

**Office of the Conflict of  
Interest Commissioner**

2 Bloor Street East  
Suite 1802  
Toronto, Ontario M4W 3J5  
Tel: 416 325-1571  
Fax: 416 325-4330  
E-mail: coicommissioner@ontario.ca  
www.coicommissioner.gov.on.ca

**Bureau du commissaire  
aux conflits d'intérêts**

18e étage, bureau 1802  
2, rue Bloor Est  
Toronto (Ontario) M4W 3J5  
Tél. : 416 325-1571  
Télééc. : 416 325-4330  
Courriel: coicommissioner@ontario.ca  
www.coicommissioner.gov.on.ca



**Ontario**

**Office of the Conflict of  
Interest Commissioner**

**Bureau du commissaire  
aux conflits d'intérêts**

March 28, 2019

Duff Conacher  
Co-founder of Democracy Watch  
P.O. Box 821, Station B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5P9

Dear Mr. Conacher:

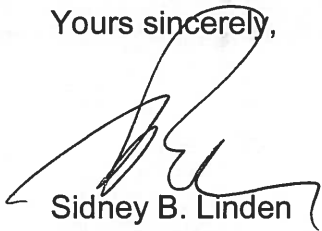
**Re: Request for investigation and public ruling on public servant compliance  
with provincial ethics rules**

This letter is in response to your letter dated March 25, 2019 in which you requested a public ruling into the actions of the Premier, his staff and the former Secretary of the Cabinet. As you outline in your letter, the concerns that you raised with respect to the Premier and his staff fall outside the jurisdiction of our office and as such I am limiting my comments to the aspect of your request that is related to the former Secretary of the Cabinet.

The role of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner is set out in the *Public Service of Ontario Act, 2006* (PSOA) and its regulations. Under the PSOA, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner is the ethics executive for current and former Secretaries of Cabinet. However, the PSOA and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* limit the type of information that this office may disclose. For example, section 3 of Ontario Regulation 384/07 to the PSOA prohibits the disclosure of personal information by the commissioner and sets out the limited exceptions to when such disclosure is permitted. In light of the disclosure restrictions that this office is subject to, we are not able to accommodate your request.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Sidney B. Linden  
Commissioner