



Public Service Commission  
of Canada

Commission de la fonction publique  
du Canada

President

Présidente

Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0M7

JUL 21 2009

The Honourable Percy E. Downe  
Senator  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Downe:

Thank you for your letter dated July 8, 2009, regarding the creation of an appointment priority right for spouses of members of the Canadian Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police and of persons employed in the public service, whose death is related to the performance of their duties.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) is in the process of amending the *Public Service Employment Regulations* to establish an entitlement for the spouses of the persons mentioned above, to be appointed in priority of all persons, to a position in the Federal public service. This would mean that if the spouse meets the essential qualifications for a job that is advertised and open to non-public servants to apply, the spouse would have a right to be hired. We anticipate that this appointment priority will come into force late this fall.

In terms of operational implementation, the PSC is examining how its computerized systems for priority administration will need to be updated for the coming into force of the appointment priority. In addition, communication and implementation strategies are being developed in order to advise departments and organizations of the new priority entitlement, and for them to be able to inform eligible spouses.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Maria Barrados, PhD