
Chronology of Events July 1993 – June 1994

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5 July 1993
Justice

A federal-provincial report, commissioned by Kim Campbell in 1990, concludes that the male-dominated justice system discriminates against women — leaving them vulnerable to violence, poverty, and unequal treatment. The report recommends improvements in the way courts deal with female victims and offenders, tougher anti-pornography laws and a change in the way women are portrayed in advertising.

7 July 1993
Labour – Ontario

Ontario's social contract legislation, affecting the province's 900,000 public sector employees, passes in the Ontario legislature. The bill is designed to cut \$2 billion in spending through a three-year wage freeze and unpaid leave days. Public sector employees will be offered incentives and are urged to conclude non-legislated settlements before the deadline of 1 August.

8 July 1993
Social Assistance – Ontario

Ontario's minister of community and social services, Tony Silipo, announces that the Ontario government "is going to scrap the province's welfare system as we know it." Welfare was the primary source of income for 1.2 million people in Ontario last year, costing the provincial government \$6.1 million. A program called "Job Link" will create more than 100,000 places a year in educational institutions and apprenticeship programs for

welfare recipients. People on welfare who fail to enroll in job training programs will be penalized. Ontario will also replace its existing welfare programs with two new ones. The Ontario Child Benefit will provide monthly cheques to parents with low incomes to provide basic needs for their children. The Ontario Adult Benefit will provide a single monthly cheque to help needy adults while they look for new jobs.

14 July 1993
*Fiscal Policy –
Alberta*

Alberta's Treasurer Jim Dinning announces cuts to hospital funding and welfare in an attempt to reduce the province's huge deficit. Health-care spending is cut by \$67.5 million and welfare by \$24.5 million. More reductions are expected.

19 July 1993
*Maritime/Atlantic
Provinces
– Cooperation*

Canada's Maritime premiers meet in Charlottetown and agree to cooperate in order to save money on health-care. Health ministers of Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia will now look at areas that could be merged into regional operations aimed at avoiding costly duplication of services.

22 July 1993
*Federal-Provincial
Relations – Ontario*

Ontario's Premier Bob Rae meets with Prime Minister Kim Campbell in Toronto. Rae strongly expresses his dissatisfaction with the way Ottawa continues to take more from the "have" province of Ontario — in order to give to poorer provinces — without recognition for its present economically weakened state.

26 July 1993
Aboriginal Peoples

Ovide Mercredi opens the annual meeting of the Assembly of First Nations by charging that Ottawa is using the defeat of the Charlottetown constitutional accord as an excuse to bury issues such as aboriginal self-government. He calls on all natives to fight in order to get their concerns back on the national agenda.

1 August 1993
Labour – Ontario

The Ontario government's deadline for social contract settlements with its public sector workers passes with more than one-third of its 900,000 employees failing to reach a deal. The province's public sector workers who do not endorse cost-cutting agreements face an automatic three-year wage freeze and up to 12 days of unpaid annual leave.

3 August 1993
*Manpower –
Quebec*

Prime Minister Kim Campbell and Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa announce an agreement in principle between the federal government and Quebec that appears to turn over control of manpower training to the province much as had been planned in the failed Charlottetown Accord. Campbell denies the agreement means a transfer of powers.

18 August 1993
*Aboriginal Peoples –
Land Claims*

Ontario and the Teme-Augama Anishnabai Indian Band reach a tentative settlement aimed at resolving a long-standing native land claim dispute. The tentative accord gives the band exclusive title to 300 square kilometres of land and provides \$15 million in compensation.

18 August 1993
Aboriginal Peoples

The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples releases an interim report *Partners in Confederation*. The report affirms that the inherent right of self-government was never extinguished and is constitutionally protected. This is significant as it implies that the right of native self-government does not have to be sanctioned by a constitutional amendment.

19 August 1993
*Social Assistance –
New Brunswick*

The federal and New Brunswick governments agree to cooperate on employment and training programs. The agreement announced in Fredericton involves coordinating unemployment insurance services, workforce training, and social services.

27 August 1993
*Premiers – Annual
Conference*

Canada's ten provincial premiers and two territorial leaders meet in Baddeck, Nova Scotia for a two day annual conference. The premiers call for a first ministers' conference on the economy and voice their concerns regarding cuts to federal transfer payments that are having an impact on health care and education. The premiers also urge the federal government to resume negotiations for aboriginal self-government. Native leaders attend the final session of the two-day conference.

31 August 1993
*Fisheries –
East Coast*

The federal government announces a further moratorium on the cod fishery of the east coast. The announcement is expected to put 12,000 people out of work, bringing to 42,000 the number of people who have lost their jobs since Ottawa imposed a ban on cod fishing last July in order to save dwindling fish stocks. A \$190,000 million

- compensation package will be available to help displaced workers until May 1994.
- 6 September 1993
*Aboriginal Peoples
– Land Claims* The Sahtu Dene and Metis of the Northwest Territories sign a comprehensive land-claim agreement with the federal government. The particulars of the agreement were worked out in January. The deal gives the natives claim to 41,437 square kilometres of land including 1,813 square kilometres with subsurface rights. In addition, Ottawa will pay \$75 million over 15 years as well as a percentage of resource royalties. As well, the deal provides for native participation in management of land, water, renewable resources, and environmental reviews.
- 8 September 1993
Elections – Federal Prime Minister Kim Campbell announces that Canada's 35th general election will take place 25 October.
- 8 September 1993
Budgets – Alberta Alberta releases a mini-budget in which treasurer Jim Dinning places the provincial deficit at \$3.77 billion for 1992-93 fiscal year. No new taxes or cuts in program spending are announced. Dinning is optimistic that the government can still meet its 1993-94 deficit target of \$2.5 billion by implementing \$700 million in previously announced spending cuts.
- 13 September 1993
*Throne Speech –
Nova Scotia* Nova Scotia's Premier John Savage paints a bleak picture of the provincial economy in his throne speech opening the fall legislature, following the June 1993 election that brought the Liberals to power. The province's total debt stands at \$6.8 billion. The speech promises changes but provides few specifics.
- 14 September 1993
*Party Leadership –
Quebec* Premier Robert Bourassa announces his resignation as leader of the Liberal Party of Quebec. He will stay on until a Liberal convention chooses a new leader in order to ensure an orderly transfer of power before next year's provincial election.
- 27 September 1993
*Trade –
Ontario-Quebec* Ontario minister of economic development and trade, Frances Lankin announces that Ontario will impose trade barriers against Quebec in retaliation for that province's discrimination against Ontario construction workers. Quebec regulations prevent Ontario contractors from obtaining a licence to work in Quebec and from bidding on government contracts. New Brunswick has

already imposed barriers against Quebec in a similar dispute over construction labour.

