

SECRET

May 12, 1987

Memorandum for [REDACTED]

From: Paul M. Tellier

Update on the Implementation of
Toward Equality by the RCMP and DND

As you requested
 ↑ This note provides an update of the
 January 30, 1987 Memorandum (~~see~~ attached) on this
 subject. *see*

Amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act

- Amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act (CHRA) were considered by CCSD on February 11, 1987. The package included a proposal to add sexual orientation to the grounds of discrimination. Ministers focussed on (in a Ministers only discussion) the nature of the Prime Minister's commitment to caucus that the government would not move on sexual orientation. Ministers agreed that this issue should be reviewed with the Prime Minister and ~~another CCSD discussion scheduled.~~ *discussion of the matter - prior to any further*
- ~~At CCSD on May 6, Mr. Hnatyshyn indicated in response to a question that his proposed amendments to the CHRA were blocked because of the sexual orientation provision, and that he was looking at various options. He added that he had been questioned by opposition members and the press on the timing of the amendments.~~

- *I have ~~also~~ removed this file with the Prime Minister earlier this week at which time he noted that expressed a preference that this consideration of these amendments be delayed.*

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DND Issues

DND's Implementation

- On February 5, Mr. Beatty announced his intention to open all positions, including combat positions, to women, on a trial basis. Since that time, DND has been developing the parameters and schedule for the trial. The Department's recommendations are to be presented to the Chief of the Defence Staff and the Minister by May 31. It may take some time to recruit the number of women necessary to make the trials meaningful and scientifically unbiased, and it will be three or four years before the results of the trials are known.
- With respect to homosexuals, Mr. Beatty indicated to the Standing Committee on Human Rights last February 11 his preference not to permit homosexuals in the Armed Forces. ~~Since then, there has been no action taken with DND with respect to homosexuals.~~

What did he actually say

Issues

RCMP's Implementation

- A Court case pending against the RCMP involves a former member who alleges that he was harrassed by management and had to resign because he is a homosexual. He has asked to be readmitted and is suing for \$1M in damages. The RCMP has filed a defence in this case



He felt that he was harassed because of his sexual orientation

L. Lafontaine/mj