

22 SEP 1981

DHC  
Miss Sarginson

I called today on the Chief Justice. I thought he was very nice and agreeable, and he talked about his admiration for Lord Denning and his friends in the legal profession in Britain. Knowing that the Federal Government had been in the past ignorant about how things were going within the Court on the Constitution I felt sure that he would not say anything to me either about the substance of the matter or about the timing, especially on a first official courtesy visit of this sort, and he did not; nor did I think it appropriate to question him about it, which might have embarrassed him, but he did say that the Court would probably let it be known four or five days in advance before it produced its judgement. He also said that, unlike the Prime Minister, he could not dragoon his colleagues, who were highly independent in their views (this, I think, was an oblique way of saying that the Court was divided) and he said that great care had to be taken to produce an accurate French translation of anything affecting Quebec (this might suggest that the judgement is more or less ready, but I am not sure.)

h.

Moran

10 September 1981

cc: B R Berry Esq, North America Department

✓ Pl copy to Mr Day  
Mr Furland  
exp sub x

hB  
2/9

✓ Mr Bertrand

lien R &amp; pa.

hA 2/9