plan to the Canadian people that tells us when, or by what measure, we can see restrictions lifted on our lives we have now endured for 2 years. The federal

government should be talking to and engaging with citizens to resolve this conflict by introducing a plan to get back to normal. Instead, we have seen the federal government demonize and insult our fellow Canadians.

“Instead of creating a plan, engaging in dialogue, and looking for a peaceful solution, the Prime Minister is looking to invoke the Emergencies Act. This Act is meant for the most serious and extraordinary situations we might face as a nation. The police and law enforcement have the tools they need to act under current legislation and the Criminal Code of Canada.

“Countries around the world and Canadian provinces are either lifting restrictions or tabling a plan to do so. Prime Minister Trudeau is an exception to this trend. He prefers to wedge, divide, and stigmatize as publicly noted by some of his own federal Liberal caucus members.

“Doubling down on mandates and restrictions will not help bring these protests to a peaceful end. Only by committing to engage in dialogue and introducing a forward-looking plan will the Prime Minister be able to lower the temperature and get our beautiful country back to normal.

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For More Information

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