28 September 1993
*Fiscal Policy –
Fiscal Stabilization
Plan – Quebec*

The Quebec government submits a claim to Ottawa for \$282 million. Finance Minister Gerard D. Levesque says Quebec is entitled to the money under the fiscal stabilization plan which compensates provinces that experience a decline in revenue due to economic downturn. Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Saskatchewan have already received some compensation from the federal government for the 1991-92 fiscal year.

30 September 1993
*Budgets –
Nova Scotia*

The Nova Scotia Liberal government introduces its first budget. It is expected to raise an additional \$78 million through tax increases. The provincial sales tax will rise to 11 from 10 percent and will apply to more services, including professional fees and recreation. Nova Scotia's Finance Minister Bernie Boudreau says that further spending cuts may be expected as, in spite of the tax increases, the province will raise less money than last year.

3-4 October 1993
Elections – Federal

Televised debates are held between major party leaders in the federal election campaign. Most observers agree that there is no clear winner in either the French or English debate.

8 October 1993
*Transportation –
Prince Edward
Island*

Financial agreements are signed in Charlottetown finalizing the deal with Strait Crossing Development Inc. to build a bridge linking Prince Edward Island to the mainland. Under the terms of the agreement Strait Crossing must finance the operation. Ottawa agrees to pay the consortium \$42 million a year for 35 years, a sum equivalent to the cost of operating the federally owned ferry service between New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

25 October 1993
Elections – Federal

Canadians vote in a general election and elect a majority Liberal government. Jean Chrétien and his Liberals win 177 seats. The Progressive Conservatives suffer an unprecedented defeat going from 157 seats to two. Prime Minister Kim Campbell fails to retain her seat. The New Democrats lose 35 of their 44 seats, electing only nine members. The big winners, besides the Liberals, were the Bloc Québécois with 54 seats and the Reform Party

with 52 seats. In terms of the popular vote the Liberals take 42 percent, Reform 18 percent, PCs 16 percent, BQ 14 percent and NDP 7 percent.

Members elected by province/territory and party:

	<i>Lib</i>	<i>BQ</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>NDP</i>	<i>PC</i>	<i>Ind</i>
Newfoundland (7)	7	0	0	0	0	0
P.E.I. (4)	4	0	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia (11)	11	0	0	0	0	0
New Brunswick (10)	9	0	0	0	1	0
Quebec (75)	19	54	0	0	1	1
Ontario (99)	98	0	1	0	0	0
Manitoba (14)	12	0	1	1	0	0
Saskatchewan (14)	5	0	4	5	0	0
Alberta (26)	4	0	22	0	0	0
British Columbia (32)	6	0	24	2	0	0
Yukon/NWT (3)	2	0	0	1	0	0
<i>Totals (295)</i>	<i>177</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>

	<i>1993</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1984</i>
Liberals	177	83	40
Bloc Québécois	54	0	0
Reform Party	52	0	0
New Democratic Party	9	43	30
Progressive Conservatives	2	169	211
Independent	1	0	1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>282</i>

29 October 1993
*Fiscal Policy –
Equalization
Payments*

Canada's seven poorest provinces are told to expect a \$1 billion cut in federal equalization payments as a result of the narrowing gap in their economic performance and that of the traditionally "have" provinces of Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. Manitoba will lose \$230 million, Saskatchewan \$225 million, Quebec \$110 million, New Brunswick \$186 million, Nova Scotia \$169

million, Newfoundland \$18 million, and Prince Edward Island \$23 million.

4 November 1993
Elections – Federal

Jean Chrétien becomes Canada's twentieth prime minister. The new Cabinet includes ten ministers from Ontario, five from Quebec, two from Alberta, and one from each of the remaining provinces except Prince Edward Island. Just hours after being sworn in Chrétien cancels the controversial \$4.8 billion contract for 43 EH-101 helicopters.

6 November 1993
*Party Leadership –
British Columbia*

Grace McCarthy becomes leader of the Social Credit Party in British Columbia. She wins on the third ballot by more than 14,000 votes.

11 November 1993
Aboriginal Peoples

Canada's Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Irwin agrees to draft a political accord with the country's chiefs to recognize the inherent right of self-government. The accord would also incorporate other Liberal election promises.

12 November 1993
*Interprovincial
Trade – Quebec*

Quebec introduces legislation that would ease restrictions on out-of-province construction workers. The bill would eliminate the requirement that companies have a place of business in Quebec.

19 November 1993
*Maritime/Atlantic
Provinces –
Cooperation*

The Atlantic premiers meet in Gander, Newfoundland and agree to coordinate drug purchases to cut down on health costs. The premiers also agree to create a joint film and video classification system in the three Maritime provinces.

24 November 1993
*Fiscal Policy –
Ontario*

Two major financial firms cut Ontario's credit rating. Standard and Poor of New York downgrades the province to double A minus from double A while Toronto's Dominion Bond Rating Service cuts its rating from double A minus to a single A. Ontario had a triple A credit rating when the New Democrats came to power in 1990.

24 November 1993
*Fiscal Policy –
Alberta*

Alberta announces that it will cut the salary portion of provincial grants for hospitals, school boards, and universities by 5 percent next year. In his quarterly report Treasurer Jim Dinning says Alberta's deficit this year will be \$2,435 billion, \$9 million less than originally projected.

- 25 November 1993
Premiers – Western Provinces Four western premiers and territorial leaders meet in Canmore, Alberta. They call on Ottawa not to cut transfer payments to the provinces and urge the federal government to expand its \$6 billion infrastructure program to include environmental protection, skills training, communications networks, and other technological advances.
- 26 November 1993
Fiscal Policy – Quebec Quebec's finance department announces that the provincial deficit will be \$375 million more this year than expected. The 1993-94 deficit will reach at least \$4.5 billion, almost 10 percent more than the \$4.15 billion forecast in May's provincial budget. The increase is being blamed on a \$450 million decline in projected revenue.
- 28 November 1993
Party Leadership – Ontario Ontario's Premier Bob Rae receives a vote of confidence from 300 delegates to the NDP's provincial council meeting in Toronto. The delegates overwhelmingly reject a resolution calling for an early leadership review.
- 29 November 1993
Fisheries – East Coast The federal government's Atlantic Fisheries Resource Conservation Council presents a report that says that the east-coast fishery is not recovering and thousands more Atlantic Canadians will likely lose their jobs. The report concludes that the conservation measures that have left 42,000 unemployed in the past 18 months are not enough.
- 30 November 1993
Economy – Quebec Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa announces a three year, \$1 billion economic recovery plan designed to reduce the province's unemployment. The plan is expected to create 47,000 new jobs over the three-year period. Areas targeted for job creation are regional development, industrial and technological innovation, help for business to adapt to export markets, retraining of welfare recipients, and entrepreneurship support.
- 2 December 1993
Fiscal Policy – Federal-Provincial Provincial finance ministers meet in Halifax and call on the federal government not to cut or freeze transfer payments in order to finance its share of the \$6 billion infrastructure program.
- 2 December 1993
Trade – NAFTA Prime Minister Jean Chrétien agrees to implement the North American Free Trade Agreement 1 January in spite

