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REVIEWER
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86-03-07

You are all aware by now of the response tabled by the Government of Canada to a report of a Parliamentary Committee on Equality Rights. We all support efforts being made to diminish or even eliminate discrimination against some members of our society and in fact, the Force has been very supportive in most of these areas since the beginning of the study.

Concern has been raised, however, by a number of members in connection with the statements made concerning sexual orientation. My views concerning the potential impact of hiring or retaining homosexuals in the Force have been clearly stated and I understand the concerns expressed.

The Government report "Toward Equality" and statements made by the Minister of Justice are somewhat unclear as to precisely how or whether any changes in position concerning sexual orientation will affect the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. While these matters are being studied and evolving within the Governmental process, the practices of the Force will have to remain the same as they have been in the past.

I will endeavour to keep you informed of any notable changes in this area.

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