

# Ng announces India trade mission, pledges a limited deal within months

**DYLAN ROBERTSON**  
The Canadian Press

Trade Minister Mary Ng is expected to lead a trade mission to India this fall, and says it is “not going to be years” before Canada signs some form of trade agreement, more than a decade after negotiations began.

She made the comments at the end of a visit this week by Indian Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, who Ng noted brought leaders of large Indian businesses to Ottawa and Toronto.

“Having India here ... is a testament to our strong bilateral trade relationship and our commitment to keep doing this work,” Ng said.

Since March 2022, the two countries have been negotiating what’s called an Early Progress Trade Agreement, a deal restricted to certain industries instead of the entire economy.

The talks follow a five-year hiatus, after both countries entered negotiations in 2010 for a comprehensive deal but abandoned the plans in 2017.

In a joint statement, Ng and Goyal said they seek “enhanced co-operation” in the fields of “agricultural goods, chemicals, green technologies, infrastructure, automotive, clean energy, electronics and minerals and metals.”

It’s unclear which of those fields would be part of an interim deal and which would be held off for later talks about a larger agreement, but Ng said she’s not worried about Canada getting stuck in the interim phase.

“This is a relationship that we are building, and that will endure, and that is very much a part of Canada’s Indo-Pacific strategy,” she said.

When asked whether getting the interim deal inked would take months or years, Ng said it was “not going to be years.”

She noted that since the formal launch of negotiations, there have been seven rounds of talks, and she said a deadline isn’t needed.

“If we continue at this pace, and make the continued progress that we both wish to see occur, then I think we will get there.”

Industry groups have been urging Canada to push for a deal to be signed this year, but a former Canadian envoy to India, Nadir Patel, said a deadline would likely make it harder for both sides to feel like they



CP PHOTO SEAN KILPATRICK

Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng host India’s Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food, and Public Distribution and Textiles, Piyush Goyal in Ottawa on May 8.

reached a fair agreement that they actually want to use.

“Putting timelines on something like this is not the most effective way at driving towards a conclusion. Because what trumps timelines really would be a desire on both sides to have a win-win agreement,” said Patel, a former trade negotiator.

“I’m cautiously optimistic that a deal can be concluded in relatively short order, but by no means is it a fait accompli.”

Patel noted Goyal is a prominent minister in the government of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and he argued the visit can help get things back on track after the COVID-19 pandemic and elections put talks on pause.

“There was clearly a priority placed on forging closer trade, economic and by extension, bilateral ties, and I think that bodes well for Canada and India,” said Patel, a senior strategic adviser with Norton Rose Fulbright Canada.

He said the interim deal could lower tariffs in industries that neither side see as sensitive, as a low-hanging fruit that could stimulate economic growth.

It would also make it clear that the two countries can rely on each other amid a push by the U.S. to limit economic exposure to China by preferring

partnerships with likeminded allies - a policy called friendshoring.

“Against the backdrop of friendshoring, concluding an early agreement sends a signal to business that Canada is a country that Indian companies can trade with.”

He noted the Liberals seem to be doing the right thing by meeting in person, since doing business in India requires building relationships.

“The momentum is well on a strong trajectory,” Patel said.

Ng is scheduled to visit India in August for a G20 trade meeting, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is widely expected to go to New Delhi the next month for the G20 leaders’ summit.

In October, Ng said she’ll lead a “team Canada trade mission,” which generally means a visit of business heads and provincial officials.

While leaks to media have suggested the interim trade deal was gummed up last fall on numerous fronts, Goyal told reporters that teams have made “significant progress” in recent months.

“Early completion of the Early Progress Agreement is something that will send a strong signal to the rest of the world about the strengthening relationship between these two countries,” he said.

## People’s Party of Canada Leader Maxime Bernier aims to run in Manitoba byelection

The Canadian Press

Maxime Bernier says he will run in what he predicts will be a “two-horse race” for a federal seat in a coming byelection in rural Manitoba.

The People’s Party of Canada leader says the vote in Portage-Lisgar will be a choice between him or what he called a fake conservative.

The seat was previously held by Candice Bergen, who was the Conservative party’s interim leader last year and who stepped down as a member of Parliament in February.

The byelection has not yet been called. The Conservatives have also chosen their candidate for the race, Branden Leslie.

Bernier held several roles in Stephen Harper’s Conservative government, including leading the industry and foreign affairs ministries.

He quit the Conservative party in 2018 after losing its 2017 leadership contest to Andrew Scheer.

After forming his own party, Bernier ran in his former seat of Beauce, Que., in the 2019 and 2021 elections, losing both times to a Conservative candidate.

He told supporters in Portage la Prairie, Man., Friday that the area reminds him of his home riding, and urged them to make history by electing the first member of Parliament representing his party — to “open the floodgates.”

“This byelection is the starting of a major turning point in Canadian politics,” he said.

In the last federal election, the People’s Party of Canada candidate in Portage-Lisgar got 22 per cent of the vote.

Bernier compared his party to the former Reform Party, saying he has learned from that party’s mistakes and has no plans to merge with the Conservatives.

