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GLOBAL ORDER IS 'BREAKING DOWN', CARNEY TELLS AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT

By Helen Livingstone\

With the post-war "global architecture breaking down from consecutive crises" Australia and Canada should work together as "strategic cousins", Mark Carney has told the Australian parliament.

The question for middle powers was whether they would write the new rules that determine security and prosperity or "let the hegemon dictators dictate outcomes", the Canadian prime minister said.

Carney said the two countries should cooperate further to boost sovereign capabilities including in the areas of critical minerals, defence and AI.

The speech echoed previous statements, including a speech in Davos in January in which he said the "old order is not coming back" and urged middle powers to band together.

Many countries were deciding to increase their sovereign autonomy, Carney said on Thursday, the first time a Canadian prime minister has addressed parliament in Canberra in almost 20 years. "This impulse is un-



derstandable when the rules no longer protect you."

He joined his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese at a press conference afterwards, where the pair announced measures they said would deepen relationships across several areas, including defence, security and between the coun-

tries' space agencies. Australia would also join the G7 Critical Minerals Alliance, which Carney called the "largest grouping of trusted democratic mineral reserves in the world". Canada and Australia produce one-third of the world's uranium and lithium and more than 40% of its iron ore.

"Australia and Canada must seek and create new ways to stand with - and for - each other," Albanese said ahead of Carney's address to parliament, noting the two countries were bound together by shared convictions and values. As the conflict in the Middle East spreads across the region, both

leaders, who backed the strikes on Iran, called for a de-escalation. "The world wants to see a de-escalation and wants to see Iran cease to spread the destinations of its attacks," Albanese said. "We're seeing Gulf states that have not been involved attacked across the board, in-

cluding the attacks on civilian and tourist areas as well."

But they said a ceasefire should not occur until Tehran no longer had the capability to produce a nuclear weapon.

"I also want to see a removal of the ongoing threat that has been there for such a long period of time, of Iran endangering peace and security and stability, not just in its own region, but here in Australia," Albanese said, referring to two antimissile attacks in Australia last year which the government blamed on Iran.

Before arriving in Australia, Carney spent four days in India where he signed deals worth billions in a significant diplomatic breakthrough with Delhi.

The reset comes after years of tensions between the two countries, sparked when Carney's predecessor accused Delhi of a link to the 2023 assassination of a Sikh separatist in Canada.

After Australia, Carney will continue on to Japan where he will meet Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi.



Chal Chaliye
SABZI MANDI
Chal Chaliye ...

ਤਾਜ਼ੇ ਫਲ ਫਰੂਟ, ਤਾਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਸਬਜ਼ੀਆਂ
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ਸਬਜ਼ੀ ਮੰਡੀ ਨੂੰ ਯਾਦ ਰਖੋ

A Canadian town says it's the 'birthplace' of ice hockey. Some historians aren't so sure

By Nadine Yousif

Historians are calling for a time-out on a law seeking to declare a small Canadian town in Nova Scotia as the "birthplace" of modern ice hockey, with critics saying the puck was first dropped elsewhere decades prior.

Melissa Sheehy-Richard, a lawmaker in Nova Scotia's legislature, put forward the bill in late February, citing documentation that the sport was played in Windsor, Nova Scotia, as early as 1810.

But some historians disagree, saying it was first played in the British Isles. Others criticised the bill for not mentioning indigenous contributions to the modern form of the sport.

In a statement, Sheehy-Richard told the BBC that the bill was "not intended to be exclusionary".

The proposed law mentions written texts describing the playing of "hurley on the ice" in Windsor, Nova Scotia, in the 1800s — a reference to hurling, an ancient Irish sport with sticks that is played on a grass pitch.

It states that the sport then made its way to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where an ice hockey game was played by British soldiers stationed there in the mid-1850s, before the sport took off in Montreal in 1875 and became the modern version played today.

Because of this history, the proposed law asks that Windsor be formally declared as "the birthplace of ice hockey".

In a public submission this week to Nova Scotia lawmakers, Jean-Patrice Martel, who co-wrote a book titled *On the Origin of Hockey*, disputed the claim, saying that there are



references to the sport being played earlier in Manhattan, New York. Still, Martel's research did not conclude that New York was the origin for the sport.

Rather, he wrote that ice hockey likely dates back to the British Isles, where shinty was played on ice as early as 1607 in Scotland during The Great Frost.

