

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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CANADA/USA AGREEMENT ON LEASED PROPERTIES AT ARGENTIA, NEWFOUNDLAND

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, and the Premier of Newfoundland, the Honourable Frank Moores, announced today that full agreement has been reached between Canada and the United States for the sub-lease back to Canada of a portion of the U.S. Naval Base at Argentia, Newfoundland, for industrial and commercial development. The Federal Government will transfer administration and control of most of the area to the Government of Newfoundland.

Transport Canada, acting as the Canadian Management Authority, will be responsible for control of the sub-leased area under the Agreement. Nonetheless, with the exception of the lands and facilities associated with port operations, and thus under federal jurisdiction, the direct administration of the properties will be the responsibility of the Newfoundland Government.

Mr. Jamieson noted that the conclusion of this Agreement with the United States Government will permit the realization of the potential which exists for industrial and commercial development of the properties by the Province of Newfoundland. Extensive consultations have taken place between the federal and provincial governments leading up to the Agreement. The Department of Regional Economic Expansion is now discussing with the Government of Newfoundland possible joint initiatives to utilize the property and port facilities to create new jobs in the area over the next few years.