

Trump says 'let Russia back in' as he travels to the G-7 summit

By CATHERINE LUCEY, ROB GILLIES and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

LA MALBAIE, Quebec — President Donald Trump injected fresh drama into an already tense meeting of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations today, calling for Russia, ousted for its the annexation of Crimea, to be reinstated.

Trump made the comment at the White House Friday after hours of further escalating his rhetoric against longtime allies over U.S. trade practices.

"Why are we having a meeting without Russia in the meeting?" Trump asked. "They should let Russia come back in because we should have Russia at the negotiating table."

Solidifying his solo status on the world stage, Trump also lashed out at longtime allies over their criticism of his trade policies. He plans an early exit from the G-7 meeting.

Russia was ousted from the elite group in 2014 as punishment for President Vladimir Putin's annexation of Crimea and support for pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine. In the U.S., special counsel Robert Mueller is investigating whether Trump's campaign colluded with Russia in a bid to sway the 2016 presidential election in his favor.

Trump saluted Canadian Mounties as he was greeted at an airport at a military base in Quebec. He arrived Friday at the annual gathering, held this year at a picturesque Quebec resort, but will leave Saturday morning before the event is over, heading to Sin-



AP Photo/Evan Vucci
President Donald Trump arrives for the G7 Summit on Friday in Canadian Forces Base Bagotville, Canada.

gapore for his highly anticipated summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The White House announced his travel plans after French President Emmanuel Macron and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau signaled they would use the G7 event to take a stance against new U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum imports.

At a joint press conference on Thursday, Macron said: "A trade war doesn't spare anyone. It will start first of all to hurt U.S. workers." Trudeau said: "We are going to defend our industries and our workers."

Trudeau, for his part, said Trump's action would hurt American workers as well as Canadians.

"If I can get the president to actually realize that what he's doing is counterproductive for his own goals as well, perhaps we can move forward in a smarter way," Trudeau said.

As tempers frayed, Trump had a ready retort, via tweet: "Please tell Prime Minister Trudeau and President Macron that they are charging

the U.S. massive tariffs and create non-monetary barriers. The EU trade surplus with the U.S. is \$151 Billion, and Canada keeps our farmers and others out. Look forward to seeing them tomorrow."

Later Thursday, Trump tweeted: "Prime Minister Trudeau is being so indignant, bringing up the relationship that the U.S. and Canada had over the many years and all sorts of other things...but he doesn't bring up the fact that they charge us up to 300% on dairy — hurting our Farmers, killing our Agriculture!"

A few hours later, he added, "Take down your tariffs & barriers or we will more than match you!"

The president appeared in no hurry to leave for Canada. He walked out of the White House more than half an hour late, spent time greeting supporters gathered on the South Lawn, and then proceeded to take questions from reporters for nearly 20 minutes. He weighed in on everything from the Russia investigating to protesting NFL players and his

next pardons.

With a cool reception all but assured, Trump has complained to aides about even having to attend the meeting, especially since his summit with Kim is just days away. Late Thursday, the White House announced that Trump would be leaving the G-7 late Saturday morning to head to Singapore ahead of his summit with Kim, though the G-7 meeting was scheduled to last until later that day.

Trump will skip out on G-7 meetings about climate change, clean energy and ocean protection.

This marks Trump's second summit of the G-7, an informal gathering every year under a rotating chairmanship. The member countries are Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Germany, the United States and Britain. The European Union also attends. Trump is set to hold a series of group and one-on-one meetings, including with Trudeau and Macron.

Under Trump, the United States has abandoned its traditional role in the G-7. His predecessors pressed for freer global trade and championed a trading system that required countries to follow World Trade Organization rules. Trump's policies have been more protectionist and confrontational, driven by a perception that the U.S. has been the victim of poorly conceived trade deals.

"The rules-based international order is being challenged, not by the usual suspects, but by its main architect and guarantor: the United States," European Council President Donald Tusk said.

Co-op: Decision can be appealed within the next 15 days

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access, the use of narrow Steam Whistle Way off 23rd Street as the access road to the co-op's parking lot, and a long nondescript west-facing wall that will form the back of the store.

Architect Don Vallaster, who is helping develop the new store, tried to address these issues in an updated application Thursday. Developers had already proposed widening Steam Whistle Way from 20 feet to 24 feet, but after the May meeting also added windows and landscaping along the western wall. They plan to install signage at the parking lot to discourage vehicles from turning east and driving through Mill Pond and will look into creating a one-way flow of traffic through the parking lot, among other tweaks.