"Granted, they were probably not wearing skates," Martel added, but he noted the "hurley on the ice" reference in Windsor does not mention skates either.

Another historian, Mi'kmaw matriarch Cheryl Maloney, told Nova Scotia lawmakers this week that the proposed bill fails to note the modern sport's indigenous roots.

The Mi'kmaw, an indigenous group that has inhabited the land covering Canada's Atlantic provinces for thousands of years, played the sport on ice prior to the Windsor claim of 1810, Maloney said.

"We went back to 1749

where it was found that the Mi'kmaq were playing a game on ice with the roots of trees in Tufts Cove, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia," she told lawmakers.

Local historian David Jones, who has studied hockey history for decades, also disputed the proposed law, and said the Mi'kmaq played an important role in the "evolution of hockey" in Nova Scotia.

Jones said that the modern version of the sport could be traced back to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, instead, a municipality east of Halifax.

He contended that the confusion is likely because Windsor has had "better PR" over the years.

"I truly think this bill was written with ChatGPT," Jones told lawmakers, adding that he believes it should be scrapped.

In her statement to the BBC, Sheehy-Richard, the lawmaker behind the proposed bill, said that discussion is "ongoing" and that she has taken the feedback pro-

vided by the public.

She added that her intention was to celebrate the history of ice hockey in her province and "give Nova Scotians something to be proud of".

"It is not intended to be exclusionary in any sense, and the broader story of hockey's development involves many people and communities," Sheehy-Richard said.

Ice hockey's origin is not the only historical dispute amongst Canadians.

Several rural towns and restaurants in Quebec have laid claim to poutine, the popular dish consisting of French fries, cheese curds and gravy. While no one knows where exactly the dish was born, its French-Canadian roots are undisputed.

The butter tart, an iconic Canadian dessert, also has a conflicting history.

The first recipe was published in an Ontario cookbook in 1900, though some say it was developed by French Canadians as an itera-

tion of the French sugar pie. Others trace it back to border tarts brought to Canada by Scottish immigrants.

The debate has reignited a long-standing discussion among historians, sports enthusiasts and cultural scholars about how difficult it can be to pinpoint the true origin of a sport that evolved over centuries across different regions. Many experts say games resembling hockey existed long before the sport took its modern form in Canada. Variations of stick-and-ball games played on ice or frozen surfaces have been documented in several parts of Europe. In the Netherlands, for example, 16th-century paintings depict people skating on frozen canals while striking a small object with curved sticks, suggesting that early forms of the game were already popular during that period.

Similarly, sports historians often point to traditional games from Scotland and Ireland,

including shinty and hurling, which share several similarities with hockey. These games involved teams using curved sticks to strike a ball toward a goal and were sometimes played on frozen ground during winter months. Over time, immigrants from the British Isles brought these sporting traditions to North America, where they gradually merged with local recreational activities played on ice. Canada, however, is widely recognised as the place where hockey evolved into the organised sport known today. By the late 19th century, rules were being formalised and competitive matches were becoming more structured. The first recorded indoor ice hockey game using a flat wooden puck was played in Montreal in 1875, an event often cited as a key milestone in the development of the modern game.

From there, the sport rapidly grew in popularity. Amateur clubs began forming across Canada, and by the early 20th century hockey had become deeply embedded in the country's national identity. The creation of professional leagues eventually led to the formation of the National Hockey League (NHL) in 1917, which helped popularise the sport internationally. Because of hockey's cultural importance in Canada, claims about its birthplace often carry symbolic meaning beyond historical curiosity. Communities that associate themselves with the origins of the sport sometimes promote that connection through museums, monuments and tourism campaigns aimed at celebrating local heritage.

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India and Canada reset ties with 'landmark' nuclear energy deal

India and Canada have announced a host of agreements, including a 10-year nuclear energy deal, after their prime ministers met in Delhi to reset ties that plummeted due to diplomatic tensions.

Narendra Modi and Mark Carney also struck agreement in areas such as technology, critical minerals, space, defence and education. Carney said they agreed to conclude a free trade deal, years in the making, by the end of 2026. Both countries want to reduce exposure to punitive US trade tariffs.

Under Carney, the two governments are trying to repair ties that were strained when his predecessor accused Delhi of a link to the 2023 assassination of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar on Canadian soil.

India vociferously rejected the allegation by Justin Trudeau.

Trade and diplomatic relations almost came to a standstill as both sides expelled each other's diplomats and cancelled visa services. Canada hosts a huge expatriate Indian community.

