



Chronology – Conflict of Interest Rules for Federal Legislators

- 20 December 1867** The *Rules, Orders and Forms of Proceeding of the Legislature Assembly of Canada*, a report of a committee that assisted the Speaker in forming the *Standing Orders of the House of Commons*, is concurred in by the House and becomes the rules under which the House operates. Standing Order 21 states: “No Member is entitled to vote upon any questions in which he or she has a direct pecuniary interest, and the vote of any Member so interested will be disallowed.” (In 2004, this Standing Order is repealed and replaced by the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*, an appendix of the Standing Orders.)
- 20 December 1868** House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization created. This is currently known as the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs.
- 3 May 1886** In the House of Commons, a Member’s vote is questioned for reasons of pecuniary interest. The practice is to accept the Member’s word. (See p. [1011](#) of the *Debates*.)
- 4 June 1900** In the House of Commons, a Member’s vote is questioned for reasons of pecuniary interest. The practice is to accept the Member’s word. (See cols. [6607-6610](#) of the *Debates*.)
- 9 July 1906** Debate in the House on Standing Order 21. Determined that a vote with respect to a pay increase to Members did not amount to a case of direct monetary interest because the increase would apply to all Members rather than just one, or to certain Members but not to others. (See cols. [7470-7473](#) of the *Debates*.)
- 22 May 1956** Ruling of Speaker Louis-René Beaudoin with respect to the challenge of a Member’s vote due to allegations of pecuniary interest. It was decided that the matter would not be taken up by the House.
- 30 November 1964** Prime Minister Lester Pearson writes a letter to his ministers and colleagues with the purpose of “setting forth a code of ethics and morality that should be followed by them and their staffs in the performance of the public responsibilities.” He forbids bribery and conflicts of interest, making reference to the growing public concern about corruption in government. The letter is a response to charges of bribery and coercion in the House of Commons in relation to a Montreal extradition case.

- August 1968** Referred to by PM Pierre Trudeau in a statement in the House on July 18, 1973: “Individuals on becoming Ministers have been urged to give up directorships in commercial entities [sic] and I referred in August 1968, to the basic policy of disposal or of the establishment of trusts in cases when conflict could arise.” This would have been raised after the June 25, 1968 general election and before the 28th Parliament began on September 12, 1968. (See p. [5736](#) of the *Debates*.)
- 28 January 1970** The President of the Privy Council submits to the House of Commons a September 1969 report by Professor Jeremy Williams of the University of Alberta on the subject of conflict of interest legislation. He recommends five cardinal rules applicable to all Crown services and agents, members of the government and their assistants, and all Members of Parliament and Senators, prohibiting: buying or selling an interest in property to or from the Crown; deriving a profit or advantage from dealings with property of the Crown; entering into competition with the Crown; using insider information; and being influenced by financial or other inducements. He also recommends creating of two committees (Senate and House) to handle conflict of interest issues arising out of Parliament.
- 17 July 1973** Allan MacEachen, President of the Privy Council, tables in the House of Commons a Green Paper entitled *Members of Parliament and Conflict of Interest*. The paper concludes that the House should adopt legislation, the *Independence of Parliament Act*, designed to prevent breaches of conflicts of interest among Members and Senators. Legislation also addresses conflict of interest involving Cabinet ministers. (See p. [5687](#) of the *Debates*)
- 18 July 1973** Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau reveals guidelines for Cabinet ministers, instead of legislation, in a statement in the House of Commons. (Ministers would be required to resign certain corporate positions, sever business associations, and dispose of certain financial interests while placing others in trust.) The PM says that the “government has concluded that guidelines are preferable to additional legislation specifically relating to ministers since certain aspects of conduct cannot readily be defined except in relation to particular circumstances. An element of discussion with the Prime Minister of the day, seems the best solution.” (See p. [5735](#) of the *Debates*.)
- December 1973** Conflict of interest guidelines for public service workers are outlined in the House of Commons by the Prime Minister. These consisted essentially of principles that the government applied to ministers, political staff and Governor-in-Council appointees. ([First Report of the Ethics Counsellor, 2001-2002](#), Appendix 8.)
- May 1974** Office of Assistant Deputy Registrar General (ADRG) is created within the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, to manage the federal government’s guidelines on conflict of interest and to process the disclosure of Cabinet ministers’ assets. The first ADRG is David Taylor.

