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Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your letter of October 28, 1986 concerning specific issues arising out of the review of the Canadian Human Rights Act.

With regards to sexual orientation, you noted in your letter that the Government had indicated in Towards Equality its intention to take whatever measures were necessary to ensure that sexual orientation is a prohibited ground of discrimination. I understand that the most meaningful and practical way of fulfilling our commitment is to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to add sexual orientation to the prohibited grounds of discrimination. I would therefore support your recommendation to do so.

The structure and functioning of the Human Rights Tribunal Panels are clearly areas that could benefit from improvements. Your proposal is interesting and merits consideration. However, before

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I confirm my agreement, I would expect that all the options be examined by Cabinet. I would invite you to consider initiating this process in January.

Thank you for apprising me in advance of the important aspects of your proposal.

Yours sincerely,