

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 11 FY 1974-75

DATE June 13, 1975

ESTABLISHMENT OF COORDINATOR OF CANADIAN AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, Maine shares three-fourths of its land boundary with the Provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec, and there exists a common pursuit of heritage and goals between Maine and the Eastern Canadian Provinces, and that a large percentage of Maine citizens are of Canadian descent and in many instances speak the same language, and

WHEREAS, State of Maine people as well as people of Canada have a deep love and appreciation of each other's country, culture, needs, and problems, and have a primary emphasis on regional cooperation in energy, natural resources, and economic development, there exist all the ingredients for an international partnership that could become the envy of the world, and


WHEREAS, one of the top priorities of my administration is the further strengthening of the ties and goals in all areas between Maine and the Canadian people, especially in Trade, Industrial, and Economic Development, as well as cultural exchange. There is a need for additional guidance, coordination, action and implementation of the already existing regional cooperation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES B. LONGLEY, do designate a member of my staff to be the Coordinator of Relations and Trade with Canada in the Executive Department. The Coordinator's major responsibility will be to work with the various provincial governments and businesses of Canada in all areas of regional cooperation as it especially relates to economic, educational, and cultural promotion and exchange. The Coordinator shall study, evaluate, promote, and further pursue the existing exchanges already established, and shall coordinate new directions for the economic, social, environmental, and cultural thrust of my administration with the Canadian Provinces with initial concentration in the areas of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. The Coordinator shall administer whatever funds are available and needed in the promotion of this endeavor.

In Canadian Affairs, there will be initiated an eight-point partnership plan comprising the following areas:

1. Tourism
2. Fisheries
3. Transportation
4. Industrial and Economic Development
5. Environment
6. Agriculture and Forestry
7. Cultural Affairs
8. Banking and Finance

There is also established the Governor's Advisory Commission on Maine-Canadian Affairs. The Commission shall consist of 10 members, eight of whom shall be appointed by the Governor. They shall be citizens of this State, some of whom will be bi-lingual in English and French, and each of whom will have a responsibility in one of the eight areas as defined above. One member may be appointed by the President of the Senate and one member may be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Governor shall designate one of the members appointed by him as chairman to serve at his pleasure, who shall call meetings of the Commission. The Governor's appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Executive and the Legislative members shall serve at the pleasure of the House Speaker and Senate President.



JAMES B. LONGLEY
Governor

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