15 November 1974	The first registry of Cabinet ministers' financial holdings is opened for public inspection.
27 November 1974	Mitchell Sharp, President of the Privy Council, tables in the House the same Green Paper as Allan MacEachen and places a motion on the <i>Order Paper</i> to have it referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. (See p. 1706 of the <i>Debates</i>)
10 June 1975	The House of Commons Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections tables its report on the Green Paper, generally endorsing its provisions but recommending some changes.
29 June 1976	The Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee tables its report recommending changes to the Green Paper proposal.
26 June 1978	Bill C-62, the <i>Independence of Parliament Act</i> , is introduced in the House of Commons along with proposed <i>Standing Orders of the House of Commons</i> and <i>Rules of the Senate</i> changes. The bill dies on the <i>Order Paper</i> .
16 October 1978	Bill C-6, the <i>Independence of Parliament Act</i> , is reintroduced with minor amendments. Proposed changes to the <i>Standing Orders of the House of Commons</i> and the <i>Rules of the Senate</i> are tabled in the House on October 30, 1978. Bill C-6 is referred to committee on March 8, 1979, but the bill dies on the <i>Order Paper</i> when Parliament is dissolved on March 26, 1979.
30 October 1978	The Rules for the House and the Senate accompanying the <i>Independence of Parliament Act</i> are tabled.
March 1979	<i>Report of the Royal Commission on Financial Management and Accountability</i> (Lambert Commission Report) is issued.
1 August 1979	New conflict of interest guidelines applicable to Cabinet ministers, their spouses and dependent children are issued by Prime Minister Joe Clark. Personal assets and those of a non-commercial nature (e.g. residences, savings bonds, and works of art) are exempt; assets considered to be non-conflicting (e.g. family business, farms, corporate securities not publicly traded) were to be publicly disclosed. Other assets had to be sold or placed in a blind trust and certain professional, corporate and commercial activities were prohibited altogether.
28 April 1980	Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau issues a revised set of guidelines similar to those of Prime Minister Joe Clark, but with the provisions dealing with spouses and dependent children removed.
1 May 1980	Conflict of Interest guidelines for Cabinet ministers are tabled by the Liberal government. The guidelines were similar to those of August 1979 but do not specifically apply to spouses and dependent children; however, ministers were not to transfer their assets to their spouses or dependent children to avoid the guidelines. (See p. 609 in the <i>Debates</i>)

