

Anexo 6.

Calgary Declaration, 1997

The narrow defeat of the sovereignty option in Quebec's 1995 referendum made Canada's provincial, territorial and federal governments want to demonstrate to Quebecers that renewed federalism continued to be a viable option to sovereignty. The federal government successfully put a resolution affirming Quebec's Distinct Society to the House of Commons, succeeded in having legislation passed which provided for regional vetoes in respect of certain constitutional amendments, and announced it would withdraw from the field of labour market training in favour of the provinces....

The text of the Calgary Declaration is as follows:

1. All Canadians are equal and have rights protected by law.
2. All provinces, while diverse in their characteristics, have equality of status.
3. Canada is graced by a diversity, tolerance, compassion and an equality of opportunity that is without rival in the world.
4. Canada's gift of diversity includes Aboriginal peoples and cultures, the vitality of the English and French languages and a multicultural citizenry drawn from all parts of the world.
5. In Canada's federal system, where respect for diversity and equality underlies unity, the unique character of Quebec society, including its French speaking majority, its culture and its tradition of civil law, is fundamental to the well being of Canada. Consequently, the legislature and Government of Quebec have a role to protect and develop the unique character of Quebec society within Canada.
6. If any future constitutional amendment confers powers on one province, these powers must be available to all provinces.
7. Canada is a federal system where federal, provincial, and territorial governments work in partnership while respecting each other's jurisdictions. Canadians want their governments to work cooperatively and with flexibility to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the federation. Canadians want their governments to work together particularly in the delivery of their social programs. Provinces and territories renew their commitment to work in partnership with the Government of Canada to best serve the needs of Canadians.

Fuente: Ontario Legislative Library website:

<http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/mon/1000/10273337.htm>