



**OPENING REMARKS OF COMMISSIONER OLIPHANT AT PART II (POLICY
REVIEW) STANDING HEARING, JANUARY 21 AND 22, 2009 AT 111 SUSSEX
DRIVE, OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

WELCOME

I am pleased to welcome everyone to the hearing this morning.

I would especially like to welcome the students from the University of Ottawa who are here this morning with their professor, Mr. Drapeau. I hope you will find this morning's hearing interesting.

PURPOSE OF HEARING

The purpose of the hearing this morning is to hear applications for standing and funding for the policy review part of this inquiry.

MANDATE – POLICY REVIEW

The mandate of this inquiry is to report upon, and make recommendations, regarding two specific areas of policy. The first area deals with ethics rules governing the holders of public office in Canada. The second area concerns policies and practices of the Privy Council office governing how the prime minister's correspondence is handled.

NAMES OF APPLICANTS

The applicants who have applied for standing for part 11 – the policy review, include:

- The Attorney General of Canada

- Mr. Karlheinz Schreiber

- Democracy Watch

- Jefford Industries Limited and Arthur Jefford

RULES

To obtain full or partial standing as a party, an applicant must demonstrate that the applicant is directly and substantially affected by the policy review.

I may grant standing as an intervener to an applicant who satisfies me that the applicant has a genuine concern about issues raised by the policy review **and** that the applicant has a particular perspective or expertise that may assist me.

I may recommend funding for a party or an intervener who would not otherwise be able to participate in the policy review if that party or intervener

demonstrates to my satisfaction that he, she or it does not have sufficient financial resources.

PROCESS

For the purposes of the policy review, I have retained the services of three experts, all academic scholars, to assist me in resolving the policy issues with which I must deal. Those experts will each be providing me with research papers, two of which deal with ethics and the third with policies related to the prime minister's correspondence.

Persons or organizations granted standing as parties or interveners for the policy review part of the inquiry may make written submissions on any one or more of the research papers. Those written submissions must be filed with the commission by May 19, 2009.

Persons or organizations granted standing as either parties or interveners will be entitled to participate in an experts' forum to be held June 1 to 4 in Ottawa.

Persons or organizations who have standing and are at the forum will be entitled to question the experts on their findings as set forth in the research

papers they are writing. The three papers will be posted on the commission's website by April 6, 2009.

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Before concluding these opening remarks, I wish to add that the commission has published a consultation paper that can be found on the commission's website.

Any interested member of the public, whether granted standing or not, is invited to make a written submission to the commission on the policy questions. Any member of the public wishing to make a written submission on the policy issues must file that submission with the commission no later than March 31, 2009.

The commission will offer some of the members of the public, who have made written submissions, to present their views at public hearings to be held in Ottawa from June 8 to 10, 2009.

ORDER OF APPEARANCE

The order of appearance for applicants for standing and funding will be as follows:

1. Attorney General Of Canada
2. Jefford Industries and Arthur Jefford
3. Karlheinz Schreiber
4. Democracy Watch