But since Carney took office last year, the relationship has been cautiously rebuilt — helped by the fact that his government has said it believes India is not currently linked to violent crimes or threats on Canadian soil.

Some in Canada have countered that claim, however, including a Liberal MP from Carney's own party and members of the Sikh diaspora in Canada, who say they believe they continue to be targeted by India.



Canada's spy agency listed India late last year as one of the countries carrying out espionage and foreign interference in the country, along with Russia, China and Iran.

In a statement on Monday, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service said its "threat assessment of the main perpetrators of foreign interference and espionage against Canada has not changed".

Canada's foreign minister Anita Anand has distanced herself from comments made by a senior Canadian official saying that India had ceased all foreign interference in Canada.

"The words of the senior official are not words that I personally would use," she told reporters in Delhi after Carney's meeting with Modi on Monday.

But Anand defended Canada's decision to re-engage with India, saying "we need to have these diplomatic conversations in order to make progress".

Carney has not yet spoken to Canadian reporters since his trip began. His office cancelled a planned news conference following the meeting with Modi, citing his tight schedule.

The case of four men charged over Nijjar's killing is still before the

courts.

At talks in Delhi, both Carney and Modi underscored India and Canada's long-standing relationship, mutual goals and close people-to-people ties.

"In civil nuclear energy, we have reached a landmark deal for long-term uranium supply. We will also work together on small modular reactors and advanced reactors," Modi told reporters after their meeting at Hyderabad House in Delhi.

He described the two countries as "natural partners in technology and innovation" and said they would enhance co-operation

in AI, supercomputing and semiconductors, as well as jointly host a renewable energy summit.

Carney said Canada was well positioned to contribute to energy-hungry India's nuclear fuel needs and added that the two countries were launching a strategic energy partnership.

He hailed the progress made in rebuilding relations.

"There has been more engagement between the Canadian and Indian governments in the last year than there has been in more than two decades combined," he said.

On trade, Modi said: "Our target is to reach \$50bn in bilateral trade. This is why we have decided to finalise a comprehensive economic partnership soon."

Carney said he wanted to reach a deal on the "ambitious agreement" by the end of the year. It's been discussed on-and-off for the past 15 years so concluding it would be a significant achievement.

Analysts say that Carney's decision to put diplomatic tensions behind him and extend an olive branch to India is a pragmatic one, based on present day geopolitical shifts.

Strengthening health and safety in supportive housing

To improve health and safety in supportive housing, and ensure that the rights of tenants continue to be protected, the Province is making amendments to the Residential Tenancy Act (RTA).

“The majority of the approximately 15,000 people living in supportive housing create a positive community in their homes and with their neighbours. Operators of supportive housing are calling for more tools and support to deal with rare problematic tenants and guests,” said Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. “By providing new tools to keep tenants and staff safe, we can continue the vital work of helping people find stability in their lives, while also assisting those living and working in supportive housing to feel more comfortable and secure.”

Record investments in housing are addressing homelessness and moving people inside and away from encampments. These proposed changes aim



to address the most pressing concerns related to health and safety, while continuing to protect the rights of tenants living in supportive housing.

Proposed amendments to the Residential Tenancy Act The proposed amendments will provide new tools in supportive housing to: take new action to keep weapons out of supportive housing provide operators a continuum of options to temporarily restrict the access of tenants to a supportive housing site to de-escalate critical health and

safety risks to other residents and staff. In extreme circumstances, operators may restrict access to tenants to a supportive housing building if they are awaiting an expedited Residential Tenancy Branch eviction hearing for posing a threat to fellow residents, staff or guests clarify when and where the Residential Tenancy Act applies Protecting workers in supportive housing, and other forms of housing, continues to be a government priority. Amendments will also be made to protect all workers and guests across all

forms of rental housing.

In 2024, the Residential Tenancy Regulation was amended to define supportive housing under the Residential Tenancy Act, and it exempted supportive housing from sections of the act to enable guest management and wellness checks.

Provincial engagement

The Province is committed to continued engagement with the sector and partners as regulations are implemented.

In summer 2025, the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs

convened a time-limited working group made up of sector associations, housing operators, Indigenous housing providers, law enforcement and union representatives to review options to address health and safety concerns. Tenant advocates, people with lived experience and other partners were also consulted.

