

Gouvernement du Canada Bureau du Conseil privé

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Your File Votre référence -

Our File Notre référence

A-2013-00023 / HB

MAY 22 2013

Mr. Tyler Sommers **Democracy Watch** P.O. Box 821, Station B Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P9

Dear Mr. Sommers:

This is in regard to your access request, completely received by the Privy Council Office on May 9, 2013, for the following information:

Latest clarification obtained from requester for:

"For example, if the departments can search their email servers for communications records easily and quickly to get a number them let's start with that and go from there."

Revised with requester for:

1- A "situation" is a (set of) communication(s) on a single topic/question. For example, one question may involve several communications in order to clarify the question and get a response, this would be considered to be a single situation. It is likely each communication in any given situation would occur within a narrow timeframe.

Communication about a situation could begin from the Commissioner or one of the offices, we are seeking information regardless of who prompted the discussion.

We recommend that, in order to help you find this information more readily, you look for emails and phone calls and letters and etc between these offices and group them based on the topic of the conversation (for example, there may be several emails/other correspondence pertaining to a single question, this would be a single situation). We are seeking the release of a single document per situation (the one most easily released).

2- "We don't have particular topics or areas, we are seeking details on the number of situations each commissioner communicated with the offices. If going back to 2007 under these conditions is too much of a workload please let us know how far back would be practical for your office."



Initial Wording:

"How many times since April 1, 2007 has the Ethics Commissioner communicated in any way with anyone in or employed in any way (including as a contractor or advisor) by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) or Privy Council Officer (PCO) regarding situations that affect Cabinet ministers, their staff, Cabinet appointees and senior government officials covered by the Conflict of Interest Act or about any other matter relating to the Conflict of Interest Act or the Ethics Commissioner's mandate under that act?"

In processing your request, we have found it necessary to consult a few government institutions. As a result, an extension of up to 180 days beyond the 30-day statutory deadline is required to complete your request. Please note that the new legislated due date is **December 9, 2013**. Should the consultations be completed in a shorter timeframe than specified, we will endeavour to respond to your request before the due date.

Please be advised that you are entitled to bring a complaint regarding the processing of this request to the Information Commissioner (7th Floor, 112 Kent Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 1H3). The *Access to Information Act* allows a complaint to be made within sixty days of the receipt of this notice.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Wesch
Director
Access to Information and Privacy

c.c.: Information Commissioner