

Canada

13 April, 1982

CANADIAN CONSTITUTION: BRITISH REPRESENTATION
AT THE PATRIATION CEREMONIES

As Michael Collon already knows, the Prime Minister gladly accepts the recommendation that the Lord Chancellor should represent her on this occasion.

I am copying this letter to Michael Collon (Lord Chancellor's Office).

A. U. COLES

F Richards, Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

RS



10 DOWNING STREET

John

John

I have told La Chaneller's
Office that PM has
approved this proposal.

- I mentioned to Clive ^{MAD} yesterday that Michael Collon had called to say that the Lord Chanc. was content in principle to represent PM at Canadian Const ceremony but was now seeking formal clearance.
- Clive was, I believe, unable to raise this

with the Prime Minister
and Michael Collins
is now pressing for
an answer.

Petis
13/4



Yes Mr Prime Minister,
Content for the Lord Chancellor to
represent you at the ceremonies?

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

St. Collins
(Duty clerk)
8/4/82

8 April 1982

Dear John,

Canadian Constitution: British representation at the Patriation
Cereemonies on 16/17 April

The Prime Minister was unable to accept Mr Trudeau's invitation to attend the forthcoming celebrations in Ottawa when the Queen proclaims the new Canadian Constitution (on 16 and 17 April). As you know, the Queen will be in Canada for the celebrations from 15-18 April.

The Canadians have indicated to us that they would welcome a high level representative of the Prime Minister at the celebrations. The Lord Chancellor would seem to be a particularly appropriate representative on this occasion: and I understand that he would in principle be willing and able to attend on behalf of the Prime Minister.

We accordingly recommend that the Lord Chancellor should be asked to be the Prime Minister's representative on this occasion.

I understand that Mr Michael Foot, Mr David Steel and Mr James Callaghan have all accepted invitations to the ceremonies in Ottawa.

This letter represents the views of Mr Onslow; given the shortage of time, it has not proved possible to show the papers to the Secretary of State. He will, however, see them on 9 April, and if he has any comments we shall forward them to you. Should the Prime Minister reach a decision over the weekend, Michael Collon in the Lord Chancellor's office would welcome a telephone call (on Esher (78)65197). I am sending him a copy of this letter.

Yours ever,
(F N Richards)
Private Secretary
F N Richards

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing St