

**National
Gay
Rights
Coalition**

**Coalition
Nationale pour les
Droits des
Homosexuels**

NGRC/CNDH C.P. 2919, Succursale D, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5W9 (613) 233-0152

Our File - N-H R Act
N-Fed Govt

5 October 1976

Hon. Francis Fox
Solicitor General
House of Commons
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0A6

*adv. C
RCMP
6391*

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SOL. GEN. OF CANADA
R.O. _____ S.D.

Dear Mr. Fox:

It has always been the contention of the Canadian gay movement that the federal government discriminates against homosexual men and women, particularly in the public service.

Statements made by an R.C.M.P. spokesperson in this morning's Globe and Mail show that contention to be true.

In stating that he hopes the R.C.M.P. is exempted from federal legislation aimed at giving Canadians access to federal files on themselves, the spokesperson says the legislation would impede normal investigations carried out on prospective officers which "focus on 'character weaknesses' -- alcoholism, homosexuality, and traits such as extreme dependence on one's mother." (Globe and Mail, 5 October, Page 1)

It is shocking that we should still have to refute suggestions that homosexuality is a character disorder.

Yet this is the way the R.C.M.P. thinks.

If this attitude prevails in the hiring of its own officers, how many security clearances and, therefore, promotions and jobs does the R.C.M.P. deny gay people?

Mr. Fox, we consider that discrimination against homosexuals in and by the R.C.M.P. is intolerable and we demand an opportunity to meet with you to discuss this serious problem.

We would like assurances from you that homosexuality will not be a factor in the hiring of R.C.M.P. officers and in the determination of security clearances for federal government employees.

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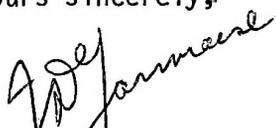
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I refer you also to the attached copy of a letter to the Hon. Ron Basford which explains the effect these discriminatory policies have on gay people in the public service.

I can be reached at 236-7083 (evenings), 998-8554 (work) or 233-0152 (Gays of Ottawa).

Yours sincerely,

✓ 
David Garmaise
Coordinator

c.c. Anti-Discrimination Branch
Public Service Commission