Vallaster and Stanley defended the orientation of the building, which puts the main entrance facing east. It is the layout that works best for the co-op, Vallaster said. He and others argued that the property was always intended for commercial use and the new co-op building will be especially compatible in a semi-residential setting.

The co-op still must work

with the city's building official and public works department, the Oregon Department of Transportation and other state agencies to break ground. And it must also work with the homeowners association of Mill Pond Village. Members whose homes or property abut Steam Whistle Way — the proposed access road to the co-op's parking lot — remain against the co-op's relocation. They worry the store's presence will impact quality of life, create safety concerns along Steam Whistle Way and cause traffic snarls.

The homeowners association needs to evaluate its options after Thursday's approval, said Cheryl Storey, the association's president. Testimony she gave reflected the concerns of both residents who live near the proposed expansion site as well as the association. She says the board will need to determine if they are representing residents' concerns as a whole as the homeowners association, or if further action should only be pursued by individual property owners who are most impacted by the new development.

Anyone who testified at the committee's public hearings can appeal the decision within the next 15 days.

Phillips: Addressed concerns with staff

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Phillips met with the staff Wednesday and addressed the concerns. Although the meeting didn't change his feelings about the gravity of Phillips' retweet, Anderson said, "he came across as a real person and a pretty good guy."

As an English teacher, Anderson said, he was also concerned about Phillips' decision

in Beaverton to censor "Stick," a young adult novel including a gay protagonist discovering his sexuality, from students in the 10th grade and below after complaints by a parent over the themes of sexuality.

The decision came against the recommendation of a committee convened to review the complaint to keep the book available. Phillips told The Oregonian the decision was a

compromise and that he "felt that the content within the book was too mature for all audiences."

The education association is taking a wait-and-see approach with Phillips, Anderson said. His contract will likely be finalized at a June 18 school board meeting.

Phillips will report to Hunsaker, the part-time superintendent since 2013, and over-

see Principal Terrence Smyth. Hunsaker and Smyth are in a relationship.

"Me and Smyth are retiring at the end of next year, and obviously Mr. Phillips would be a candidate for the superintendency, were he to be happy here," Hunsaker said, adding the district's goal is to eventually have one full-time position each for superintendent and principal.

Price: 'Astoria exists because of the river'

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Price is a writer, researcher, editor and community volunteer who moved to Astoria from Southern California in 1996. She said her priorities if elected mayor would include looking at how to keep Astoria a year-round community and developing and preserving housing for all levels of income.

As a city councillor, she has pushed for a re-examination of codes and plans that guide how Astoria develops. She has also started to champion efforts to enhance and revive the area's maritime industry.

"Astoria exists because of the river," Price said. "The river has sustained it for two centuries. Expanding maritime businesses can continue to offer meaningful, high-wage employment that builds on our history."

She compared the role of mayor to being a good editor whose role is "to champion the work and to offer insights that move it ahead." She listed a collaborative nature and a willingness to dig deep into city issues among her strengths.

Before being elected to the City Council in 2014, Price was a member of the Astoria Arts Commission and helped revive the nonprofit Astoria Visual Arts. She also ran, unsuccessfully, for the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners in 2006. Her husband, District Attorney Josh Marquis, is leaving office in January after 25 years.

Price had told supporters privately over the past few weeks that she planned to run for mayor. Joan Herman, who

serves on the Planning Commission, has announced she will seek to replace Price in Ward 3.

City Councilor Zetty Nemlowill, whose seat is also up for re-election in November, remains undecided whether she will run again.

She represents Ward 1, which covers part of the Port of Astoria, Uniontown and the western edge of down-

town. She is the youngest member of the City Council, the only one still raising children, and the marketing director for the Astoria Co-op Grocery, which is looking to expand its operations. Before joining the council, she served on the Planning Commission. Her husband, Chris, is the co-founder of Fort George Brewery.

"I have a lot of obligations

with my job, with my family," Nemlowill said. But she has been involved with the city for many years, she added, saying she doesn't take the decision lightly.

She is curious to see if anyone else in Ward 1 is interested in the position, but hasn't heard of any potential candidates yet.

"I want to make sure the city's in good hands," she said.

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