of failing to secure changes he said were vital for Canada's approval. Chrétien is unsuccessful in renegotiating the issue of energy exports but settles instead for a unilateral declaration stating that Canada would not give up the right to energy security in times of shortages.

3 December 1993
Transportation

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien cancels a deal that would hand over Pearson International Airport in Toronto to a private consortium. The \$700 million deal to privatize Terminals 1 and 2 was initiated by the former Conservative government.

6 December 1993
*Fisheries –
East Coast*

The Task Force on Incomes and Adjustment in the Atlantic Fishery, chaired by Richard Cashin, releases its report. The report, entitled *Charting a New Course: Towards the Fishery of the Future*, says the depleted state of fish stocks has made a major reorganization of the industry a matter of extreme urgency. It calls for a reduced fishery of professional fishermen and processors who would be certified and registered based on competence and experience. The report recommends that current relief programs for laid-off fishermen and processors be maintained for now, but urges the federal and provincial governments to start work immediately on the restructuring process.

8 December 1993
Taxation – Ontario

The Ontario government introduces legislation for a minimum corporate tax. Finance Minister Floyd Laughtren says the tax will bring in \$10 million in 1994 and \$100 million annually when it is fully phased-in in 1996. The rate will rise from 2 percent of profits in 1994 to 4 percent in 1996. Introduction of the legislation is part of a series of tax reforms the government is planning in order to make the provincial system more fair.

9 December 1993
*Health Policy –
Alberta*

Alberta publishes a controversial report dealing with ways to reduce health-care costs in the province. The report recommends a two-tiered system that would guarantee basic services while making it possible for those who want to pay to get access to a wider range of medical assistance. The government says the restructuring is necessary to cut \$900 million from Alberta's health-care budget over the next three years as part of its goal of eliminating the annual budgetary deficit by 1997.

- 9 December 1993
Justice – Ontario
- Ontario passes employment equity legislation which will force companies in the province to develop plans to hire and promote more women, minorities, natives, and disabled people. The bill requires employers to set numerical goals and timetables for making their workforces more reflective of the surrounding community within three years of proclamation.
- 10 December 1993
Environment – British Columbia
- First Nations and the government of British Columbia sign a logging accord in Victoria. Under the agreement members of five First Nations will manage logging in two forested regions of Clayoquot Sound — Clayoquot River Valley and Flores Island. The program will cost \$1.25 million over three years and will train natives to manage the logging and to work as forest workers, environmental inspectors, and auditors.
- 14 December 1993
Party Leadership – Federal
- Jean Charest becomes interim leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, replacing Kim Campbell. Charest, who lost the leadership race to Campbell in June, is one of two conservatives elected to the House of Commons in the 25 October federal election.
- 14 December 1993
Party Leadership – Quebec
- Daniel Johnson is acclaimed as leader of the Quebec Liberal Party. He will take over from Premier Robert Bourassa 11 January.
- 14 December 1993
Social Assistance – Newfoundland
- Newfoundland makes a proposal to restructure unemployment insurance and welfare in order to target resources towards the most needy. Premier Clyde Wells wants Ottawa's cooperation to change the way the province spends the \$2 billion annual federal contribution for social security. Newfoundland is offering to accept much stricter rules on unemployment insurance in exchange for an innovative guaranteed annual income system for its poorest residents.
- 16 December 1993
Constitutional Reform
- In an interview Prime Minister Jean Chrétien says the federal government will not be holding any constitutional discussions with Quebec even if the province opts for sovereignty.
- 20 December 1993
Fisheries – East Coast
- Federal Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin closes most of the east-coast groundfish fishery. The fishing ban is necessary because bottom dwelling groundfish such as

cod, haddock, and redfish have dwindled to record lows. Newly unemployed workers will be eligible for \$28 million in aid until next May when an ongoing relief package worth \$1 billion ends. Ottawa is currently trying to determine how to replace the fund. Tobin also announces an indefinite ban on fishing northern cod off the northeastern coast of Newfoundland and suggests it may last as long as six years.

21 December 1993
*Federal-Provincial
Relations – First
Ministers'
Conference*

In Ottawa, Prime Minister Chrétien meets with the provincial premiers and territorial leaders. Agreement is reached on a national public works program. Tax reform as well as restructuring of social services is discussed. The premiers accept the federal government's proposal for splitting the cost of the proposed \$6 billion two-year infrastructure program equally among Ottawa, the provincial governments, and municipalities. Chrétien does not promise that transfer payments to the provinces for social programs will not be frozen next year. The ministers agree to complete talks on a new five-year agreement on transfer payments by next spring. The leaders also agree to eliminate interprovincial trade barriers by June 1994 as well as to replace the GST and harmonize federal and provincial consumption taxes in the near future.

21 December 1993
*National
Infrastructure
Program*

Based on population and provincial unemployment rates, under the proposed national infrastructure program, the provinces will receive the following funds from Ottawa:

Ontario	– \$722 million or 36.4 percent
Quebec	– \$527 million or 27.2 percent
British Columbia	– \$225 million or 11.2 percent
Alberta	– \$173 million or 8.8 percent
Nova Scotia	– \$ 69 million or 3.9 percent
Manitoba	– \$ 68 million or 3.6 percent
Saskatchewan	– \$ 58 million or 2.9 percent
New Brunswick	– \$ 51 million or 2.6 percent
Newfoundland	– \$ 49 million or 2.5 percent
Prince Edward Island	– \$ 12 million or .69 percent

