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Downy
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CHRONOLOGY OF CANADIAN FORCES POLICY ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION

9 July 1976

- **Policy on Homosexuality in the Canadian Forces issued as Canadian Forces Administrative Order 19-20:**
 - defined "homosexual" as one who has a sexual propensity for persons of one's own sex.
 - required members to report awareness or suspicion that another member is a homosexual to the Commanding Officer, who was required to conduct an investigation
 - if Commanding Officer's investigation tended to substantiate the report, Special Investigation Unit required to investigate further
 - stated that service policy did not allow homosexual members to be retained in the Canadian Forces

October 1985

- **Publication of Equality For All (Report of a Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Equality Rights):**
 - recommended *inter alia* that the Canadian Human Rights Act be amended to add sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination and that the Canadian Forces amend its employment practices

10 February 1986

- **Canadian Forces Policy on Homosexuality amended:**
 - removed obligation for members to report awareness or suspicion that another member is a homosexual
 - required Commanding Officer to conduct preliminary investigation if there was reason to believe that a member had committed a homosexual act

4 March 1986

- **Tabling of Toward Equality (Government response to Equality for All):**
 - would ensure sexual orientation a prohibited ground of discrimination in all areas of federal jurisdiction

September 1986

- **Report of NDHQ Charter Task Force:**
 - recommended that current policy of recommending release for individuals engaged in recent homosexual activity be continued

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20 January 1988

- **"Interim" release policy published, requiring:**
 - that there be "self-acknowledgement of homosexuality" on the part of the member
 - that there be "consideration" or acknowledgement by the Canadian Forces that the member is homosexual
 - that there be a desire by the member to be released from the Canadian Forces, and
 - that there be no objection by the member to being released as "unsuitable for further employment"

If the member did not want to be released under the above conditions, the policy allowed that the member be retained, but with career restrictions (e.g. no promotions and no re-engagement if the member completed a term of service under the interim policy).

21 November 1990

- **Message sent from ADM(Per) to all Commanders following the publication of the Martin Report (External Review of the Canadian Forces Special Investigation Unit):**
 - deleted all references to the Special Investigation Unit in the Canadian Forces Policy on Homosexuality
 - referred any cases of suspected homosexuality to NDHQ for direction before any formal investigation could be initiated

September 1991

- **Interim release policy amended by the Chief of the Defence Staff:**
 - members completing a term of service under the interim policy were permitted to re-engage, pending the completion of a policy review

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