

POLITICS News

Process underway for Han Dong's possible return to the Liberal caucus

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OTTAWA - A senior government official says Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dominic LeBlanc is leading a process to determine Independent MP Han Dong's possible return to the Liberal caucus.

The Canadian Press is not naming the source because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the process.

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Han Dong, a Toronto-area MP, resigned from the government caucus in March saying he wanted to clear his name following allegations published in media reports.

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- MP Han Dong issues libel notice to Global News over China interference reporting
- Trudeau says he accepts MP's choice to leave Liberal caucus amid meddling allegations
- Opposition parties affirm call for interference inquiry, amid questions over MP Han Dong

Global News reported, citing unnamed national security sources, that Dong told a Chinese diplomat in February 2021 that releasing Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor would benefit the Conservatives.

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The claim was deemed "false" by Canada's foreign interference watchdog.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has left the door open to Dong rejoining the Liberal caucus, and Dong has expressed that desire in recent media reports.

Dong is suing Global News. The outlet said in a recent statement that it took painstaking efforts to verify its reporting.

"We believe in the integrity of our journalism in all the reporting in this series, and the critical role it plays in seeking accountability and transparency on issues vital to the public interest."

A first report from former governor general David Johnston, who was appointed as a special rapporteur to investigate foreign interference, said he was advised that there was just one piece of intelligence that spoke to the allegation against Dong.

It led him to his conclusion: "The allegation is false."

Johnston said that while Dong maintained "close relationships" with Chinese consular officials at least through the 2021 election, and did discuss the case of Kovrig and Spavor with the Chinese diplomat, "he did not suggest to the official that (China) extend their detention."

Dong was first elected to Parliament as the Liberal MP for Don Valley North in 2019, and was re-elected in 2021. He resigned from the Liberal caucus March 22.

This report by The Canadian Press was first published June 1, 2023.





Liberal MP for Don Valley North Han Dong.

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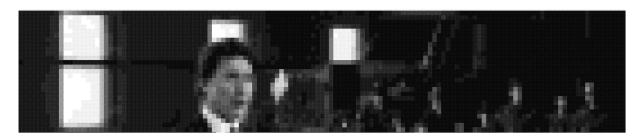


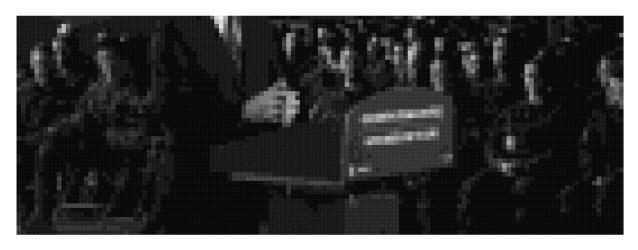
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OPINION





Trudeau, key election players to testify at foreign interference hearings. What you need to know

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While Justin Trudeau's recent housing announcements are generally drawing praise from experts, political columnist Don Martin argues there shouldn't be any standing ovations for a prime minister who helped caused the problem in the first place.

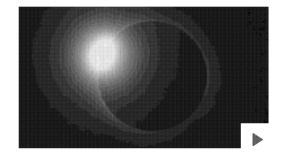
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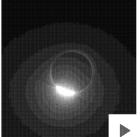
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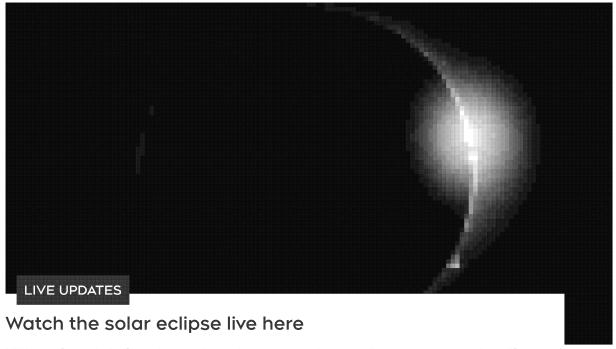




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NEW | Trump files appeal in hush money criminal case a week before trial

Donald Trump on Monday filed a notice of appeal in the former U.S. president's New York criminal case on charges stemming from hush money paid to a porn star - a last-ditch effort to delay his scheduled April 15 trial.

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Canada's military will take a bigger role in the North over the next two decades as climate change and increasingly aggressive foes threaten Arctic sovereignty, says a new defence policy document released Monday.

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U.S. CDC says bird flu risk low, but asks states to be ready with rapid testing

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Monday bird flu risk to the public remains low even as it asked the state public health officials to be prepared to respond.

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What an eclipse sounds like -- and why it matters

People will be looking to the sky on Monday to witness a total solar eclipse. Others will be listening to it. And to Harvard University astronomers working to transform the rare sight into sound, the eclipse should create a symphony.

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'You can hear it': Those with low vision can enjoy the eclipse with interactive tools

'Top Gun: Maverick' lawsuit rejected by U.S. judge

Paramount Pictures has won the dismissal of a lawsuit claiming its 2022 Tom Cruise blockbuster 'Top Gun: Maverick' borrowed too much from a 1983 magazine article that inspired the original 'Top Gun' film.