- 21 June 1982** A Member in the House has his vote questioned on the grounds of direct pecuniary interests. (See p. [18709](#) in the *Debates*)
- Winter 1982** Robert Boyle replaces David Taylor as the Assistant Deputy Registrar General.
- 7 July 1983** Appointment of a Task Force on Conflict of Interest by the federal government for a major review of the policies and procedures on conflict of interest, their evolution, and whether new approaches to the matter should be devised. This is in response to a former minister of PM Pierre Elliott Trudeau's government allegedly lobbying his former deputy minister (the Gillespie Affair).
- May 1984** Release of the Report of the Task Force on Conflict of Interest entitled *Ethical Conduct in the Public Sector* (the Starr-Sharp Report). The report recommends the creation of a Code to replace the existing guidelines. Draft *Ethics in Government Act* appended to the report, which contains a Code of Ethical Conduct and would have established an independent Office of Public Sector Ethics, with an Ethics Counsellor.
- 1985** *Report of the Special Committee on Reform of the House of Commons* (the McGrath Report) issued. The Committee was appointed December 5, 1984, to act as a Parliamentary Task Force on the reform of the House of Commons to examine the power, procedures, practices, organization and facilities of the House of Commons.
- 9 September 1985** The Mulroney Government establishes the *Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders*. The Code is based primarily on a number of the Starr-Sharp Task Force's recommendations. It consolidates in one document the rules for ministers, parliamentary secretaries, ministerial staff, also public servants and Governor-in-Council appointees. Instead of setting up an independent office to administer the Code, it was decided that the Code would continue to be administered by the Assistant Deputy Registrar General. The Code comes into effect on January 1, 1986.
- 10 September 1985** A Member abstains from voting on a matter in which the Member has a direct pecuniary interest. (See p. [6473](#) of the *Debates*.)
- 25 November 1985** House of Commons agrees that the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services will consider matters related to establish a Register of Members' Interests. (See p. [8771](#) of the *Debates*.)
- 3 February 1986** Standing Order 22 is adopted by the House, obliging the Clerk to keep a public registry of sponsored travel. It reads: "The Clerk of the House shall maintain a public registry of foreign travel by Members of parliament in which Members shall register all visits they make outside Canada, arising from or relating to their membership in the House of Commons where the cost of any such travel is not wholly borne by the Consolidated Revenue Fund, the Member personally, any interparliamentary association or friendship group recognized by the House of Commons and any recognized party, together with the name of the sponsoring person or organization which paid for travel to and or from Canada."

- 18 March 1986** Five Members travelled to South Korea, some of whom did not register the trip before departing leading to debate in the House with respect to Standing Order 22. The Leaders of the House concluded that a Member may register the trip before or after it takes place.
- 26 March 1986** Report of the House of Commons Standing Committee of the Management and Members' Services on the Register of Members' Interests. The government had asked the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services to consider whether it would be appropriate to establish a registry of members' interest (disclosure of remuneration members receive for sitting on the boards of public or private firms or for performing other duties or occupying other positions in various organizations). The Committee concludes that there is no need to alter the existing legislation respecting Members' conflicts of interest.
- 7 May 1986** Report of the Senate Standing Committee on Standing Rules and Orders on the Register of Senators' Interests.
- 15 May 1986** Appointment of the Honourable William Parker as a Commissioner to inquire into and report on the allegations of conflict of interest relating to the Honourable Sinclair Stevens.
- June 1987** Jean-Pierre Kingsley replaces Robert Boyle as Assistant Deputy Registrar General with the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.
- 3 December 1987** Release of the Report of the Parker Commission on Conflict of Interest (*Commission of Inquiry into the Facts of Allegations of conflict of Interest Concerning the Honourable Sinclair M. Stevens*). The report found that Mr. Stevens had violated conflict of interest rules on 14 counts. The report also "suggested that the ADRG be redesigned and given a separate and more visible status."
- 24 February 1988** Introduction and first reading of Bill C-114, the *Members of the Senate and House of Commons Conflict of Interest Act*.
- 21-22 September 1988** A legislative committee is created to study Bill C-114. It holds three meetings but is unable to complete its deliberations prior to its dissolution on October 1, 1988.
- 9 November 1989** Introduction and First Reading of Bill C-46, the *Members of the Senate and House of Commons Conflict of Interest Act* (the Bill is essentially the same as Bill C-114 with a few minor changes). The bill dies on the *Order Paper* when Parliament is prorogued on May 12, 1991.
- 17 February 1990** Georges Tsai replaces Jean-Pierre Kingsley as Assistant Deputy Registrar General. (Mr. Kingsley becomes the Chief Electoral Officer.)
- 22 November 1991** First reading of Bill C-43, the *Members of the Senate and House of Commons Conflict of Interest Act*. (This bill is virtually the same as Bill C-114 and Bill C-46.) On the same date, the subject matter of the bill is referred to as Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons.

