



CANADA

# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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## Legislative Drafting Adviser to the West Indies

The Department of External Affairs announced today the appointment, under the Canada-West Indies Aid Programme, of James W. Ryan of Edmonton, Alberta, as Legislative Drafting Adviser to the Government of the Federation of the West Indies.

Mr. Ryan, who visited Ottawa before leaving Canada, expects to arrive at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, on May 3, where he will remain for at least one year. He will be working with the Solicitor General of the West Indies, advising the Federal Legal Department on legal drafting techniques and procedures, and, in particular, will assist the Federal Government in the preparation of legislation relating to financial and industrial development. In addition, Mr. Ryan will train junior legal officers in the principles of legal drafting.

Mr. Ryan has been granted leave of absence from his position with the Government of Alberta as Legislative Counsel and Assembly Law Clerk. During his ten years with the Government of Alberta, he has been both a Solicitor with the Public Trustee and an Assistant Legislative Counsel and Solicitor. He assumed his present position in 1952. From 1940 to 1945, Mr. Ryan served with the Canadian Army. Educated at St. Joseph's School, North Sydney, and St. Mary's College, Halifax, he is also a graduate of the St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, and Dalhousie University, Halifax. In April 1950, Mr. Ryan was called to the Nova Scotia Bar and is presently a member of the Law Society of Alberta. In 1952 and 1955, he was a member of the Revision Commission on Revision of Alberta Statutes. He is also a Commissioner of the Conference of Commissioners on uniformity of legislation in Canada.

On his assignment in the West Indies, Mr. Ryan will be accompanied by his wife and two daughters. His son will be joining the family at the conclusion of the current school year.