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LIFESTYLE >



'You're the chef': Fast-food chains embrace menu hackers' creative combinations

Some are as simple as coating chicken nuggets in a blend of barbecue and ghost pepper sauces — nicknamed "cowboy caviar" — but others take things to a new level, like dropping pie or mini cinnamon sugar doughnuts into a milkshake or ensconcing a hotdog in onion rings.

UPDATED | This hidden Eden in Mexico won't stay undiscovered forever

Many Canadians still feeling squeezed even as debt worries ease: insolvency firm

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SPORTS >



The Toronto Blue Jays play their home opener today. What to know

The Toronto Blue Jays are finally back home.

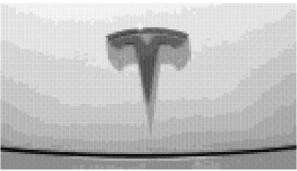
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Jones says goodbye, Homan looks to cap dominant season in style at Grand Slam finale

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AUTOS >



Elon Musk announces Tesla will unveil a 'robotaxi' on August 8

Elon Musk has long had an affinity for self-driving vehicles, claiming they will be one of Tesla's most important products. Despite big promises, years have gone by without cars that can, so far, drive on their own.

NEW | What are the chances police can find your stolen car? Canadians believe odds are low

Lamborghini written off after 13-year-old takes it for a joyride: West Vancouver police

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT >





Couple lucky to be alive after piece of Montreal highway crashes into their windshield

A Montreal couple is having a hard time driving without stress and is unhappy with the city's maintenance after a chunk of highway crashed into their windshield while driving on Thursday night.

Star Trek superfan turns his home into a Trekkie's dream

'Like an underwater puppy': B.C. woman forms lasting friendship with octopus

Ground-breaking Canadian giraffe researcher Anne Innis Dagg dies at 91

Merlin the Macaw leaving Halifax for Ontario due to depression and stress

Ontario family's car stolen from parking lot of Montreal hotel

Ottawa snowbirds embark on epic bicycle journey back to Canada

'I'm indebted to these guys': First responder, former cop save N.S. man's life in hockey rink

'Pretty remarkable': Alberta distillery beats out Ireland, Scotland at international whisky competition

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Cloud cover will likely spoil the eclipse viewing party in Metro Vancouver

While parts of Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic Canada are preparing for a rare opportunity to view a total solar eclipse on Monday, a partial eclipse will be happening in the skies above Metro Vancouver.

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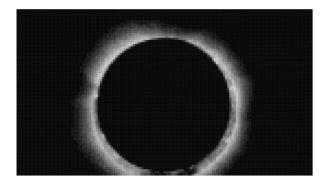
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CALGARY >



Eclipse watchers to meet at Calgary science centre for the big event

Millions of people across the country will be keeping their eyes on the skies on Monday and one of the busiest places in Calgary for eclipse watchers will be the TELUS Spark Science Centre.

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WATCH NOW | Historic solar eclipse to move across eastern Ontario this afternoon

A once in a lifetime solar eclipse will be moving across eastern Ontario this afternoon – an experience that is sure to be memorable and that won't be seen again in Canada until 2044.

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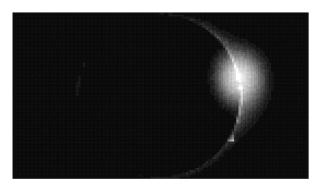
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Times and tips for Monday's eclipse across the Maritimes

Parts of the Maritimes will experience total daytime darkness for up to three minutes and 20 seconds during Monday's eclipse. CTV Atlantic shares some tips and times ahead of the event.

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Billy Idol to rock Atlantic Canada this summer

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Where you can view the solar eclipse safely in Winnipeg

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Moose Jaw RCMP confirm two killed in Highway 2 crash

Two people are dead following a serious two vehicle collision last week that occurred on Highway 2 north of Moose Jaw.

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A work party in Kitchener, Ont. may not have gotten the eclipse-themed cake they were hoping for. 44 min ago

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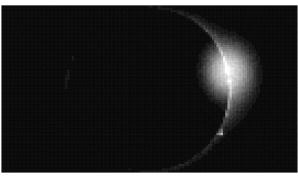
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UPDATED | Watch the total solar eclipse live from Colchester, Ont.

As the total solar eclipse falls over parts of southwestern Ontario today, you can watch live coverage on ctvnewswindsor.ca.

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B.C. premier, transportation minster to give update about homes near transit

B.C.'s premier and transportation minister are scheduled to give an update Monday about homes near transit.

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More than 80 residents from a low-income apartment building in Kelowna, B.C., have learned they won't be able to return to their homes for at least another two weeks.

2 men injured after 'road rage' incident with Dodge Ram driver, Kelowna RCMP say

Unstable nearby construction site forces evacuation of apartment in Kelowna, B.C.

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The Lethbridge Hurricanes were bounced out of the playoffs earlier this week by the Swift Current Broncos after a double-overtime thriller.

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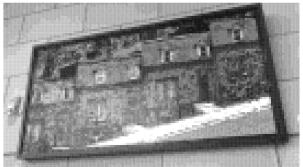
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