- 22 December 1993
Bank of Canada Finance Minister Paul Martin announces that Gordon Thiessen will be the new governor of the Bank of Canada, replacing the current governor John Crow.
- 24 December 1993
Trade – Ontario-Quebec Ontario and Quebec end their trade war and sign an agreement committing both governments to removing barriers in construction contracting and labour mobility, government procurement, and municipal bus purchasing. The agreement is signed, in Hull, by Ontario Minister Frances Lankin and Quebec Minister Gerald Tremblay.
- 1 January 1994
Trade – NAFTA The North American Free Trade Agreement comes into effect bringing Mexico into partnership with Canada and the United States to create the largest free trade zone in the world. The three countries will continue negotiations over the next two years to settle issues such as rules on subsidies and dumping as well as an acceleration of tariff cuts.
- 11 January 1994
Party Leadership – Quebec Daniel Johnson is sworn in as Premier of Quebec. Johnson promises to work closely with Ottawa to create jobs and streamline government.
- 14 January 1994
National Infrastructure Program The federal government signs formal funding agreements with four provinces under the \$6 billion infrastructure program. The agreements commit Ottawa to a one-third share of projects in Nova Scotia (\$69 million), New Brunswick (\$51 million), Manitoba (\$68 million) and Saskatchewan (\$57.7 million) over the next two years. The other two-thirds of the funds will come equally from provinces and municipalities.
- 18 January 1994
Throne Speech – Federal In the throne speech opening the 35th Parliament, the new Liberal government promises to replace the GST, restore trust in public officials, and reform social programs. Cutting the deficit remains a priority but the speech reassures Canadians it will not be done at the expense of the unemployed.
- 18 January 1994
Budgets – Alberta Alberta's Premier Ralph Klein announces new budget cuts of \$1.5 billion to health, welfare, and education. The province will also phase out \$113 million in operating grants to municipalities forcing them to rely on property taxes for their revenue.

21 January 1994
*Fiscal Policy –
Equalization
Payments*

Finance Minister Paul Martin announces an increase in equalization payments to the seven poorest provinces in the amount of \$900 million over the next five years. Martin's announcement means that equalization payments, paid to all provinces except Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia, will rise to \$10.4 billion by 1998-99 from \$7.4 billion this year, an increase of 5 percent a year.

24 January 1994
*National
Infrastructure
Program – Ontario*

Ontario signs a \$2.1 billion infrastructure deal with the federal government designed to repair public buildings, roads, sewers, and bridges. The federal and Ontario government will each contribute \$722 million, with the rest of the money coming from municipalities, school boards, and postsecondary institutions that propose projects to be funded under the plan. The program is expected to create 25,000 jobs over the next two years.

25 January 1994
Aboriginal Peoples

The province of Saskatchewan is helping three native groups in a legal challenge of Ottawa's right to offload jurisdiction for status Indians living off reserves. The province and native groups feel that under treaties it is a federal not a provincial responsibility to pay for welfare benefits for Indians whether they live on or off reserves. The Saskatchewan government has contributed \$100,000 to the native groups to help pay for legal costs.

31 January 1994
*Fisheries –
East Coast*

Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin announces the closing of all recreational fishery off the northeast and south coasts of Newfoundland. Major fishing unions and the provincial government have demanded such a ban because of the continuing dismal state of fish stocks and reports that fish caught for personal use are being sold on the black market.

31 January 1994
*Social Assistance –
Reform*

Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy announces a government review of all social programs. The Liberals want to introduce legislation before the end of 1994 to link unemployment insurance and welfare, tie benefits more closely to education, and give youth more opportunities. The planned review will cost between \$3 million and \$4 million and is slated to be completed by 30 September 1994.

7 February 1994
*National
Infrastructure
Program*

Quebec signs a \$526 million infrastructure agreement with Ottawa. Federal Finance Minister Paul Martin predicts the deal will create 20,000 direct jobs and as many as 40,000 indirect jobs in the next two years.

7 February 1994
*Throne Speech –
Saskatchewan*

Saskatchewan's NDP government opens a new session of the legislature. The speech from the throne promises legislation to promote economic development, trade, and tourism, shifting the government's emphasis away from the deficit cutting measures of the previous two years.

8 February 1994
Taxation – Tobacco

In an effort to stop illegal cigarette trade, the federal government cuts taxes on cigarettes sold in Canada. At the same time the government announces a major anti-smoking campaign targeting young people in an effort to convince them not to smoke. The plan will cost \$600 million, including an estimated \$300 million in lost tax revenue, \$150 million in tax rebates on existing stocks of cigarettes and \$150 million for police and customs enforcement. Following the federal announcement Quebec also cuts taxes. The result of reduced federal and Quebec taxes reduces by half the price of a carton of cigarettes in the province from \$47 to \$23. New Brunswick follows suit, cutting cigarette prices by about \$16 to \$39. Other provinces, however, show little enthusiasm for cutting taxes and are critical of the impact cheap tobacco will have on health programs.

9 February 1994
*Health Policy –
Reform*

Provincial, territorial, and federal health ministers meet in Ottawa. They approve a plan for a radical restructuring of Canada's blood supply system. The plan would give more control over the blood system to the provinces and less to the Canadian Red Cross Society.

10 February 1994
*Throne Speech –
Alberta*

In a throne speech opening a new session of the legislature, Alberta's Premier Ralph Klein commits his government to continuing tight fiscal policies designed to eliminate the province's \$2.4 billion deficit in three years. The speech promises educational reform that would allow the government to amalgamate school boards and collect school taxes, a new system of grants for universities and colleges, performance incentives for

government employees, and *Access to Information Act* reform.

11 February 1994
Aboriginal Peoples

Native leaders from the Assembly of First Nations agree to talk with Ottawa about setting up a system to negotiate aboriginal self-government under the existing constitution.

14 February 1994
Social Assistance – Reform

Social services ministers meet in Ottawa and discuss experimental restructuring of programs such as unemployment insurance and welfare. New Brunswick and Ontario already have plans underway and other provinces are expected to follow suit soon. Federal Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy says Ottawa will try to help finance new provincial efforts to help people reduce their income assistance.

15 February 1994
Throne Speech – New Brunswick

In a throne speech the government of New Brunswick promises no new taxes and no major program cuts. Latest figures indicate the province will have a 1993-94 deficit of \$140 million, about \$100 million more than projected in last spring's budget. Premier Frank McKenna promises to make New Brunswick the first pay-as-you-go province with a balanced operating budget for 1994-95.

16 February 1994
Transportation – Prince Edward Island

Parliament approves a proposal to build a bridge over Northumberland Strait to connect Prince Edward Island to the mainland. The issue must still go before the Island legislature before any construction on the \$840 million project can begin.

