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" P R E S S R E L E A S E "

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Lessons For Northern Ireland in US-Canadian Co-Operation: Alderdice

As part of his ten day tour of North America, the Alliance leader Lord Alderdice has been exploring models being used elsewhere which might assist the parties here in finding an agreement. He yesterday met with the Executive Director and Officers from the North South co-operative body between North East Governors and Canadian East Coast Premiers.

He sought to explore the realities of political life of a cross-border co-operative body which was able to offer opportunities and challenges on a North South basis.

After the meeting, Lord Alderdice said, "It is quite clear that the kind of areas Alliance has mapped out as potential areas of co-operation within Ireland are similar to those already undertaken between the US and Canada. I look forward to bringing back to these strands two talks some of the expertise we have heard and indeed information about the limits of the experience.

"The Canadian-American body has much that we can learn from in fields such as energy, the environment, transport, forestry and tourism."

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