

WHAT IS THE EMERGENCIES ACT?

Background of the Emergencies Act

The Emergencies Act was passed in 1988 to add parliamentary supervision and make changes to its predecessor, the War Measures Act. Under the act, a sitting government can declare one of four types of emergencies:

- a public welfare emergency
- a public order emergency
- an international emergency
- or a war emergency

The Liberals called a **public order emergency** which, “means an emergency that arises from threats to the security of Canada and that is **so serious as to be a national emergency** (Part II, 16).”

Once a government has issued an emergency declaration, it has 7 days to table in Parliament a motion outlining the declaration of emergency and the reasons for calling an emergency. The House is required to debate this motion immediately.

At the conclusion of debate, Parliament is to vote on the contents of the motion.

- If the majority of Parliament votes against the government’s motion, the motion is immediately defeated, and emergency powers are revoked.
- If a majority of Parliament votes for the motion, the government is granted the specific powers laid out in the motion for a period of 30 days.



“I will be relentless in the fight to hold the Liberals to account for their continued overreach and abuses of power.”

Arnold Viersen

ARNOLD VIERSEN
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
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FREEZING BANK ACCOUNTS

How were Bank Accounts Frozen?

The Emergency Economic Measures Order says that banks, credit unions, co-ops, loan companies, trusts, and cryptocurrency platforms must stop “providing any financial or related services” to “designated persons”, meaning a person who, “engaged, directly or indirectly, in an activity prohibited by sections 2 to 5 of the Emergency Measures Regulations”.

In this case the Emergencies Act compelled the banks to proactively identify and freeze bank accounts of Canadians who donated to the Freedom Convoy. The Act gave the banks the power to do this without obtaining a court order.

Angelina Mason, general counsel for the Bankers Association, testified at Committee, “We primarily relied upon the names provided by the RCMP but there were obligations under the order separate that required banks to make their own determinations.” She admitted some accounts that were frozen were not even on the list of names provided by the RCMP.

But the Liberals also didn’t tell Canadians that their frozen accounts could be flagged for life.

Conservatives strongly believe the federal government should not be able to freeze the bank accounts of hardworking Canadians simply on the suspicion of supporting causes of which the government doesn’t approve.

This is not how the government of a free and democratic society operates.



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SPECIAL REPORT

Part 2

Democracy in Crisis:

Emergencies Act

ARNOLD VIERSEN

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
PEACE RIVER—WESTLOCK



On February 14, 2022, the Liberals officially issued a declaration of emergency and invoked the Emergencies Act.

Imposing the powers of the Emergencies Act set a dangerous precedent. It has never been used before. The Liberals claimed that the Emergencies Act was needed to end the protests.

But was it?

Canadians want and deserve answers on why the Prime Minister invoked this sledgehammer in the first place.

The legislation itself requires the Government to tell Canadians the reasons and details behind its decision.

The Government of Canada should not have the power to close the bank accounts of hard-working Canadians simply on the suspicion of supporting causes which the government doesn’t like.

Conservatives will continue to push to get answers and hold the Trudeau Liberal government to account for its unprecedented and unnecessary overreach of power by invoking the Emergencies Act.

Sincerely,

Arnold Viersen
MP for Peace River-Westlock

SEPARATE FACT FROM FICTION ON
THE EMERGENCIES ACT



CONSERVATIVES
SAID **NO** TO THE
EMERGENCIES ACT!

THE EMERGENCIES ACT: WAS IT NEEDED?

CLAIM: THE POLICE REQUESTED IT

In April, Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino testified to the Emergencies Act Committee that:

“We invoked the act because it was the advice of non-partisan professional law enforcement”

- Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino

PROFESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT:



“No”

RCMP Commissioner Brenda Lucki when questioned if RCMP asked the government for the Act



“I did not make that request.”

Former Ottawa Police Chief Peter Sloly



"We didn't make a direct request for the Emergencies Act."

Interim Ottawa Police Chief Steve Bell

TRUTH: POLICE DID NOT REQUEST THE EMERGENCIES ACT

Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino lied and misled Canadians to justify the Liberal government giving itself unprecedented emergency powers.

CLAIM: ATTEMPTED ARSON

11 Liberal MPs and 6 NDP MPs repeatedly made claims about how violent and dangerous the convoy protesters were, and all pointed to the attempted arson.

“Death threats, an attempted arson”

“There were reports of attempted arson, bomb threats to hospitals”

“We have watched assaults, attempted arson”

“Attempted arson, and the doors were handcuffed shut, so that if a fire started, people would be burned alive inside the building”

TRUTH: NO ATTEMPTED ARSON

Ottawa Police confirmed that the Convoy participants were not responsible for the arson attempt in an apartment building.



The Trudeau Liberals made multiple **claims** that the Emergencies Act was needed.

CLAIM: The Police Requested It

CLAIM: The Convoy Harmed the Economy

CLAIM: There Was Attempted Arson

TRUTH: The Emergencies Act was NOT needed.

- There was no national public order emergency.
- Border blockades ended without the Emergencies Act.
- All measures taken by police used existing laws.

CLAIM: THE CONVOY HARMED THE ECONOMY

The Liberals also claimed that the Emergencies Act was needed to protect Canada's economic reputation. The Order-in-Council enacting the extreme measures referenced “threats to Canada's economic security.”

At the special committee investigating the use of the Emergencies Act, Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland stated:

“It was clear to me that with each passing hour, our economic reputation with the United States as a reliable trading partner and as a reliable investment destination was being damaged.”

TRUTH: THE LIBERALS EXAGGERATED THE ECONOMIC IMPACT

- The Liberals refuse to table any evidence of the potential economic impact.
- The Ambassador Bridge Blockade ended BEFORE the Emergencies Act was invoked.
- Data revealed the blockades in Ontario and Alberta had almost no impact on cross-border trade.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Take a moment to respond to my community survey below.

Your feedback helps me better represent our community.

Did you support the Freedom Convoy?

☐

YES

☐

NO

☐

UNSURE

Did you support the invocation of the Emergencies Act?

☐

YES

☐

NO

☐

UNSURE

As your MP, am I on the right track?

☐

YES

☐

NO

☐

UNSURE

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

COMMENTS

