

The Emperor of Bay Street: Why Mark Carney's Canada Leaves Everyday People Behind

By Marie-Soleil Seshat Landry

We are currently being governed by a high-finance king who is treating Canada less like a country and more like a corporate liquidation sale. Prime Minister Mark Carney has built a career moving seamlessly between Goldman Sachs, central banks, and the chairman's seat at Brookfield Asset Management. But his tenure in public office has made one thing abundantly clear: he is dangerously disconnected from the reality of everyday Canadians.

Carney's approach to governance is undeniably elitist, defined by a "we know best" arrogance that caters to boardroom cronies while ignoring the people who actually live and work on this land. It is very royal of him, but Canadians don't need a monarch of monetary policy dictating from on high. We need a public servant.

The Offshore Illusion

While working-class Canadians are squeezed by the cost of living, our Prime Minister's financial roots trace back to an alternate reality of corporate wealth protection. During his time at Brookfield, the mega-firm was heavily criticized for utilizing offshore tax havens—registering entities in places like Bermuda and the Grand Caymans to shield billions from the tax systems that actually fund our roads, schools, and hospitals.

Now, as Prime Minister, he hides behind a "blind trust." Yet, ethics watchdogs and critics have repeatedly pointed out that he retains millions in unexercised Brookfield stock options. How can we trust a leader to hold corporations accountable when his own wealth is fundamentally tied to their profit margins?

Exploiting the Land, Silencing the People

Nowhere is Carney's corporate steamroller more evident than in his aggressive push for the *One Canadian Economy Act* (Bill C-5). Packaged to the public as a necessary way to "cut red tape" and build infrastructure, the Act is actually a sweeping executive power grab. It allows his cabinet to fast-track massive industrial megaprojects on Crown and Indigenous lands, bypassing crucial environmental regulations and overriding our constitutional duty to consult First Nations.

We've seen this playbook from him before. While Carney was acting as the Vice Chair of Environmental, Social, and Governance at Brookfield, the Mississauga First Nation was forced to launch a \$100-million lawsuit against a Brookfield subsidiary. They argued in court that the company's hydroelectric dams on the Mississagi River devastated their territory and their rights. When Carney and his corporate allies look at our land, they don't see communities, treaties, or ecosystems. They see a balance sheet and a resource to be extracted.

Time to Wake Up

Mark Carney is cashing out our future to benefit the same global financial elite he has always served. He is fast-tracking the exploitation of our natural resources, overriding local and Indigenous voices, and operating with the unchecked power of a CEO who thinks he owns the company.

It is time for the Canadian public—and the media—to stop treating him like a rock-star economic savior, and start treating him like what he is: an elitist with too much power, cashing in on the very land he was elected to protect.