The proposed amendments to the act build on those consultations and are meant to protect the rights of tenants and staff by providing the tools to take quick and decisive action in rare instances of health and safety issues.

Since 2017, the Province has more than 95,000 homes that have been delivered or are underway, including approximately 9,900 supportive homes throughout B.C.

Quotes:

Jill Atkey, chief executive officer, BC Non-Profit Housing Association – “Balances are never easy to strike, especially when rights

are at stake. The Residential Tenancy Act changes announced today do a good job of balancing the rights of people with the operational realities of supportive housing. Ultimately, these changes will help to ensure safer communities for residents and staff.”

Julian Daly, chief executive officer, Our Place Society –

“Our Place welcomes the provincial government’s willingness to make changes to the RTA as it relates to supportive housing. The government really listened to the concerns of our sector and has acted on them. These proposed changes give us, as housing providers, more flexibility in how we manage our buildings, greater control over who lives with us and allows us to create safer homes for those we house as well as a safer workplace for our colleagues. They really managed to nail balancing the needs of housing providers with the rights of residents.”

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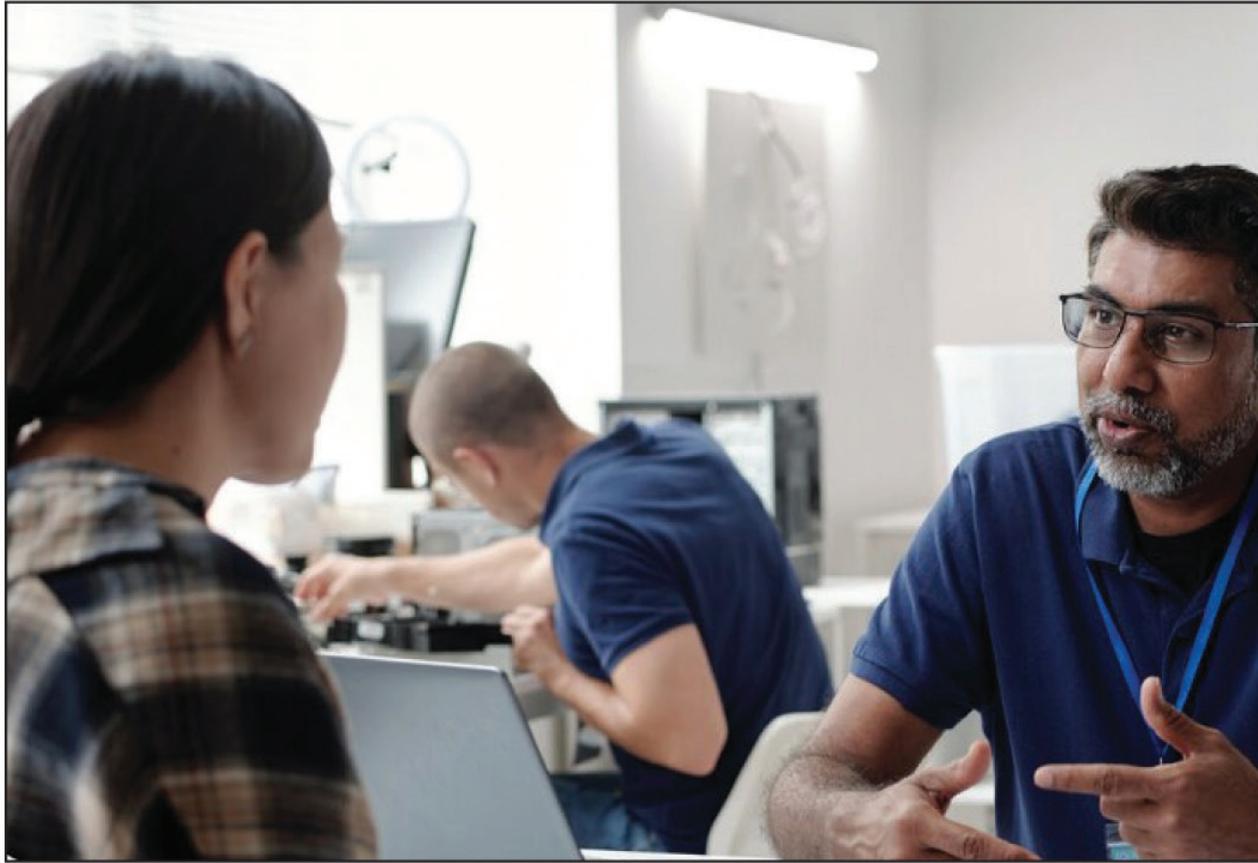
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Improving complaint process for employers, workers

Amendments to the Employment Standards Act and Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act will help clarify and improve the employment standards complaint and dispute-resolution process for employers and workers.