- 10 June 1992** The Special Joint Committee on Conflict of Interests' *Report to the Senate and to the House of Commons: Subject Matter of Bill C-43 (Conflict of Interests for Parliamentarians)* is tabled in the Senate and House. (See p. [11719](#) in the *Debates*)
- 11 March 1993** First reading of Bill C-116, the *Conflict of Interest of Public Office Holders Act*, which includes amendments to the *Parliament of Canada Act*.
- 30 March 1993** Second reading of Bill C-116 in the House and its referral to a Special Joint Committee similar to the committee that had reported in June 1992.
- June 1993** Howard Wilson replaces Georges Tsai as Assistant Deputy Registrar General.
- 3 June 1993** Report of the Special Joint Committee to the House of Commons recommends that Bill C-116 not be proceeded with. A similar report is made to the Senate on the same day. Both Bill C-43 and Bill C-116 die on the *Order Paper* when the 34th Parliament is dissolved on September 8, 1993.
- 25 June 1993** Order in Council P.C. [1993-1487](#): "Order transferring to the Department of Industry, Science and Technology the control and supervision of certain portions of the Public Service and Transferring to the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology the powers, duties and functions of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Amalgamating and Combining the Departments of Industry, Science and Technology and the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs under the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology."
- 18 January 1994** The [Speech from the Throne](#) announces that an ethics counsellor would be appointed to advise ministers and public service workers and to examine the need for legislation. This person to replace the Assistant Deputy Registrar General. The Counsellor would have jurisdiction over the *Lobbyist Registration Act* and the *Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders*.
- 16 June 1994** Howard Wilson is appointed Ethics Counsellor, in charge of lobbying and conflict of interest. He reports directly to the Prime Minister and serves under the general direction of the Clerk of the Privy Council (announced in speech by PM Jean Chrétien, see [Hansard, p. 5395](#).) Administrative support for the Office of the Ethics Counsellor is provided by Industry Canada (Industry replaces the offices of the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, and of Consumer and Corporate Affairs in March 1995). A new [Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders](#), little changed from its predecessor, is also released. (It was subsequently amended in 2003, 2004, and 2006.)
- May 1995** Auditor General of Canada's May report includes "[Chapter 1](#): Ethics and Fraud Awareness in Government."
- June 1995** The House and Senate pass motions to establish a Special Joint Committee to develop a Code of Conduct. (See [Order of Reference](#); Motion in House of Commons, June 19, 1995; Motion in Senate, June 28, 1995)

- 26 February 1996** Howard Wilson is designated as the Ethics Counsellor for the purposes of the *Lobbyists Registration Act*. (See Order in Council PC [1996-0266](#))
- March 1996** The House and Senate pass motions to establish a Special Joint Committee to develop a Code of Conduct. (See House of Commons *Journals*, [March 12, 1996](#); Senate *Journals*, [March 19, 1996](#).)
- 27 May 1996** The House is informed that a Member's vote (that of the Minister of Finance) on one question would not be applied to another question in which the Member has a personal interest. (See p. 3041 of [Hansard](#).)
- March 1997** *A Strong Foundation: Report of the Task Force on Public Service Values and Ethics* (Tait Report) issued. This is one of nine task forces led by deputy ministers that were established by the Clerk of the Privy Council in 1995. This task force took the form of a Study Team established by the Canadian Centre for Management Development and led by John Tait, former Deputy Minister of Justice and then a Senior Fellow of the Centre.
- 20 March 1997** The Special Joint Committee on a Code of Conduct tables its proposed [Code of Official Conduct](#), the Milliken-Oliver report. (*Code of Official Conduct*, Sessional Paper No. 2/35-622, see evidence/minutes of Committee [here](#).)
- 9 December 1997** Finance Minister Paul Martin rises to indicate that in the process of the House agreeing to apply the results of one vote to another vote, he had been registered to vote on the *Canada Marine Act*. He asks for and is granted the unanimous consent of the House to have his vote deleted from the record. (See [Hansard](#).)
- 1999** Office of Public Service Values and Ethics is established.
- 6 May 1999** Ethics Counsellor Howard Wilson [appears](#) before the Standing Committee on Industry regarding the Main Estimates for 1999-2000.
- 15 March 1999 to 2002** Bill [C-488](#), NDP MP Gordon Earle's private Member's bill, which establishes a Parliamentarians' Code of Conduct, is introduced. The bill dies on the *Order Paper* when the first session of the 36th Parliament ends on September 17, 1999, and is reintroduced as Bill [C-226](#) in the next session. The bill again dies on the *Order Paper* when an election was called and the 36th Parliament ends in October 2000. In the 37th Parliament, 1st session, NDP MP Alexa McDonough introduces private Member's bill, Bill [C-299](#), to enact a Parliamentarians' Code of Conduct and the position of an Ethics Commissioner, and BQ MP Stéphane Bergeron introduces Bill [C-388](#), which enacts a statute governing ministers. Neither bill proceeds. In the 37th Parliament, 2nd Session and again in the 3rd Session, NDP MP Alex McDonough introduces private Member's bill, Bill [C-417](#), which would create a Parliamentarians' Code of Conduct and the position of an Ethic Commissioner. Neither bill proceeds.
- 17 October 2000** The Auditor General of Canada in his October 2000 report recommends that parliamentarians revisit the issue of conflict of interest/code of conduct.

