The Honourable Ray Hnatyshyn, P.C., Q.C., M.P. Minister of Justice
Room 418-N
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to you with respect to Mr. Crosbie's letter of April 25, 1986 addressed to my predecessor concerning the coordination and implementation of "Toward Equality" and the Government's commitment to recommendations 10 and 11 of "Equality for All".

I would, at the outset, like to assure you of my commitment to the implementation of the Government's policy on sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination. While the RCMP does not seem to have formal, explicit policies on sexual orientation, which would have to be altered, its informal practices most certainly will. Consequently, before responding to your predecessor's request, I believe it is essential to examine with the Commissioner of the Force what measures, if any, would be needed to inform RCMP members of Government policy and to ensure that RCMP practices comply with that policy.

Once the Commissioner and I have completed our assessment, I will be able to provide a more definitive response. Until that time, I am confident that the RCMP is putting into effect the Government policy on sexual orientation.

Yours sincerely,

James Kelleher

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P8