



Office of the Ethics Commissioner  
Bureau du commissaire à l'éthique

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June 7, 2006

Mr. Duff Conacher  
Coordinator, Democracy Watch  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1P 5P9

Dear Mr. Conacher:

I wish to respond to your letter of May 25, 2006, in relation to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Treasury Board President John Baird, and PMO staff person Sandra Buckler, as well as 13 promises from the Conservative Party platform, which were allegedly not reflected in Bill C-2.

I appreciate your interest in all matters related to public governance and conflict of interest issues. As you know, with respect to any conflict of interest, my mandate is defined by our enabling legislation, 'An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act'.

I know that you have already made your views known to the legislative committee on May 30. This is the appropriate forum for such debate. As well, I presented my own proposals and comments on this Bill when I appeared before the committee on May 16, 2006. Therefore, although I know that some of your views are different than mine, I do not believe that any of the issues you raised fall within the realm of my mandate. Rather they are appropriately within the purview of Parliament itself, within its current review of Bill C-2. I will therefore provide no further comments.

Cordially,

Bernard J. Shapiro  
Ethics Commissioner