- 2001** Treasury Board adopts the *Internal Disclosure of Information Concerning Wrongdoing in the Workplace Policy*. The policy required organizations in the core public administration to establish procedures for reporting wrongdoing and created the position of Public Service Integrity Officer as a neutral third party for investigating wrongdoing in the workplace.
- 23 May 2002** The Prime Minister announces that the [Milliken-Oliver report](#) would form the basis of a code of conduct for Members of Parliament and Senators, to be developed in the fall.
- 23 May 2002** Government announces an eight-point plan of action on government ethics.
- June 2002** Prime Minister issues [Guide for Ministers and Secretaries of State](#). Guide requires that ministers uphold high standards of ethical conduct in both their public and their private lives. It promotes ethical conduct by providing more transparent criteria for assessing ministerial actions and makes it clear that ministers have a responsibility to respect the non-partisanship of the public service.
- 13 June 2002** Ethics Commissioner Howard Wilson [appears](#) before the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology to discuss the guidelines for ministers involved in organizing leadership campaigns, as well as any other matters concerning his mandate.
- 23 October 2002** A draft bill and code are tabled in the Senate and the House, which would create the position of the Ethics Commissioner and amend the *Rules of the Senate and Standing Orders of the House of Commons: "Proposals to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (Ethics Commissioner)"* and *"Proposals to amend the Rules of the Senate and the Standing Orders of the House of Commons to implement the 1997 Milliken–Oliver Report."* (See Hansard for the [House](#) and [Senate](#).)
- 10 April 2003** The House of Commons and Senate committees to which the draft bill had been referred, reports to their respective chambers ([27th Report](#) of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs; [8th Report](#) of the Senate Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament).
- 30 April 2003** Bill [C-34](#), *An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (Ethics Commissioner and Senate Ethics Officer) and other Acts in consequence*, receives first reading in the House of Commons.
- June 2003** Privy Council Office issues [Guidance for Deputy Ministers](#) and a management accountability framework developed by the Treasury Board Secretariat.
- June 2003** The *Values and Ethics Code for the Public Service* is adopted.
- 13 June 2003** The [38th Report](#) of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on Bill C-34, an *Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (Ethics Commissioner and Senate Ethics Officer) and other Acts in consequence*, is presented to the House. Committee recommends amendments to the bill.

