



Truckers Block Key US-Canadian Border Crossing As Anti-Mandate Protests Go Worldwide

Description

CANADA: Truckers Block Key US-Canadian Border Crossing As Anti-Mandate Protests Go Worldwide

“I’m Here For My Kids”

A group of protesters have blocked one of the busiest international land border crossings in Canada – the Ambassador Bridge which links Windsor, Ontario to Detroit, for the **second day in a row**.

As the [CBC](#) reports, “Dozens of demonstrators lined Huron Church Road, which feeds traffic to the international crossing from Highway 401, with trucks and vehicles starting Monday afternoon and into Tuesday morning with local police asking people to avoid the area.”

The Ambassador Bridge is closed.

Here’s the scene at Huron Church and College right now.

Police say it was calm overnight.

I’ve noticed the backlog of transport trucks caught in the protest have moved.
pic.twitter.com/V9762O7dMS

— Chris Ensing (@ChrisEnsingCBC) [February 8, 2022](#)

As of Tuesday morning, Police announced in a tweet that *one lane* of US-bound traffic is open.

“I’m here for my kids, just to get it back to normal. They haven’t played hockey, it’s been a disaster. Just end, give us back what we need to live again. Trudeau, Doug Ford, just listen to us,” said Sam Kovak of Woodslee, Ont.

“I was in Ottawa the past two weekends, all the people I talked to were vaccinated. It’s got nothing to do — just give us our freedom back,” he added. “Now we’re in the exact same position two years ago, my kids are still sitting at home, my wife is still sitting at home.”

“We’re sorry,” but we have to make a stand.”

The Ambassador Bridge is one of the busiest international land border crossings in Canada and a major route for transport trucks.



Access to two schools on Huron Church Road near the bridge is limited Tuesday, prompting the Catholic school board to send a notice to families Tuesday.

Police are asking students and parents to avoid the road, and access the schools from California Avenue.

“The Windsor Police have assured that they have no concerns for student or staff safety at this time. They will have two police officers at the school to assist us with the situation this morning,” the memo read. —[CBC](#)



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[Authored by Jack Phillips via The Epoch Times,](#)

Following the tactics used by Canadian truckers in Ottawa, a growing number of trucker -inspired protests appear to be gaining momentum worldwide—with groups in the Netherlands, Austria, the United States, the UK, Australia, and New Zealand forming.



The Ottawa protest, known as the “Freedom Convoy,” aims to do away with Canadian [COVID-19](#) vaccine mandates, namely for truckers crossing the U.S.–Canada border. On Sunday evening, the mayor of Ottawa declared an emergency, while police started making arrests and seizing the truckers’ fuel.

In **New Zealand**, truckers reportedly launched a convoy from both the North and South Islands. They are slated to converge at the country’s capital, Wellington, [according](#) to the New Zealand Herald.

One of the truckers, who only called herself Jess, [told](#) the Toronto Star that she is attempting to organize a trucker protest in New Zealand, which has some of the strictest COVID-19 restrictions in the world, because “her country needed to hear the call to stand up.”

She confirmed that the two groups will converge in Wellington in the near future after communicating with truckers via social media.



Farm

vehicles joining the trucker convoy protest against COVID-19 mandates parked in Ottawa on Feb. 5, 2020. (Courtesy of Simon Alary)

“I think you’re starting to see what will become a big global movement to end these mandates,” Brian Brase, co-organizer of the U.S. protest, [told](#) Fox News on Sunday, referring to vaccine requirements.

“It’s a violation of your human rights to be mandated to take this vaccine. If you want it, go get it, but being mandated to get it, we’re standing up against that. We think it’s wrong.”

Last week, organizers of a **U.S.** freedom convoy criticized Facebook after the social media giant [removed a page](#) organizing protests. The truckers [told](#) Fox News that they were planning to drive from California to Washington, D.C.

Truckers in the **United Kingdom** will also demonstrate against mandates in a Glasgow suburb and will drive to Edinburgh, the capital, before heading to London, organizers [told](#) the Scottish Daily Express newspaper. Freedom Convoys will also depart in the English cities of Manchester, Exeter, Bristol, and Bournemouth, as well as in cities in Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

In the **Netherlands**, according to the local NL Times, dozens of trucks and other vehicles gathered [video posted](#)



Protesters

demonstrating against COVID-19 mandates gather as a truck convoy blocks the highway at the U.S. border crossing in Coutts, Alta., on Feb. 2, 2022. (The Canadian Press/Jeff McIntosh)

Elsewhere in Europe, Aram Lemmer, a business owner and organizer in **Austria**, told the outlet that he got commitments from about 2,500 vehicles to drive to Vienna, the capital, to protest against mandates. Recently, Austria passed a law that will mandate vaccinations for all eligible people aged 18 and older or they'll face hefty fines.

And police in the **Australian** Capital Territory [say](#) they expect crowd sizes for the "Convoy to Canberra" to peak on Feb. 8 when Australia's Parliament resumes. Protesters led by truckers are expected to gather outside Parliament House.

It comes as Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson declared a state of emergency on Sunday, [alleging](#) a "serious danger" posed by the trucker protest. Protest organizers say their movement is peaceful.

"IMPORTANT: Anyone attempting to bring material supports (gas, etc.) to the

demonstrators could be subject to arrest. Enforcement is underway,” Ottawa police also [said](#) in a statement on social media Sunday.

The decision was panned by the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms, a group representing the truckers.

“In a free and democratic society that is governed by the rule of law, citizens can freely associate with each other, including the giving and receiving of goods and gifts. There is no law that would allow the Ottawa Police to arrest people for giving fuel or food to another Canadian,” Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms lawyer Nicholas Wansbutter said in a [statement](#).

Header featured image (edired) credit: Truckers and other protesters block traffic in both directions to Windsor’s Ambassador Bridge, linking Canada to Detroit. (Chris Ensing/CBC)

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