17 February 1994
Budgets – Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan NDP government introduces a new budget with no new taxes or spending cuts. Finance Minister Janice MacKinnon forecasts a deficit of \$188.7 million in fiscal year 1994-95, down from \$294 million last year. The budget does include \$23.4 million in cuts to provincial grants for municipalities, school boards, and hospitals as announced in last year's budget.

18 February 1994
Elections – British Columbia

Grace McCarthy loses an important by-election, in the Fraser Valley riding of Matsqui, to Liberal candidate Mike de Jong, by 66 votes. In spite of the loss British Columbia's Social Credit caucus unanimously endorses McCarthy as party leader. Standings in the B.C. legisla-

ture now are: 51 Liberal, six Social Credit, two Progressive Democratic Alliance and one independent.

18 February 1994
*National
Infrastructure
Program – British
Columbia*

British Columbia signs a \$675 million infrastructure agreement with the federal government. Ottawa and the province will each contribute \$225 million under the deal with the remaining third financed by local government and private partners. The joint project could mean 10,000 jobs in the province.

21 February 1994
Taxation – Tobacco

The Ontario government cuts tobacco taxes saying it has no choice but to bring the price of cigarettes in the province in line with prices in Quebec. Finance Minister Floyd Laughren says he regrets the decision that will cost the provincial treasury \$500 million a year in tax revenue and will lead to more tobacco-induced illness.

22 February 1994
Budgets – Federal

The federal government presents its budget. It contains no significant tax increases, and funding for unemployment benefits and defence spending is cut. Finance Minister Paul Martin projects a deficit of \$39.7 billion for fiscal year 1994-95. The budget contains \$17 billion in cuts to planned spending over three years but only \$700 million will actually be cut in 1994-95. The Department of National Defence, which received a \$7 billion cut over five years, will close 21 bases, stations, and units across the country and phase out 16,500 military and civilian employees. Two of Canada's three officer training colleges — Collège Militaire Royale in St-Jean, Que. and Royal Rhodes in B.C. — will be closed. As well, a cap of 5 percent on increases in transfer payments to Ontario, British Columbia, and Alberta for social programs will be maintained, and transfer payments to all provinces will be frozen in 1995-96.

Reaction to the budget is not favourable. Bloc Québécois Leader Lucien Bouchard criticizes Martin for ignoring job creation and targeting the poor through unemployment insurance cuts. Reform Leader Preston Manning accuses Martin of missing the boat on deficit reduction. The Atlantic provinces are upset about unemployment insurance cuts, military base closures, and reduced compensation for fishermen. Ontario's Premier Bob Rae charges that his province has been "knee capped" once again by restrictions to transfer payments.

24 February 1994
Budgets – Alberta

Alberta's Conservative government presents its budget. Spending is cut by almost \$1 billion and there are no tax increases. The budget is praised by business and condemned by labour and the opposition Liberals. The budget calls for spending cuts of \$956 million in 1994-95, reducing the deficit to \$1.5 billion from \$2.4 billion. It projects a surplus of \$212 million in 1996-97 after spending is reduced by another \$1.7 billion. The areas most affected by the latest cuts are health care and education.

24 February 1994
*Energy –
Hydro-Québec*

The Supreme Court of Canada rules that Hydro-Québec cannot build new power facilities that produce exports for the United States unless it first conducts federal environmental reviews. The 9-0 decision upholds the environmental review conditions that the National Energy Board placed on Hydro-Québec when it granted it a licence to export power to New York and Vermont in 1990. The decision is claimed as a victory by James Bay Cree long opposed to further hydro-electric development in northern Quebec.

25 February 1994
*Budgets –
New Brunswick*

New Brunswick introduces its new budget avoiding both tax increases and major cutbacks to programs. Public sector wages will be frozen for 1994, 600 positions will be eliminated and government offices will be closed for the Christmas holidays. Budgets for education, housing and income assistance are cut by \$24 million and political parties will receive less public money. Salaries of all politicians will be frozen.

28 February 1994
*Throne Speech –
Newfoundland*

Faced with high unemployment and an ailing fishery, the province of Newfoundland announces a new economic agenda. New and expanding businesses can expect tax incentives and less red tape in the future. The province will continue to review its options for selling its power utility, Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, as well as other branches of government.

28 February 1994
Aboriginal Peoples

The Native Council of Canada changes its name to The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. Jim Sinclair, the newly elected president, signs a political accord to work with the federal government on Liberal campaign promises for off-reserve natives. The accord outlines a year-long

- agenda for discussions on issues such as self-government, land claims, and the eventual elimination of the Indian Affairs Department.
- 1 March 1994
Reducing Duplication – Federal-Provincial
- Five provinces and Ottawa agree to find a way of ending costly duplication by cooperating in areas of job training and social program delivery. The meeting in Toronto, was between Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy and his provincial counterparts. Ontario, Quebec, Alberta, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick want to start talks immediately.
- 2 March 1994
Energy – Hydro-Québec
- Hydro-Québec reaches an agreement-in-principle with electrical utility Consolidated Edison to sell power to New York City between 1999 and 2018. A Hydro-Québec spokesperson says the new deal will involve only surplus energy delivered in the summer months.
- 8 March 1994
Throne Speech – Prince Edward Island
- In the speech from the throne Prince Edward Island Premier Catherine Callbeck promises to replace the pension plan for MLAs and reduce the deficit. The government plans to balance the budget by the end of 1996. The provincial deficit for fiscal year 1993-94 will be \$65 million.
- 9 March 1994
Aboriginal Peoples
- Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin tells the Commons that his department has begun negotiations with Manitoba chiefs on transferring the department's responsibilities, including the management of federal funds, to the chiefs and bands as a pilot project for Manitoba. Irwin says he is determined to implement native self-government and eventually eliminate the need for the Indian Affairs Department.
- 11 March 1994
Energy – Newfoundland
- The Newfoundland legislature approves in principle a bill to privatize the province's power utility. Premier Clyde Wells suggests that privatization of Newfoundland Hydro would reduce the province's \$6 billion debt by \$1 billion and would make it possible for Newfoundland not to have to borrow money in the next fiscal year.
- 14 March 1994
Throne Speech – British Columbia
- In the speech from the throne British Columbia's NDP government promises a new forest strategy to ensure job stability as well as environmental protection. The speech

reiterates Premier Mike Harcourt's promise of a three-year freeze on all taxes and a balanced budget by 1996.

