

Fight welcomed

EDMONTON (CP) — A 70-year-old university professor says she is delighted that the Alberta Human Rights Commission plans to fight a move by the University of Alberta to reinstate mandatory retirement at age 65.

The commission said last week its lawyers will fight a plan by the university to appeal a 1988 Alberta Court of Queen's Bench ruling that quashed the institution's mandatory retirement policy and allowed Olive Dickason to keep her job.

A board of inquiry had found the policy violated the province's Individual's Rights Protection Act.

The university decided to appeal after the Supreme Court of Canada ruled last month mandatory retirement is a justifiable restriction on individual rights, even though it violates equality provisions in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Dickason said she was surprised by the Supreme Court ruling.