



Premier Lougheed, left, and Saskatchewan Premier Allan Blakeney at the November federal-provincial first ministers conference.

- That the Supreme Court be expanded from 9 to 11 members, with five of them appointed from Quebec, which has its own code of civil law. There would be three benches: one for provincial matters with a Quebec section; one for federal matters; and one for constitutional cases.
- That amendments to the constitution affecting provincial interests be passed by both houses and then submitted to a national referendum. To pass,

an amendment would have to receive majority votes in Ontario, Quebec, the Atlantic provinces and the western provinces.

- That some additional sixty seats in the House of Commons be filled on the basis of the popular vote in a province rather than on the vote in a single constituency, giving each party a number of seats proportional to its percentage of the total provincial vote.

The Second Phase

After the February meeting of the First Ministers, Prime Minister Trudeau opened what he termed the "second phase" and introduced eleven further subjects to be considered. Eight involve economic considerations, three do not.

1. The maintenance of a substantial federal role in fighting inflation, unemployment and regional disparities and in protecting the dollar.
2. Non-tariff barriers that inhibit the free flow of goods and investment money among provinces and between Canada and other countries.
3. The movement of goods and services—including electricity, oil, gas and other minerals—in inter-provincial and international trade.
4. Barriers to the movement of persons across

provincial boundaries for employment.

5. Parliament's role in regulating competition.
6. Coordinating federal and provincial regulation of the Canadian securities market.
7. Provincial agricultural product marketing boards and internal free trade.
8. Jurisdiction over minimum wages. (Provincial minimum wages range from \$2.50 an hour in Newfoundland to \$3.37 in Quebec. The federal minimum is \$2.90.)
9. The role of the provinces in foreign relations.
10. The appointment of Supreme Court Justices and the setting up of federal courts.
11. The native peoples and the constitution.