17 March 1994
*Budgets –
Newfoundland*

The government of Newfoundland presents its budget. Teachers, provincial clerks, hospital staff, and other public sector workers will be required to give up \$50 million in benefits. Finance Minister Winston Baker promises that as soon as fiscal circumstances allow, public servants will receive reasonable increases in pay. Baker projects a deficit of \$24.6 million for 1994-95.

22 March 1994
*Budgets –
British Columbia*

The government of British Columbia tables its budget. Spending will be held to a 3.5 percent increase to \$19.6 billion in fiscal year 1994-95 and limited to a 2-percent increase in the next two years. Finance Minister Elizabeth Cull promises to cut \$112 million in taxes this year while reducing the deficit to \$898 million and eliminating it altogether by 1996.

23 March 1994
*Social Assistance –
New Brunswick*

Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy and New Brunswick Premier Frank McKenna introduce new and experimental social programs. The federal-provincial project offers a guaranteed annual income of about \$12,000 to 1,000 unemployed workers between the ages of 50 and 65 in exchange for six months of community work. Ottawa and New Brunswick will share the cost of the voluntary program with initial funding set at \$200,000. The participants will be able to earn additional money at seasonal jobs without losing their benefits.

24 March 1994
*Elections –
Boundary Revisions*

The Liberal government uses a form of closure to cut off debate on electoral boundary revisions. The bill, which would prevent the implementation of a new electoral map before the next election, passes second reading by a vote of 140-78. Existing legislation requires federal riding boundaries to be revised every ten years to reflect population trends. The last revision came into effect in 1987.

28 March 1994
*Environment –
NAFTA*

The federal government announces that the Secretariat of the North American Commission for Environmental Co-operation, established under the North American free trade agreement, will be based in Montreal. The commission will create about 30 jobs and have an annual budget of \$5 million. Environment Minister Sheila

- Copps says that Montreal was chosen for a variety of reasons — including its airline connections to Washington and Mexico City, its environmental record, and the relatively low cost of living.
- 29 March 1994
*Energy –
Hydro-Québec*
- The New York Power Authority's board of trustees votes to cancel a \$5 billion U.S. contract to buy power from Hydro-Québec. The power authority president David Freeman opposes the 20-year agreement on the basis of falling prices and local power surpluses. Freeman also suggests that the power authority does not want to be linked to environmentally controversial new power projects in Northern Quebec such as the Great Whale project.
- 30 March 1994
*Maritime/Atlantic
Provinces –
Cooperation*
- The four Atlantic premiers agree to endorse public-private partnering in an effort to reduce the cost of government. Federal Public Works Minister David Dingwall announces that Ottawa is setting up a new secretariat to review and assess public-private partnership proposals.
- 30 March 1994
*Trade –
Quebec-New
Brunswick*
- Quebec and New Brunswick sign an agreement for open access to government contracts between the neighbouring provinces. Construction contracts will be open to bidders from both provinces, as will health and education services contracts and those involving municipalities. The agreement will be implemented gradually over the next six months.
- 7 April 1994
*Throne Speech –
Manitoba*
- In the speech from the throne the Manitoba government promises to continue a freeze on major taxes, hints at more spending cuts, and offers few specifics for the province's 61,000 unemployed. Manitoba's 1993-94 deficit is almost \$461 million.
- 12 April 1994
*Budgets – Prince
Edward Island*
- Prince Edward Island introduces its budget calling for a 7.5 percent cut in public sector wages and services. Public sector unions have until the end of May to decide whether to take the reduction in wages or give up other benefits such as holidays and sick leave. Education, health, and community services will have their budgets cut in an overall reduction in current-account program spending from \$659 million to \$625 million. Spending on economic development and tourism will rise.

- 13 April 1994
Taxation – Tobacco Nova Scotia cuts tobacco taxes to counteract cigarette smuggling from other Maritime provinces.
- 14 April 1994
Social Programs – Reform The federal government cancels a federal-provincial meeting scheduled for 18 April on its proposed reform of social programs after Quebec Premier Daniel Johnson refuses to take part. Quebec, along with several other provinces — including Ontario and British Columbia — has complained about the fast pace of the reform process and the lack of adequate briefing.
- 14 April 1994
Maritime/Atlantic Provinces – Cooperation Premiers of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island agree to set up a common curriculum in mathematics, language arts, science, and second language programs for grades one through 12 in both French and English. Newfoundland also expects to join in but must wait until reform of its denominational education system is completed. Under the proposed system common textbooks, programs, and achievement assessments will be developed for the three provinces and phased in over the next five years.
- 14 April 1994
Aboriginal Peoples Hydro-Québec releases a \$1 billion agreement in principle designed to compensate the Inuit for environmental damage if the Great Whale power project is ever built in northern Quebec. The agreement in principle calls for \$30 million payment once the project receives federal and provincial approval. Another \$21 million will be paid over the seven-year construction period and \$12 million annually, indexed to inflation, for the remaining 42 years of the pact.
- 18 April 1994
Environment Environment Minister Sheila Copps announces that the federal government will spend \$250 million on a six-year program to help clean up the polluted Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. In February the International Joint Commission warned that continued pollution of the Great Lakes will have serious health implications for people living nearby.
- 18 April 1994
Party Leadership – Federal In Ottawa, Audrey McLaughlin announces her decision to step down as leader of the federal New Democratic Party, taking full responsibility for the party's poor results in the last federal election. McLaughlin will remain as interim leader until the party renewal committee

makes its report and will continue to sit as the MP for Yukon.

19 April 1994
*Fisheries –
East Coast*

The federal government announces a new \$1.9 billion federal assistance package for Atlantic fishermen and plant workers. In St. John's, Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin says that Ottawa will no longer automatically extend assistance to people out of work because of the declining stocks of bottom dwelling fish such as cod. Under the new plan displaced fishermen and plant workers receiving compensation will have to upgrade their education or work on government-sponsored projects. Tobin says that \$300 million will be spent to reduce the capacity of the fishery by 50 percent. This will involve paying workers to take early retirement or sell their fishing licences.

20 April 1994
*Elections –
Boundary Revisions*

Conservative Senators, who hold a majority in the Senate, suggest that they will challenge the Liberal government's bill to suspend the usual ten-year process of revising federal electoral boundaries. The Liberals used their Commons majority one day earlier to approve the bill that would suspend the redistribution process for two years. Redistribution would give four new seats to Ontario and two to British Columbia as well as change boundaries across the country to reflect population shifts.

20 April 1994
Budgets – Manitoba

Manitoba tables its budget. Spending will be cut in most departments, including health and education although overall spending will increase to \$5.4 billion, \$23 million more than last year. The increase is due to an extra \$24 million allocated this year to cover the province's share of the national public works program, as well as the anticipated reduction in federal transfer payments. The budget projects a deficit of \$296 million in 1994-95, about \$40 million more than expected.