“The Employment Standards Branch (ESB) ensures that employees in B.C. receive minimum standards of compensation and conditions of employment, helping protect workers from exploitation,” said Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Labour. “These proposed changes are steps toward improving the process, helping people get to resolution sooner.”

The ESB receives and investigates complaints of contraventions of the Employment Standards Act and the Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act



for non-unionized employees and temporary foreign workers, and facilitates voluntary compliance or issues decisions and levies penalties for contra-

ventions under the two acts. The amendments improve several parts of the complaint system by increasing opportunities for resolv-

ing complaints on issues that are clear and straightforward, and by helping match workers with their unclaimed wages more efficiently.

The proposed changes are intended to improve the complaint process without compromising access to the rights and protections that the Employment

Standards Act and the Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act provide to all workers in B.C.

Quick Facts:
Approximately 75% of resolution meetings at the ESB result in voluntary resolution within 30 to 45 days from when a file is first assigned to an ESB officer.

In 2019, \$14 million was provided to track, investigate and penalize non-compliant employers, and barriers like the self-help kit were also removed to provide easier access to ESB’s services for workers.

In 2023, the Province increased the ESB’s operating budget by approximately \$12 million over three years. Current funding enables the ESB to employ approximately 100 investigators.

Learn the signs of stroke

- F** **ace** is it drooping?
- A** **rms** can you raise both?
- S** **peech** is it slurred or jumbled?
- T** **ime** to call 9-1-1 right away.

Act **F A S T**. Lifesaving treatment begins the second you call 9-1-1.

heartandstroke.ca/punjabi



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ਸਟ੍ਰੋਕ ਦੇ ਸੰਕੇਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਜਾਣੋ

- F** **ace** ਚਿਹਰਾ: ਕੀ ਚਿਹਰਾ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਢਿਲਕ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ?
- A** **rms** ਬਾਹਵਾਂ: ਕੀ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਬਾਹਵਾਂ ਉੱਪਰ ਨੂੰ ਚੁੱਕ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ?
- S** **peech** ਗੱਲ-ਬਾਤ: ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਗੱਲ-ਬਾਤ ਅਸਪਸ਼ਟ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ?
- T** **ime** ਸਮੇਂ: ਸਮੇਂ ਦੀ ਅਹਿਮੀਅਤ ਸਮਝੋ - ਝਟਪਟ 9-1-1 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

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Helping military families connect to work sooner

WorkBC Centres support military families relocating to B.C. before establishing residency

Military spouses and adult children moving to British Columbia can now access WorkBC employment services sooner, helping them prepare for work as they settle into their new community.

“Military families serve our country, so we want to serve them better, too. We’re changing WorkBC eligibility so military spouses can plan ahead for meaningful work in their new community, find stability sooner and ease the financial strain of relocation,” said Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

Expanding eligibility to better support military families. Hundreds of Canadian Armed Forces families relocate to B.C. each year, often on tight timelines that make job transitions difficult.

WorkBC Centres will support military spouses and dependent children 19 and older before they officially establish B.C. residency. This change allows families to begin job searching, career planning and training as soon as they find out they are moving.

Previously, military spouses relocating from another prov-



ince had to establish B.C. residency before accessing WorkBC services, a process that could create months-long employment gaps and delays during already complex moves. Eligible individuals can now access services by providing documentation, such as a Canadian Armed Forces posting message confirming relocation to British Columbia.

“As a former military spouse and now the spouse of a veteran, I know firsthand how challenging it is to rebuild your career with every posting,” said Sophia Song, a realtor and spouse of a veteran, who lives on the Westshore near Victoria. “Being able to access WorkBC services before establishing residency will make a real difference for Canadian

Armed Forces families moving to British Columbia. It gives spouses and adult children a head start on finding meaningful work and helps ease the financial and emotional strain that comes with every relocation.”

This change supports the federal Seamless Canada initiative, led by the Department of National Defence and the CAF, which helps military families navigate relocations. Working with provinces, territories and partners, the initiative aims to improve access to services such as employment, health care and child care before and during a move.

WorkBC Employment Services are funded by the Government of Canada through Employment Insurance contributions

made by workers and employers, under the Canada British Columbia Labour Market Development Agreement.

