

709NEWS

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Product Summary:

PREMIER RECEIVES RESPONSE TO LETTER: In November "Premier Williams" wrote to the federal leaders looking for their positions on a variety of issues from the Lower Churchill development to equalization.

Friday, January 06, 2006 06:09PM Item # 06

CBC - TV News

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Standing Order: YES

**PREMIER RECEIVES RESPONSE TO LETTER: In November "Premier Williams" wrote to the federal leaders looking for their positions on a variety of issues from the Lower Churchill development to equalization.**

**Friday, January 06, 2006 06:09PM Item # 06**

**CBC - TV News**

**JONATHAN CROWE: Well, back in November the Premier wrote to Jack Layton, Paul Martin, and Stephen Harper. Danny Williams was looking for their positions on a variety of issues from the Lower Churchill development to equalization. Today this letter arrived from Conservative Leader Stephen Harper. Williams says he's pleased with what's in the letter.**

**DANNY WILLIAMS: Mr. Harper confirmed an indication that happened on December 6th that he was prepared to support a federal guarantee on development of the Lower Churchill. So that's very significant. Some other items that are of importance, equalization in the exclusion of nonrenewable resources from the equalization formula is very important because oil and gas revenues would come out; but as well, mineral revenues for example Voisey's Bay.**

**JONATHAN CROWE: Williams also adds that Harper has committed to station 650 Armed Forces personnel at 5-Wing Goose Bay. He also committed to paying 50% of the cost of finishing the Trans Labrador Highway. So far Stephen Harper is the only federal leader who has replied to Danny Williams.**