26 April 1994
Telecommunications

The Supreme Court of Canada rules that the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction over all the country's telephone companies. Parti Québécois Leader Jacques Parizeau charges that the ruling is an infringement on Quebec's cultural identity.

- 28 April 1994
Health Policy – Ontario
- Ontario's Health Minister Ruth Grier announces that the government is reducing the amount of money it will pay for emergency hospital treatment outside Canada. The new measure is expected to save \$20 million. Under the changes, to take effect 30 June, the province will pay a maximum of \$100 per day for emergency hospital treatment outside Canada, down 75 percent from the current maximum of \$400.
- 29 April 1994
Budgets – Nova Scotia
- Angry demonstrators storm the Nova Scotia legislature preventing formal reading of a \$3.9 billion budget expected to take yet more money from the public sector. To save \$52 million a year, the province is imposing a pay freeze on about 40,000 public sector workers, a 3-percent wage rollback in November, then another freeze for three years. The budget cuts taxes by about \$50 million, including \$23 million imposed in last September's budget. This year's deficit is forecast at \$297 million.
- 3 May 1994
Quebec – Sovereignty
- Bloc Québécois leader Lucien Bouchard brings his message on Quebec sovereignty to western Canada, provoking a flurry of media commentary and political reaction.
- 3 May 1994
Social Assistance – British Columbia
- The government of British Columbia announces it will spend \$200 million over two years on worker training and education in an effort to reduce the ever increasing welfare rolls. Premier Mike Harcourt says more than 50,000 welfare recipients will receive training and job search coaching under the program.
- 3 May 1994
Trade – Ontario-Quebec
- Ontario and Quebec sign a bilateral agreement in Toronto to end a long dispute over barriers imposed by Quebec against Ontario workers and companies. Under the final agreement all Quebec residency requirements for workers will be lifted by 15 June and both provinces will recognize each other's systems for assessing qualifications and experience. Government procurement for goods, services, and construction will be opened up by 15 September. The provision will be extended to municipalities and public institutions in the future.
- 5 May 1994
Budgets – Ontario
- Ontario's Finance Minister Floyd Laughren tables his budget. The budget projects a deficit of \$8.5 billion for 1994-95, down from \$9.4 billion in the previous fiscal

year. Program spending will be cut by about \$350 million this year, including \$20 million from non-profit housing and \$7 million from legal aid. Overhead expenditures will drop by \$600 million to \$6.3 billion. The province will spend \$3.8 billion on capital projects such as subway lines and roads. Taxes will not increase. Opposition critics dismiss the budget as a "do-nothing" document designed to hide the true size of the deficit by not counting spending by the public sector and Crown corporations.

9 May 1994
Energy – Quebec

The federal and Quebec governments announce they will spend \$34 million on a natural gas pipeline that will create 2,000 jobs. The \$125 million federal-provincial project is the latest to be announced as Liberal Premier Daniel Johnson prepares for an upcoming provincial election.

10 May 1994
*Energy –
Newfoundland*

Premier Clyde Wells tells the Newfoundland legislature he plans to proceed with the unpopular plan to privatize Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro in an effort to raise money needed to prevent a serious budgetary shortfall next year. Standard and Poor, a major credit-rating agency, recently cut Newfoundland's credit rating to BBB from A minus.

10 May 1994
*Trade –
Interprovincial*

Canada's trade ministers agree on a mechanism to settle trade disputes, a critical step on the road to eliminate interprovincial barriers that cost taxpayers an alleged \$7.5 billion a year. The plan, arrived at after two days of meetings in Winnipeg would allow provincial governments and private individuals access to trade dispute panels similar to those provided for in international trade agreements.

12 May 1994
Budgets – Quebec

Quebec's Liberal government tables its pre-election budget which cuts personal income taxes for low and middle income earners by \$500 million and reduces the provincial sales tax from 8 to 6.5 percent. Finance Minister Andre Bourbeau projects a slight decline in the 1994-95 deficit to \$4.425 billion and expects the deficit to be eliminated within the next five years. Program spending will increase by 1.7 percent to \$41.7 billion. Business groups calling for significant deficit cuts are

disappointed as is labour, which complains about the lack of job creation programs. The budget is expected to increase Quebec's total debt to \$66 billion.

17 May 1994
*Elections –
Reform-Prince
Edward Island*

Prince Edward Island passes legislation to reduce the number of seats in its Legislative Assembly from 32 to 27. The bill passes by a vote of 17 to 13.

17 May 1994
*Aboriginal Peoples
– Quebec
Sovereignty*

Federal Minister of Indian Affairs, Ron Irwin, tells native leaders that should Quebec secede from Canada, Aboriginal Peoples could choose to remain part of Canada, including their aboriginal territory.

18 May 1994
Aboriginal Peoples

Federal and provincial ministers along with four native groups, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the Metis National Council, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples and Native Women's Association, agree to draft a national statement of principle to guide self-government negotiations across the country. Assembly of First Nations Chief Ovide Mercredi walks out of the two day meeting in Quebec City between the government and native groups saying that talks should be between Aboriginals and the federal government and should ensure constitutional protection for self-government agreements. Federal Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin says Ottawa and the provinces will continue to negotiate with native groups despite Mercredi's opposition.

19 May 1994
*Health Policy –
British Columbia*

The Government of British Columbia says it will end extra billing by doctors. Ottawa recently penalized the province \$1.7 million by cutting health payments. The money, representing the amount doctors have billed their patients above medicare, was deducted from Ottawa's monthly \$62 million transfer payment to British Columbia.

19 May 1994
*Social Assistance –
Prince Edward
Island*

The Government of Prince Edward Island announces a cut of \$2.5 million from its welfare budget. Welfare benefits will be reduced, GST rebate cheques will be considered part of a calculated income, and special transportation allowances will be carefully reviewed. The province's welfare costs have risen by 66 percent since 1989.

20 May 1994
*Premiers –
 Western Provinces
 Conference*

The four western premiers end a three-day conference in Gimli, Manitoba. There is some disagreement over interprovincial trade. Alberta's Premier Ralph Klein and Manitoba's Premier Gary Filmon want all barriers to interprovincial trade removed while Roy Romanov of Saskatchewan and Mike Harcourt of British Columbia want some exceptions to remain. The premiers agree to ask Ottawa for a uniform tax on cigarettes and a greater role in a planned federal forum on health care. They also urge the federal government not to cut transfer payments to the provinces.