- 13 June 2003** The [40th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs is presented to the House. Interim report on matters related to the inclusion of a code of conduct in the *Standing Orders*. No government response requested.
- 1 October 2003** Bill [C-34](#) is passed the House of Commons.
- 2 October 2003** Bill [C-34](#) is given first reading in the Senate.
- 30 October 2003** [51st Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, on the *Consideration of matters related to the inclusion of a code of conduct in the Standing Orders of the House*, is presented to the House. It contains a proposed *Conflict of interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*. No government response requested.
- 30 October 2003** [52nd Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, on the *Consideration of matters related to the inclusion of a code of conduct in the Standing Orders of the House*, is presented to the House. It includes opinions from the Canadian Alliance, Bloc Québécois, and New Democratic Party. No government response requested.
- 7 November 2003** Bill [C-34](#) is amended by the Senate at third reading and a message sent to the House to that effect.
- 12 November 2003** Parliament is prorogued and Bill [C-34](#) dies on the *Order Paper*. (See legislative process of the bill [here](#).)
- November 2003** [Report](#) of the Auditor General of Canada. Tabling of the report is postponed to February 2004 due to the prorogation of Parliament. It includes a review of accountability and ethics in government” ([Chapter 2](#)), and a government-wide audit of sponsorship, advertising and public opinion research (chapters [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).
- December 2003** A revised [Conflict of Interest and Post-employment Code for Public Office Holders](#) is issued. It is the first update of the Code since 1994.
- 13 December 2003** Prime Minister Paul Martin releases [Governing Responsibly: A Guide for Ministers and Ministers of State](#).
- 4 February 2004** [Ethics, Responsibility, Accountability: An Action Plan for Democratic Reform](#) is tabled in the House of Commons. It proposed appointing an independent Ethics Commissioner and a Senate Ethics Officer reporting to their respective Chamber, the adoption of codes of conduct, the new [Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders](#) and new guidelines for ministers and ministers of state entitled, *Governing Responsibly: A Guide for Ministers and Ministers of State*.
- 11 February 2004** Bill C-34 is reintroduced in the House of Commons as Bill [C-4](#); deemed passed and referred to the Senate.
- 19 February 2004** The Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities appointed, with Justice John Gomery of the Superior Court of Quebec as the sole commissioner (the Gomery Commission).

- 31 March 2004** The Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities appointed, with Justice John Gomery of the Superior Court of Quebec as the sole commissioner (the Gomery Commission).
- 26 April 2004** The House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs adopts the [51st Report](#) of the 2nd session of the 37th Parliament—the Conflict of Interest Code—as the Committee’s 25th report in the 3rd session of the 37th Parliament and presents it in the House the following day.
- 26 April 2004** Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding his proposed appointment to the position of Ethics Commissioner. The Committee recommends that the House ratify his appointment; the House of Commons approves his appointment three days later, and he begins his duties on May 17, 2004.
- 29 April 2004** Bernard Shapiro is appointed as Ethics Commissioner for a term of five years, replacing Howard Wilson. He is responsible for administering the *Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders*, and, effective October 2004, and the *Conflict of Interest and Ethics Code for Members of the House of Commons*. (See PC [2004-0656](#).)
- 29 April 2004** The House of Commons concurs in the [25th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, thus ensuring that the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* would be appended to the *Standing Orders of the House Commons*.
- 17 May 2004** Bill [C-4](#), *An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (Ethics Commissioner and Senate Ethics Officer) and other Acts in Consequence* is proclaimed. Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro begins his duties.
- 4 October 2004** The *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*, which is appended to the Standing Orders ([Report 25](#)), comes into force at the beginning of the 38th Parliament. Standing Orders 21 and 22 are repealed. These state: “No Member is entitled to vote upon any question in which he or she has a direct pecuniary interest, and the vote of any Member so interest will be disallowed”; and “The Clerk of the House shall maintain a public registry of foreign travel by Members of parliament in which Members shall register all visits they make outside Canada, arising from or relating to their membership in the House of Commons where the cost of any such travel is not wholly borne by the Consolidated Revenue Fund, the Member personally, any interparliamentary association or friendship group recognized by the House of Commons and any recognized party, together with the name of the sponsoring person or organization which paid for travel to and or from Canada.”
- 7 October 2004** Revised [Conflict of Interest and Post-employment Code for Public Office Holders](#) tabled in the House of Commons (Sessional Paper No. 8525-381-02).
- 18 October 2004** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs Subcommittee on the Disclosure Statement (*in camera*).

