

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE
OF
FIRST MINISTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION

Implementation Process

Federal

Ottawa
November 1981

November 4, 1981

Implementation Process

1. In the event that agreement among First Ministers in favour of the Charter Referendum Proposal is reached at the FMC, the federal government will endeavour to obtain unanimous agreement in the House of Commons and Senate to amendments to the Resolution to provide authority to implement the Proposal.
2. In the event that the unanimous agreement referred to in paragraph 1. is not obtained, the House of Commons and Senate would be invited to approve the Resolution without change under the Special Orders providing for two day debates. On approval, the Resolution would be sent to Westminster.
3. At the earliest feasible time after the Resolution is sent to Westminster and prior to proclamation, a new resolution to provide authority to implement the Charter Referendum Proposal by way of constitutional amendment would be introduced in Parliament. Provinces would have a period of six months to adopt equivalent resolutions to the new resolution. If new resolutions were adopted in Parliament and all legislatures in that period the Resolution would be proclaimed and the Proposal would be given effect under Section 37 of the Resolution (the unanimity amending formula). If new resolutions were not adopted in Parliament and all legislatures in that period, the Resolution would be proclaimed without modification.
4. Under no circumstances would the Resolution be proclaimed during the six month period unless new resolutions had been adopted by Parliament and all legislatures.