



OFFICE OF THE LEADER | BUREAU DU CHEF
NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY | NOUVEAU PARTI DÉMOCRATIQUE

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July 4, 2017

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your recent correspondence with respect to the selection of a new Commissioner of Lobbying.

As evidenced by your government's botched appointment of the Official Languages Commissioner, the so-called independent appointments process that you have used to date does not in fact provide the transparency or accountability necessary to prevent partisan appointments. I note with concern that nowhere in your job description do you say that independence from the government or the governing Party is a prerequisite, as it must be.

Quite simply, Officers of Parliament are hired by Parliament to work on behalf of Canadians. They have a fundamental role to play in holding the government to account, and must be scrupulously independent in order to fulfill that role.

New Democrats believe that the current process should be replaced by a Parliamentary appointments committee comprised of one member per recognized party to approve a nominee within 30 days of a tabled nomination from the government, as we proposed in our recent Opposition Day motion. This approach would ensure that appointments are in fact based on merit and truly independent of the sitting government, and that other parties are consulted prior to the appointment, as is legally required.

This process would be ideal for the selection of a new Commissioner of Lobbying, and I recommend that you consider adopting it.

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OTTAWA

HOUSE OF COMMONS | CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES | 202 SPARKS STREET | OTTAWA, ONTARIO, K1P 5B9
TEL/TEL: 613-995-7224 | FAX/TELE: 613-995-4585

Date 2017-07-04
From Thomas - Député Mulcair <thomas.mulcair@parl.gc.ca>
To Justin - Député Trudeau <justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca>

CC

Subject

Letter/Lettre - NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair to PM Trudeau

E Mail Body

Please find a letter from NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair attached.

Regards,

Office of Thomas Mulcair, M.P. (Outremont)

Leader | Chef

New Democratic Party | Nouveau Parti démocratique
