

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

SUBJECT SEXUAL ORIENTATION

BACKGROUND

1. Following a Federal Court of Canada judgement, the policy restricting the service of homosexuals in the CF was cancelled on 27 October 1992. When the policy was cancelled, there were five lawsuits challenging the policy before the Federal Court.

SITUATION

2. One of the five lawsuits (the case of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has been settled as a direct result of the Court judgement and action is in progress, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3. Within the CF, implementation of the policy change is directed at two objectives: to ensure compliance with the policy change and to achieve acceptance of the change.

4. The Chief of the Defence Staff has provided leadership on this issue by endorsing the policy change and by appealing to members' devotion to duty and sense of fairness in making the change work. A new order has been prepared to deal effectively with both heterosexual and homosexual misconduct. As well, other policies are being reviewed to ensure they apply equally to heterosexuals and homosexuals.

5. Although there was evidence that a majority of CF members did not favour a policy change, there have not been any unusual problems reported as a result of the change.

RESPONSIBLE GROUP
PRINCIPAL

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OFFICER AVAILABLE TO
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DATE PREPARED

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