Helping spouses and adult children prepare for work in B.C. Military spouses and adult dependent children relocating with a CAF member can now access WorkBC services before residency is established. Individuals must intend to live in B.C. as part of the CAF transfer and provide documentation confirming the move.

WorkBC Centres can provide job search help, career planning, training referrals and employment supports right away. Early access reduces delays and helps families prepare for work as they transition into life in B.C.

This expanded eligi-

bility ensures military families receive timely, consistent employment support as they prepare to live and work in British Columbia.

Quotes:

Sherry Romanado, MP, parliamentary secretary to the Minister of National Defence –

“Frequent relocations are a reality of military life, and employment shouldn’t be another hurdle for families to overcome. Through the Seamless Canada initiative, we’re working with provinces like British Columbia to ensure military spouses and children can access supports sooner, reduce employment gaps and transition more smoothly into their new communities.”

Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs and Economic Growth –

“Strong local economies depend on people finding the right opportunities without having to uproot their lives. This change strengthens B.C.’s labour markets by helping employers access the skills military families bring to their communities, benefiting both these families and their new communities.”

Darlene Rotchford, parliamentary secre-

tary for armed forces development and veterans affairs –

“As a military spouse myself, I fully understand the difficulty families have when they are posted into new communities around Canada. That’s why, here in B.C., we’re making it easier for military spouses and their adult children to get a head start on finding work, so they can start contributing their skills right away in their new home right here in B.C.”

Kathleen Cormie, military spouse, programs co-ordinator for Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre –

“I’ve relocated twice in the last seven years for my husband’s military service. The logistical challenges of moving a family are huge. I had to re-establish employment, housing, child care, education and medical care with just a few months notice. I know my experience is not unique. The requirements of military lifestyle present real obstacles for spouses who are working to maintain a meaningful career. I hope this change helps military families plan ahead for a successful transition to B.C.”

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GINEMA SCENE
By Alan Samuel

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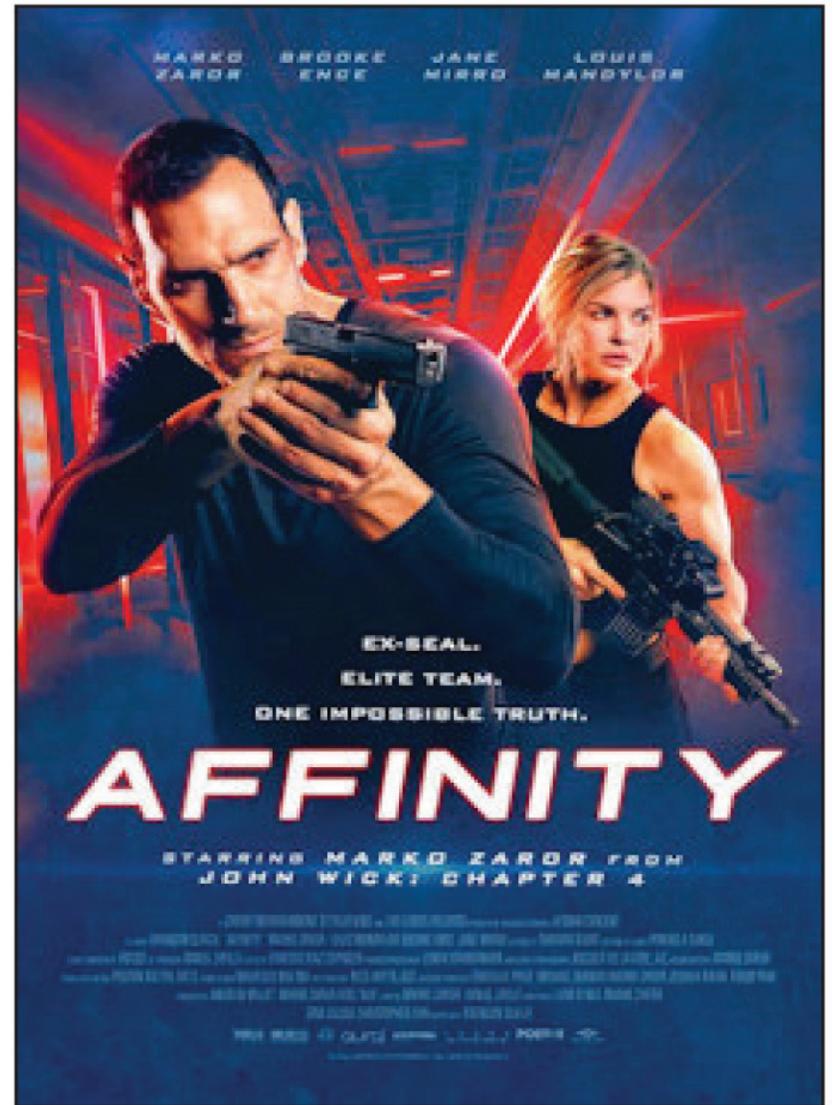
(PG)****

Punch-UP!

