



CANADA

**C
o
m
m
u
n
i
q
u
é**

NO.38

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 28, 1971

SECOND CANADA-UNITED STATES MINISTERIAL
MEETING ON GREAT LAKES POLLUTION, JUNE 10/71,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, announced today that a second meeting with the United States Government to discuss Great Lakes pollution will be held in Washington on June 10. The Canadian delegation will be led by Mr. Sharp and will include the Honourable Jack Davis, the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. The Delegation is also expected to include the Honourable George Kerr, Minister of Energy and Resources Management for Ontario, and the Honourable Victor Goldbloom, Minister of State, who is also the Minister responsible for the quality of the environment in the Quebec Government.

The United States delegation will include Mr. Russell Train, who is Chairman of President Nixon's Council for Environmental Quality; Dr. Gordon McDonald, who is the second member of the Council; and Mr. William Ruckelshaus, who is Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. The United States representatives are also expected to include senior officials who are responsible for environmental matters in the Governments of the Great Lakes States.

The Government of Canada is deeply concerned about the pollution situation in the Great Lakes. The International Joint Commission has made a thorough investigation of the problem, and in its final report to the Governments of Canada and the United States of America, has presented a series of recommendations to all governments concerned, which Mr. Sharp tabled in the House of Commons last January, and which the Government of Canada is prepared to implement in concert with the other governments concerned.

The first Canada-United States Ministerial Meeting on Great Lakes pollution problems was held in Ottawa on June 23, 1970. This meeting proposed that Canada and the United States proceed jointly to establish new and effective concerted programmes to restore and protect the Great Lakes, with attention being particularly focussed at that time on an interim report of the IJC in relation to Great Lakes pollution.

The meeting established a joint working group of officials from the two federal governments, from Ontario, and from the state governments concerned, and gave them the task of advising the ministers on common objectives, new programmes, and other arrangements which are needed. It is expected that at the second ministerial meeting to be held in Washington on June 10, agreement will be reached on a broad range of new arrangements and new programmes which will respond to the IJC recommendations, which will effectively reduce pollution in these waters, and which

will protect the future quality of these waters.

While in Washington on June 10, Mr. Sharp and Mr. Davis will also be meeting with Secretary of State Rogers, and will be raising broader aspects of Canada-United States environmental problems, including not only these Great Lakes pollution problems, but also the threat of oil spills on our Pacific Coast which could result from the movement of oil from Alaska.