



MEDIA NOTICE

Premiers Meet to Discuss Issues of Importance to all Canadians

August 4, 2005 – Premiers will focus on strengthening the Canadian federation at the August 10-12 Council of the Federation (COF) meeting in Banff, Alberta.

“I am proud to host my fellow Premiers during Alberta’s Centennial year,” said Premier Ralph Klein, incoming Chair of the Council. “Premiers will focus on ways to enhance Canada’s economic competitiveness, strengthen our social programs, and improve our federation.”

Premier Klein also noted this meeting will be an excellent opportunity to showcase the natural beauty of the Rockies and celebrate Alberta’s Centennial year.

The Council of the Federation agenda, which has been agreed to by all premiers, captures issues that are important to all Canadians. Premiers will discuss a number of issues, including: energy; transportation and infrastructure needs; trade; skills training; health care; prevention and treatment of drug addictions (crystal methamphetamine); and the fiscal imbalance.

The Council of the Federation is comprised of all thirteen provincial and territorial Premiers. It enables Premiers to work collaboratively to strengthen the Canadian federation by fostering a constructive relationship among the provinces and territories, and with the federal government.

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