My oh my. The accent is on action in the rather lively, to put it mildly actioner Affinity. Go to studio when it comes to either action or crime story films Well Go USA Entertainment is in the zone which is perfectly exemplified by their latest offering which is now available on digital. No one likes war. More often than not many returning soldiers have difficulties upon their return to “normal” life. Soldier boy Bruno is no exception to this rule. Hot off the battlefield tangling with terrorists the highly respected ex U.S. Navy Seal is facing all sorts of difficulties upon his return to regular civilian life. Perfect casing sees Chilean martial arts star Marco Zara

easily makes the transition from the ring to the screen. And the good thing is that this guy can act! Another surprise comes Bruno’s way when he meets a beautiful young woman. Her name is Athena but turns out to be something of a mystery. Actress Jane Mirro convincingly plays the mysterious girl whose sudden departure triggers a plan by new roommate Bruno. Can you say search and destroy stateside? Well I surely can! Director Brandon Slagle seems to know what people want and that built martial arts fan base will certainly flock to this film as well they should. Short and sweet part sci-fi but mostly action-packed Affinity is a

curious. Original and widely wildly entertaining movie.



PRIYANKA CHOPRA RECALLS PIERCING HER BELLY BUTTON IN THE BACK OF A CAB

Priyanka Chopra recently reflected on her early journey from beauty pageants to global stardom. Speaking on the Going Rogue podcast, the actor looked back at her teenage years and how quickly life changed after entering the world of pageants. Priyanka first stepped into the spotlight when she participated in the Femina Miss India competition as a teenager. She later went on to win the

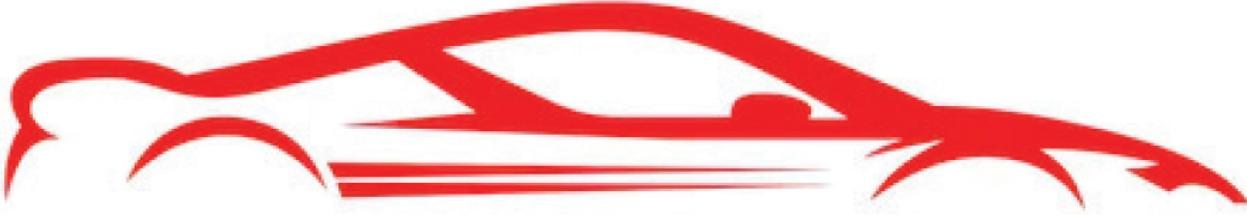
prestigious Miss World 2000 title at the age of 18, a victory that transformed her life and launched her career in the entertainment industry. Recalling that phase, Priyanka said she had no modelling experience when she entered the pageant and the entire process felt overwhelming for someone so young. The sudden exposure and responsibilities forced her to mature quickly.



KIARA ADVANI IS NOT A PART OF MADHUBALA BIOPIC: INDUSTRY SOURCES

Reports suggesting that Kiara Advani would headline a biopic on legendary screen icon Madhubala have been doing the rounds since earlier today. The speculation also claimed that Jasmeet K. Reen—known for directing Darlings—would helm the film, backed by filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali. The rumours quickly generated buzz online, especially as they suggested that Kiara Advani, who is currently in the early stages of motherhood, would

mark her return to the big screen by portraying one of Indian cinema’s most celebrated actresses. Given Madhubala’s enduring legacy and the scale typically associated with Bhansali-backed projects, the reports sparked widespread curiosity among film followers. However, industry sources have now dismissed the claims, stating that there is no truth to the speculation linking the actress to such a project.



AUTO TRENDS

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2026 Acura MDX Type S Ultra Review: Fast Favourite!

Review by
Veeno Dewan.

