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#### APPENDIX F

# **CONSULTATION QUESTIONS**

# **Questions: Roundtables**

# 1. Advertising and Sponsorship

Should government advertising and sponsorship programs be insulated from political influence? If so, how?

## 2. Responsibility

Do deputy ministers have sufficiently clear responsibilities and should they be protected from undue political pressure? If so, how? Is there sufficient clarity in the separation of responsibilities among elected officials, exempt staff, and public servants?

# 3. Accountability

With the growing trend to "horizontality" in government, what new measures or mechanisms are required to ensure accountability? Who should be accountable to whom and for what? For how long? Does accountability cease when a person leaves a position?

#### 4. Accountability

What sanctions, if any, should be imposed on public servants, elected officials, exempt staff and others who abuse public funds?

#### 5. Transparency

Should "values and ethics" guidelines for public servants be linked to specific responsibility and accountability processes to safeguard against wrongdoing? Should they be enshrined in legislation?

## 6. Transparency

What limits, if any, should there be to full transparency of government programs and management and expenditure decision/actions? What mechanisms are acceptable to protect secret/confidential information and decisions that would still allow an acceptable level of transparency to the public?

#### 7. Transparency

How effective is the current Access to Information legislation? Should it be expanded? Does it ensure that public servants enforce the spirit as well as the letter of the law?

#### 8. General

What protections should be afforded to public servants who believe they have witnessed impropriety in the management of government programs ("whistleblowers")?

#### 9. General

How can government departments and officials learn from their mistakes and develop lessons learned that will not be impeded by inappropriate political influences?

## **Questions: Website**

- 1. Should government advertising and sponsorship programs be insulated from political influence? If so, how?
- 2. What protections should be afforded to public servants who believe they have witnessed impropriety in the management of government programs ("whistleblowers")?
- 3. Ministerial responsibility requires that a minister be accountable to the House of Commons for the exercise of power. Are there exceptions to the concept of full ministerial responsibility for all the actions of a department? If so, how?
- 4. Accountability is the requirement to explain and accept responsibility for carrying out an assigned mandate in light of agreed upon expectations. What would you do to promote greater accountability for the management and use of public funds?
- 5. Should "values and ethics" guidelines for public servants be linked to specific responsibility and accountability processes to safeguard against wrongdoing? Should this be enshrined in legislation?
- 6. Is there anything else you would suggest to Justice Gomery in pursuing his mandate?