

THE HONOURABLE MICHAEL A. BALLANTYNE  
MINISTER OF JUSTICE

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RCMP CONTRACT EXTENSION

MR. SPEAKER, I AM PLEASED TO ADVISE THAT EIGHT PROVINCES AND THE TWO TERRITORIES HAVE OBTAINED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT A ONE YEAR EXTENSION TO THE FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS UNDER WHICH RCMP SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN OUR JURISDICTIONS.

NEGOTIATIONS TO REPLACE THE 10 YEAR AGREEMENTS, WHICH EXPIRED LAST MARCH, HAD REACHED AN IMPASSE, UNTIL THE ONE YEAR EXTENSION WAS AGREED TO. THE FEDERAL PROPOSAL MADE IN LATE 1989 HAD DEMANDED INCREASES WHICH COULD HAVE COST OUR GOVERNMENT UP TO \$5 MILLION DOLLARS IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE NEW CONTRACT ALONE. THE INCREASES WOULD HAVE INCLUDED A CHANGE IN THE COST SHARE UNDER WHICH CANADA NOW PAYS 30% OF TOTAL POLICING COSTS, AS A MEASURE OF THE VALUE OR BENEFIT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN HAVING A NATIONAL POLICE FORCE. WITHOUT ANY SUBSTANTIVE REASONS BEING GIVEN, CANADA PROPOSED TO REDUCE ITS CONTRIBUTION BY 5%, RESULTING IN A 75/25 COST SHARE FORMULA.

IN ADDITION TO RESOLVING THE COST SHARE FORMULA IN A NEW AGREEMENT, THE CONTRACTING PARTIES WILL ALSO BE INVOLVED IN DETERMINING VARIOUS COST BENEFIT ITEMS AND DETERMINING WAYS IN WHICH THE RCMP CAN BECOME MORE FINANCIALLY EFFICIENT AND MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE CONTRACTING JURISDICTIONS.

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LAST WEEK THE FIRST NEGOTIATION MEETING TOOK PLACE BETWEEN THE PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES AND THE NEW FEDERAL SOLICITOR GENERAL DOUG LEWIS. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE ONE YEAR EXTENSION WILL GIVE GOVERNMENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH A COMPROMISE AND FIND A SOLUTION WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES BEFORE MARCH 31, 1992.

