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ANNEX C

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Information provided by the R.C.M. Police

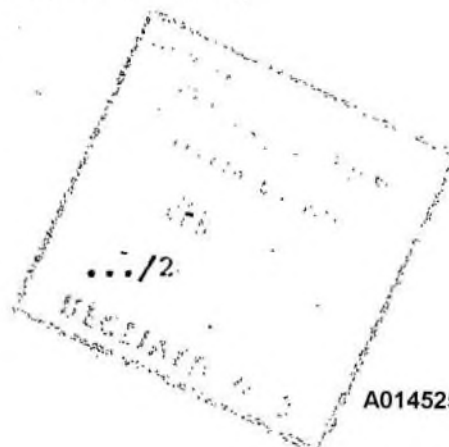
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EMPLOYMENT OF HOMOSEXUALS IN SENSITIVE POSITIONS  
IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

We are acutely aware that the question of the employment of homosexuals in sensitive positions is a contentious issue, especially as social mores change. In spite of the obvious alterations in social mores which have occurred in recent years, we are not convinced that the attitudes and values of the public, as well as those of the homosexual community generally, have sufficiently altered to the extent that established policy and the assessment of the risk involved should be substantially altered.

As you know, a significant body of case histories exist which demonstrate that homosexuals are special targets for attention from foreign intelligence services. As well as utilizing direct coercion in the form of "blackmail", foreign intelligence services attempt to make use of the homosexual's awareness that he is "different". Being "different", the homosexual is frequently less easily bound by the mores, values and allegiances that unite others in a community or society. It is our view that such targeting of homosexuals will continue and that the risk posed by such individuals in sensitive positions will remain high until this sense of "difference" is removed and public attitudes and values (as well as those of homosexuals themselves) are altered to a far greater extent than at present.

We have no objection, of course, to Government initiatives to alter the perception or attitudes of the public toward homosexuality and to alleviate obvious injustices. Employment of homosexuals in sensitive positions at this time, however, would in our view, involve risks that are unacceptable.



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HOMOSEXUALITY IN THE POLICE SERVICEInternal Attitude

Should homosexuals be recruited into the Force, the exceedingly strong antagonism of the vast majority of members toward this practice would create tremendous problems. Knowledge of such recruitment would undermine members' personal pride and pride of unit. In forced accommodation situations such as barracks it would be intolerable for heterosexual persons to have homosexuals placed in their midst. Should a homosexual pursue his orientation in such a confined atmosphere, very significant disruption to discipline could occur resulting in possible physical or mental harm to the homosexual. Heterosexual members would have no confidence in and would refuse in many cases to work with homosexuals.

Isolated Posts and Duty Requirements

Throughout Canada we must maintain a large number of small posts, some of which are located in isolated areas. In this type of posting members are forced to live and work in almost constant close association. When performing some types of duty, such as night patrol and surveillance, members are often required to work in pairs in a vehicle for many hours at a time. When facing dangerous or difficult situations, members must have complete trust in their associates. It can be immediately seen what would occur by assigning a homosexual in any of these circumstances. Antagonism would undoubtedly develop, eliminating any possibility of the necessary harmonious working relationship. Danger of physical harm to the homosexual could occur in some circumstances. The objectivity of a homosexual member investigating any offence with a homosexual connotation would be open to question.

Guarding and Searching Prisoners

The frequent need to control and search prisoners in police custody provides an intimidating atmosphere which could and undoubtedly would be exploited by some homosexuals making improper advances to prisoners. For somewhat similar reasons the Force has always had a strict policy that except for certain emergencies a male member will not search a female and vice versa.

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### Violence

The possibility of a homosexual member making improper advances when taking a person into custody or guarding prisoners or the possibility of the member being known as a homosexual by a prisoner carry high risk of violent resistance by the prisoner which would not otherwise occur.

### Public Acceptance

The vast majority of Canadians are not homosexuals and the same majority are intolerant of homosexuals.

That same public have every right to expect their National Police Force to adhere to high moral standards. Peace officers are aware that they cannot have all the rights exercised by the public as a whole because the public expect more of their police. Changes in legislation would create the risk of members openly displaying homosexual orientation with resultant public repugnance and loss of faith.

### Working with Youth

Our members spend thousands of hours working with community groups, particularly youth groups, in an effort to engender public support and prevent crime. In these circumstances members are authority figures which would provide a homosexual with tempting opportunities to make improper advances. The public must be entitled to absolute assurance that when they put their children in the care of a member of the Force those children will not be subjected to any sort of deviant approach.

### Other Police Forces

Much of what is stated above applies to all police forces in Canada, despite differences in location and deployment. Attitudes among the public and within the various forces would be quite similar.

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