



79-07-26

① Policy Planning  
& Coordination  
Sec. Serv.

FROM  
DE

D.P.S.A IP 371-9

② Bill Dewsnap

Comments ☐ CommentairesMake File(s) ☐ Dossier(s) à ouvrirPerusal - No Action Required ☐ Pour information - aucune suite requiseReturn with Current File ☐ Retourner avec le dossier courantExamination and Action ☐ Pour examen et suiteCheck Records ☐ Vérifier les archivesPrepare Reply ☐ Réponse à rédigerInstructions ☐ DirectivesPrepare Brief ☐ Exposé à préparerSee Sender ☐ Voir l'expéditeurREMARKS  
COMMENTAIRES

To eliminate any chance  
that either side will go off  
in a different direction I am  
continuing the practice we adopted  
two years ago and forwarding  
material recently prepared for  
the Comm. The attachments  
referred to in the Ministerial letter  
are the same as those on  
your file IP 155-2.

REPLY  
RÉPONSE

Please keep me informed  
of any papers Sec. Serv. prepare  
concerning Homosexuality.

Encl.

Letter to Sol Gen 79-07-24

Letter from Fairweather 79-06-28

Letter to Fairweather 79-07-24



② Bill Please ensure that this goes on  
appropriate Sec. Serv. file & that a copy  
goes to "A" Dpr. for info. S 30/7.

A-5 - (REV. 3/71) (7530-21-029-4767)

"S E C R E T"

Our file: G-195-145-2

ATTch  
TO  
79-7-26

1979 July 24

The Honourable Allan Lawrence, P.C., M.P.  
Solicitor General of Canada  
340 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0P8

Dear Sir:

Re: Homosexuality in the Public Service

Recent statements emanating from the Canadian Human Rights Commission are cause for concern. In March of this year that group issued a statement (App. 1) which, in essence, states that though sexual orientation is not a proscribed ground of discrimination under the Human Rights Act they believe it should be and intend to act, to the best of their ability, as though such proscription was in effect. When addressing a meeting of the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition in Ottawa on June 28 last, the Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission was reported to have stressed that one of the primary aims of the Commission is to press for inclusion of sexual orientation in the charter of rights and freedom.

I am sure you understand the very serious ramifications to an organization such as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police should proscription against discrimination on grounds of

. . . /2

homosexuality become law. During 1977, prior to passage of the Human Rights Act, this Force together with the Departments of National Defense and External Affairs, put forward a number of very valid points to illustrate that from both security and suitability points of view homosexuality should not be a prohibited ground of discrimination. These points are equally valid today and I have attached copies for your information (R.C.M.P. App. 2, D.N.D. App. 3 and External Affairs App. 4).

Homosexuality is by no means fully acceptable in Canada and even less so in most other parts of the world. For that reason alone known homosexuals cannot be accepted into the police service. Even if homosexuality becomes more socially acceptable in Canada, at some time in the future, I believe you will find a number of sound reasons in the attached material supporting our position that persons of this inclination should not be accepted into a police organization.

Yours truly,

R.H. Simmonds,  
Commissioner.

BLC/ml