

US politicians think of Canada as a source of stable energy and cheap drugs

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American politicians think of Canada as little more than a stable source of energy, according to a report from The Fraser Institute.

The report looked at transcribed congressional debates between 2001 and 2010 that discussed Canada and found that discussions about energy, including the oil sands, were positive, but that politicians were very concerned about Canada being lax about border security and terrorism.

“When discussing border security, American politicians tend most often to speak of the Canadian and Mexican borders in roughly the same manner,” report author Alexander Moens, a professor of political science at Simon Fraser University, wrote.

And when it came to free trade, much of the positive talk revolved around the importation of cheaper prescription drugs from Canada.

“Take cheaper drugs from Canada out of the picture, and the sentiment in Congress towards free trade turns negative,” Moens wrote.