During his speech, he urged supporters to join a political revolution and took shots at the Liberals, the NDP and especially the Conservatives, whom he accused of only caring about voters during elections.

He also said Canada has changed dramatically for the worse in recent years, railing against what he called “moral and cultural degeneracy” and “the woke cult.”

He claimed that society has been overtaken by evil and “those who reject it are silenced and smeared as intolerant, racist and transphobic.”

Bernier railed against lockdowns and other restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic and in 2021 he was arrested in Manitoba for breaking public-health orders.

He told the crowd Friday he will be fighting his arrest in court next Tuesday.

## Manitoba Sen. Raymonde Gagne becomes Senate’s third-ever female Speaker

The Canadian Press

A Manitoba senator will be the third woman to sit in the Speaker’s chair in the Senate, and the first to do so in 44 years.

The Governor General appointed Raymonde Gagne to serve in the role Friday on the advice of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

A statement from Trudeau’s office lauding the appointment says Gagne, who worked in education before joining the Senate in 2016, is a strong advocate for minority language rights.

She was the president of Winnipeg’s Université de Saint-Boniface from 2003 to 2014.

The statement says Gagne has a reputation for being productive, objective and balanced, and the prime minister is confident she will uphold Canadians’ confidence in their democratic institutions.

Gagne is replacing the now-retired George Furey, who has been a senator since 1999 and served as Speaker for the last eight years.

# PUBLIC NOTICES



**DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED  
MAY 4 TO MAY 10, 2023  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**



### COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/INSTITUTIONAL

**2650 BOX SPRINGS ROAD NW** (Lot 3, Block 1, Plan 0812533)  
PLDP20230211. Accessory Use (Canvas Structure).

**266 4 STREET SW** (Lots 33-40, Block 11, Plan 833M)  
PLDP20230266. Change Of Use (Health Care Offices).

**204 1201 KINGSWAY AVENUE SE** (Lots 8-10, Block 16, Plan 483M)  
PLDP20230268. Change Of Use (Retail And Consumer Services).

**599 12 STREET NW** (Lot 40, Block 5, Plan 1481JK)  
PLDP20230269. Change Of Use (Day Care Facilities).

**7 1015 30 STREET SW** (Lot 4, Block 2, Plan 7910218)  
PLDP20230295. Change Of Use (Retail And Consumer Services).

**2 662 15 STREET SW** (Lots 36 & 37-40, Block 4, Plan 3420AH)  
PLDP20230304. Change Of Use (Retail And Consumer Services).

### HOME BUSINESS

**69 TERRACE CLOSE NE** (Lot 90, Block 4, Plan 0413780).  
PLDP20230126. Home Business Minor. Photography and Equipment.

**166 UPLAND DRIVE SE** (Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 6099JK)  
PLDP20230193. Home Business Minor. Service (Golf Pro).

**441 12 STREET SE** (Lot 11, 12, Block 31, Plan 1132M)  
PLDP20230265. Home Business Minor. General Contractor/Project Manager.

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty one (21) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Third Floor, City Hall or on the City’s website at [www.medicinehat.ca](http://www.medicinehat.ca).

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 403.529.8374).

### 8AM - 4PM SPECIAL SERVICES

Electric Outages.....403.529.8260  
Gas Emergency .....403.529.8191  
Water & Sewer Emergency .....403.502.8042  
After Hours Special Services.....403.526.2828

### FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTIONS & WATER MAIN FLUSHING

City Assets Environmental Utilities Maintenance Crews perform regular, routine maintenance to uphold the water quality and system infrastructure by annually inspecting fire hydrants and flushing water mains.

During these operations, there may be some discoloration in the water which is not harmful to consume and will dissipate when flushing is complete. Please note that discoloured water should not be used for laundry and that fluctuating water pressure may also be noticed.

Should discoloration persist beyond three hours, turn on a cold-water faucet or an outside sprinkler and let the water run for several minutes until the water runs clear.

For additional information or to confirm whether crews are working in your zone, refer to the Water Flushing information on the City’s website at [www.medicinehat.ca/water](http://www.medicinehat.ca/water) or contact City Assets Environmental Utilities at 403-529-8176.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD APPEAL #1-2023 - 435 NORTH RAILWAY STREET SE (LOT 9, BLOCK 30, PLAN 1491)

TAKE NOTICE THAT the following Development Appeal will be heard by the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at a Public Hearing in City Hall Council Chambers, commencing at 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

On April 12, 2023 Planning and Development Services approved a development permit application for Change of Use (Community Shelter) on the recommendation of the Municipal Planning Commission. The appellants are appealing the approval of the Development Permit.

If you wish to inspect any other documentation on file with regard to this matter, you may do so by attending at the City Clerk Department, 3rd Floor, City Hall between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Written/electronic submissions, regarding the above, will be accepted and placed before the Board. All submissions will be treated as public documents and must be received by the undersigned by noon, Tuesday, May 23, 2023. Oral Submissions are normally limited to five (5) minutes.

Jessica Robinson, Legislative Coordinator/Board Secretary  
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