

During this transitional period, the policy respecting 'conditional appointments' will be maintained for most bilingual positions and universal basic language training will continue to be provided to unilingual employees who would need bilingual skills for professional purposes within a relatively short period. However, the system of 'conditional appointments' and the provision of universal basic language training will be terminated as of December 31st, 1983, both because the Government is satisfied that by that time the number of fully-qualified employees and candidates will be sufficient to meet the resource requirements of the Public Service, and because the acquisition of bilingual proficiency should be a factor to be considered among Canadians who are planning a Public Service career.

It would not be acceptable to the Government nor to taxpayers to maintain indefinitely a massive and costly program of universal basic language training for public servants. The present policy of providing universal basic language training at Government expense was designed primarily for purposes of equity related to the careers of unilingual employees, and also to increase the number of bilingual personnel.