The MDX is Acura's flagship SUV and so it should be, the MDX has been a family favourite for many years now. Its main virtues of comfort, space, utility, and performance have always been highlights. It looks cool, sharp, and aggressive with its sleek side profile and that awesome front jewel light treatment.

Acura's three-row mid-size luxury SUV received an update in 2025 and there are no significant changes for 2026. The base engine is a naturally aspirated 3.5-litre V6 producing 290 horsepower, while the high-performance MDX Type S Ultra boasts a turbocharged 3.0-litre V6 generating 355 horsepower and 354 lb-ft of torque from 1,400 rpm. The ten-speed transmission uses a well-matched shift logic system that always selects the right gear ratio. There are a variety of drive modes, and Acura's superb (SH-AWD) Super Handling All-Wheel Drive has been upgraded and is standard on all models. The 3.0L V6 engine delivers a zero-to-100 km/h dash of just 5.5 seconds, this is Acura's quickest SUV to date. Maximum towing capacity is 2,268 kg (5,000 lb) with the optional equipment necessary to pull a trailer.

Pricing starts at \$68,3080 for the entry level MDX. The top tier MDX Type S Ultra version is \$90,380. Freight and PDI is \$2,595. The MDX is available in 4 trims. All models have three rows



of seats for a maximum of seven occupants and varying levels of equipment. Inside, the MDX features a sleek hi-tech interior with impressive quality, fit and finish. The leather-wrapped steering wheel, fits well in the hand and there plenty of room for first- and second-row passengers. The Type S Ultra as tested has a sportier look and feel with stylish gloss black and brushed aluminum five-spoke 21-inch alloys, dual exhaust outlets, red brake calipers, and blacked out trim. The interior is upgraded with Milano leather seats and Ultra-suede inserts. There's

a flat-bottom steering wheel, metal sport pedals and a metal-plated glove box handle. Other Type S. Ultra upgrades include: Premium Bang & Olufsen® 31-speaker sound system, Quilted leather seating with Ultra-suede® inserts and front seat massage function, 12.3-inch touchscreen with Google built-in, wireless Apple CarPlay/Android Auto, and a 12.3-inch Precision Cockpit™ digital gauge cluster.

This is the MDX to aim for if you can stretch to it, the stitched quilted leather and faux-suede upholstery is to die for. The third row is best

seated for smaller passengers. Behind the third row is 513 Liters of cargo space. There is 1,368 Liters of cargo space with the third-row folded flat, and up to 2,690 Liters with all rear seats stowed.

Safety and driver aids abound. There's blind-spot monitoring with rear cross-traffic alert, lane-departure warning and lane keeping assist, and parking sensors. There is also: forward collision warning and automatic braking, adaptive cruise control, and traffic sign recognition. The top trim also adds front cross-traffic alert, blind-spot colli-

sion avoidance, a head-up display, and surround-view cameras. The latter two of which are also part of the cheaper Platinum Elite A-Spec trim.

On the road, the proven V6 engine delivers smooth, eager torque and quick acceleration. Engage Sport or Sport+ modes and you can elicit a raspier throaty exhaust note as well as better performance. Acura's stand out SH-AWD (Super Handling All-Wheel Drive.) is standard on all trims. This traction system is improved now for faster response, apportioning power between the front and

rear wheels for superb grip. Well calibrated and tuned air suspension with adaptive dampers enable a composed ride and Sport modes firm up handling for even better body control and cornering. Acura's all-wheel-drive system can send as much as 70 per cent of torque to the rear wheels. For such a big SUV, the MDX feels light, quick and agile. The MDX takes corners with aplomb, thanks to the new wishbone front suspension. The power delivery is smooth and the steering responsive. The new ten-speed transmission is also an improvement with its well-matched shift logic system that always selects the right gear ratio. There are a variety of drive modes to suit personal preferences and adverse conditions. Normal is good for everyday driving, while Sport mode kicks it up a notch. The MDX Type S's official combined fuel rating is 12.4 L/100km (13.8 city, 11.2 highway).

To sum up the Acura MDX S Type Ultra is a compelling purchase if you are looking for a premium sport orientated SUV with stellar performance chops. With its vice-free road manners, creamy smooth engine, transmission, and agile handling, it is superbly refined. With seven seats, a technology driven driver cockpit, luxury and style The Acura MDX is highly recommended. 2026 Acura MDX Type S Ultra - Priced from \$90,380. Plus, PDI delivery and taxes. More info at www.acura.ca



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