20 May 1994
Social Programs

Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy announces the first phase of a youth service corps program designed for as many as 17,500 Canadians between the ages of 18 and 24 over the next three years. The program will start with 37 pilot projects involving 623 young people and lasting for six to nine months. The projects emphasize community work, skills development, and business acumen.

25 May 1994
*Prince Edward
 Island – Royal
 Commission*

Prince Edward Island Premier Catherine Callbeck establishes a royal commission to look at ways the government can improve its relationship with the province's public sector unions. The commission will be chaired jointly by Frank Ledwell and Anna Duffy.

27 May 1994
*Constitutional
 Reform*

While on a trip through western Canada Prime Minister Jean Chrétien reiterates his position regarding the continued speculation on what might happen if Quebec votes to separate from Canada. Speaking in Edmonton he says that he was elected to put Canadians back to work not to discuss a hypothetical separation that most likely would not occur. The prime minister's words "If everybody were to shut up on that, I would be very happy. The people of Canada, the people of Quebec included, are fed up with talking about the constitution."

27 May 1994
*Ontario –
 Credit Rating*

Moody's Investors Service cuts Ontario's credit rating from Aa2 to Aa3 citing the province's rising debt and slow reaction to deficit reduction.

31 May 1994
Fiscal Policy

Federal legislation that will cut \$5.5 billion from unemployment insurance over three years and extend public service pay freeze passes in the House of Commons by

a vote of 137 to 91. The bill implementing measures introduced in the 22 February budget goes to the Senate for approval.

7 June 1994
National Unity

Before it adjourns for the summer, the House of Commons holds a one-day debate on the Reform Party's resolution regarding national unity. The debate features strongly divergent views between the Reform and BQ visions, while Chrétien blames Quebec separatists for rising interest rates.

7 June 1994
*Health Policy –
Nova Scotia*

Nova Scotia's Health Minister Ron Stewart announces changes in the administration of the province's health services. Under a bill introduced in the legislature, four regional health boards will replace local health boards across the province. The health boards will be responsible for determining the number and type of hospitals in each region. The province has also reached a \$48 million early retirement agreement with the Nova Scotia Association of Health Organizations which represents six unions. The government of Nova Scotia plans to cut its health budget by \$62 million in 1994-95.

8 June 1994
Environment

Statistics Canada reports that Canada is among the top producers per capita of industrial and household garbage, hazardous wastes, and greenhouse gases. Environment Minister Sheila Copps blames industry for not meeting government targets and promises tougher measures by September.

9 June 1994
*Quebec –
Sovereignty*

Reform Party Leader Preston Manning tables in the House of Commons a list of 20 questions to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, dealing with the potential federal reaction to a vote and negotiations in favour of Quebec independence. The prime minister refuses to respond to hypothetical questions.

9 June 1994
*Human Rights –
Ontario*

The NDP government's controversial same-sex bill is defeated in the Ontario Legislature by a vote of 68-59. The legislation, the first of its kind in Canada, would have entitled gay and lesbian couples to spousal rights and benefits.

13 June 1994
Transportation

Transport Minister Doug Young announces that the federal government intends to cut Canada's \$1.6 billion

transportation subsidies. Young tells an international convention of transport officials in Toronto that governments and taxpayers can no longer afford the current overpriced system and that Ottawa is reconsidering its involvement in the St. Lawrence Seaway and Via Rail.

14 June 1994
*Elections – Federal
Boundary Revisions*

A revised bill ensuring that riding boundaries will be reformed before the next federal election passes in the Senate. The bill replaces an earlier version of the legislation that would have imposed a two-year delay on the normal ten-year process of adjusting ridings to reflect changes in population. The original bill was sent back to the Commons after the Conservative-dominated Senate proposed amendments.

15 June 1994
*Energy –
Saskatchewan*

Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow and federal Agriculture Minister Ralph Goodale sign an agreement in which the federal government agrees to provide \$125 million to help the Government of Saskatchewan and its partner Federated Co-operatives Ltd. to restructure the province's debt-ridden New Grade heavy oil upgrader. By providing a one-time grant Ottawa will be relieved of \$275 million in loan guarantees agreed to with the previous Conservative government in the province.

16 June 1994
*Lobbying –
Regulation*

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announces a new ethics package aimed at restoring integrity in government. Under new rules lobbyists seeking to influence government must:

- Specify which bill or contract they are trying to influence;
- Name each government department or institution contacted and the lobbying methods used;
- Identify their true employer in cases where they are hired by subsidiaries of major companies.

Also, fees paid only if lobbying is successful will not be allowed. Chrétien appoints Howard Wilson as the new ethics counsellor.

22 June 1994
*Environment –
British Columbia*

British Columbia's Premier Mike Harcourt announces that new parks will be created on Vancouver Island. Harcourt says his government accepts most of the conclusions of its Commission on Resources and Environ-

ment which recommended in February that logging be limited on the island.

23 June 1994
*Access of
Information Act*

Federal Information Commissioner John Grace releases a report in which he recommends changes to the *Access to Information Act*. Grace's recommendations include bringing Cabinet communications under the Act, cancelling the \$5 fee for access requests and penalizing departments not living up to the Act.

24 June 1994
*Social Programs –
Reform*

Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy tours the provinces to discuss his draft plan for restructuring Canada's social programs. Axworthy promises ample opportunity for public debate in the future. While he had originally planned to publicly release his proposals next month, there are indications that this may be delayed until after the provincial election in Quebec.

28 June 1994
*Trade –
Interprovincial*

The federal and provincial governments make further progress towards an agreement in principle to eliminate some interprovincial trade barriers. The agreement will include more open government procurement practices, a code of conduct to stop provinces from stealing investment from one another, establishment of a dispute-settlement mechanism, and increased mobility among provinces. The provinces fail to agree on the issues of alcoholic beverages, agriculture and food, and energy, leaving them for future negotiations.

29 June 1994
*Taxation –
Newfoundland*

Premier Clyde Wells outlines legislation that would make Newfoundland the only province to offer new firms exemptions from all provincial taxes. In an effort to fight unemployment Newfoundland promises businesses a ten-year tax exemption in exchange for much needed jobs.

29 June 1994
Taxation

Provincial finance ministers refuse to support a national sales tax proposal put forth by federal Finance Minister Paul Martin at a two day federal-provincial meeting in Vancouver. Martin proposes a 10 percent national sales tax to replace the GST and provincial sales taxes. The ministers agree, however, to study the proposal and discuss it again in the fall.

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