



Solicitor General
of Canada

Solliciteur général
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The Honourable
Bob Kaplan

L'honorable
Bob Kaplan

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Deputy Commissioner J.B. Giroux
Director General
Security Service
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
1200 Alta Vista Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0R2

Dear Deputy Commissioner Giroux:

I am writing to you concerning the continuing problem of the assessment of homosexuality as a factor in the security clearance program carried out by the Security Service under the authority of Cabinet Directive 35.

As you know, there have already been attempts to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act by the addition of "sexual orientation" to the prohibited grounds for discrimination. It also seems possible that attempts may be made to test the interpretation of s.15(1) of the Charter of Rights, which protects individuals against discrimination on grounds of sex, to see if the courts will extend this protection to homosexuals. I expect that this issue will, therefore, continue to have a high public profile. In addition, since the publication of the McDonald report, I have been in receipt of the enclosed correspondence from the Gays of Ottawa, and I am of the view that this type of public and political interest in the treatment of homosexuals by the security community will increase rather than diminish.

Consequently, I believe it would be very advantageous if I was in a position to be able to meet further criticisms or arguments on this issue with a substantive assessment of how this matter has been handled in the recent past. I feel it is necessary for me to have a precise knowledge of the dimensions of this problem,

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as well as a full understanding of how the Security Service, in fulfilling its role within the Government's overall security screening program, has interpreted its authority under Cabinet Directive 35.

I would welcome your comments and suggestions as to the proposal that the Security Service prepare such an assessment.

Yours truly,

Original Signed by
Original signé par
BOB KAPLAN

Bob Kaplan, P.C., M.P.

Attach.

c.c. Mr. Gibson, SITG

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