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SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IS MADE ON IMPROVING THE INTERNAL TRADE AGREEMENT

QUEBEC – Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon reports that progress was made on improving the existing Internal Trade agreement at yesterday’s meeting with the Committee of Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers responsible for Internal Trade.

“Along with making progress on the Internal Trade file, Yukon raised other issues including how best to protect agencies like the Yukon Film & Sound Commission from possible trade restrictions,” said Kenyon.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the existing agreement on Internal Trade.

The ministers also approved the terms of an in-depth review of the dispute settlement procedures in the Internal Trade Agreement. The agreed changes are intended to simplify the recourse for business operators that believe they have suffered injury as the result of trade or mobility barriers.

Ministers attending the event agreed that harmonization of regulations and standards are important for a competitive economy. Amendments have been agreed to that strengthen, clarify and increase flexibility in certain areas of the agreement.

The Ministers agreed to meet again next fall in Nova Scotia to maintain the momentum on addressing barriers to internal trade.

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