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DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF CANADA

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The existing Letters Patent constituting the Office of Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada bear date the 23rd March 1931, and were issued under the King's Sign Manual. These Letters Patent revoke the former Letters Patent constituting the Office of Governor General, which were dated 15th June 1905.

Clause I constitutes, orders and declares that there shall be a Governor General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Dominion of Canada and that appointments to the said office shall be made by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet. It further authorizes the Governor General to do and execute, in due manner, all things that shall belong to the said office, according to the several powers and authorities granted or appointed him by virtue of the British North America Act, 1867, and of the Letters Patent and of his Commission and supplementary or additional instructions and to such laws as are or shall hereafter be in force in the Dominion.

Clause V specifically confers on the Governor General the right to exercise all powers lawfully belonging to the Sovereign in respect of the summoning, proroguing, or dissolving the Parliament of Canada.

Clause VI specifically refers to the power to appoint Deputies of the Governor General and is almost in identical terms to Section 14 of the British North America Act.

Clause ---