

The union of Newfoundland and Canada, two North American democracies in the British Commonwealth of Nations, will add strength to both. Together, as partners, we can look forward to the future with more confidence than if we had remained separate political communities.

As Prime Minister of Canada it is a pleasure for me on behalf of Canada to welcome, warmly and sincerely, the decision of the people of Newfoundland. As a member of the Government of Canada, it has been a privilege to have had to do with seeking to bring to completion a constructive partnership, which was foreseen by those men of courage and vision in both countries who, many years ago, began the work of confederation.

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*Le gouverneur de Terre-Neuve au haut commissaire
par intérim à Terre-Neuve*
*Governor of Newfoundland to Acting High Commissioner
in Newfoundland*

St. John's, July 30, 1948

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 11 of the 30th July, 1948, I have the honour to inform you that the draft of the proposed statement by the Prime Minister of Canada has been considered by the Commission of Government. On the assumption that it would be Mr. Mackenzie King's desire that it should attempt to reassure the opponents of Confederation and remove misunderstanding this Government ventures to suggest the amendments shown on the enclosed list, a copy of which is being transmitted to the United Kingdom Authorities.

2. Provided that the final text of the Canadian statement can be in my hands not later than 8 p.m., Newfoundland Summer Time to-day, Friday, July 30th, the time of release in Ottawa, namely, after Midnight, suggested in your letter No. 12 of the 30th July, 1948,[†] would be acceptable to this Government. The statement will be released in Newfoundland in time for publication in Saturday morning's press.

I have etc.

GORDON MACDONALD

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Paragraph 2. Delete word "last" between "Thursday" and "July."

Paragraph 3. Add after "this vote" the words "to date" and add new sentence, to follow figures of vote "Full returns from Labrador have not yet been received. It is understood that these will not exceed 500 and will not therefore materially affect the position."

Paragraph 4. Delete second sentence commencing "It will also" and ending "with Canada."