- 21 October 2004** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs Subcommittee on the Disclosure Statement (*in camera*).
- 26 October 2004** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs Subcommittee on the Disclosure Statement (*in camera*).
- December 2004** Mr. Sinclair Stevens succeeds in having Justice Parker's 1987 Report set aside. Federal Court judge John O'Keefe declared null and void the findings of the Parker Inquiry. The court [ruled](#) that Mr. Parker's definition of conflict of interest exceeded that in the guidelines governing ministers in the Mulroney Cabinet, and that this step exceeded Mr. Parker's mandate. In voiding the definition of conflict of interest, the judge found that Mr. Stevens's behaviour did not violate the guidelines that governed him, since no valid guidelines existed.
- 8 December 2004** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics on the mandate of the Committee. The Committee's related [Third Report](#) recommended changes to the Standing Orders and to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*, and was presented to the House December 14, 2004. Among the Committee's recommendations: that the Commissioner submit to the Committee proposed rules to administer the Members' Code and that the Committee undertake a comprehensive review of the Members' Code five years after it comes into force and every five years thereafter. No date of concurrence.
- 9 December 2004** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs Subcommittee on the Disclosure Statement (*in camera*).
- January 2005** Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Judy Sgro resigns amid allegations of conflict of interest and ethical breaches.
- 31 January 2005** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2004](#) is tabled.
- 10 February 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics on funding mechanisms. Commissioner Shapiro notes: "The legislation chosen by Parliament was to grant my office parliamentary status, establish the Ethics Commissioner as an officer rather than an agent of Parliament, and to define the budgetary approval process through the Speaker of the House of Commons. [...] I'm satisfied with the arrangement, because I think the arrangement I have works well in this context." The Committee tables its [Fourth Report](#), on May 10, 2005, which is concurred in by the House on October 5, 2005.
- 24 February 2005** The Senate, following consideration of the matter in Committee of the Whole, approves the appointment of Mr. Jean T. Fournier as the first Senate Ethics Officer.

- 1 April 2005** Mr. Fournier begins his duties as the Senate Ethics Officer.
- 14 April 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs Subcommittee on the Disclosure Statement.
- 21 April 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs Subcommittee on the Disclosure Statement (*in camera*).
- 10 May 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics on the Main Estimates for 2005-2006.
- 10 May 2005** House of Commons Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics tables its [Fourth Report](#), *A New Process for Funding Officers of Parliament*. It is concurred in by the House October 5, 2005. See Committee work [here](#). Among the recommendations is Recommendation One, which states: “That a new permanent parliamentary body be created as the budget-determination mechanism for the funding of all Officers of Parliament. [...]”
- 11 May 2005** The Standing Senate Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament tables its Third Report, containing as appendices a proposed Code and consequential changes to the *Rules of the Senate*.
- 18 May 2005** The Senate adopts the Third Report, bringing the *Conflict of Interest Code for Senators* into effect immediately.
- June 2005** [The Grewal Inquiry](#) released (Code).
- 2 June 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics to discuss the non-publication of the report of the Ethics Commissioner on the Sgro inquiry.
- 9 June 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics on the letter of the Ethics Commissioner tabled in the House of Commons by Judy Sgro on May 10, 2005.
- 21 June 2005** [The Sgro Inquiry](#) issued.
- 23 June 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics on his report on the Sgro inquiry.
- 28 June 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro is [discussed](#) by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics on a motion of non-confidence in the Ethics Commissioner. NDP MP Ed Broadbent moved that the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics no longer has confidence in the Ethics Commissioner. After debate, the question was put on the motion and it was negative, by a show of hands: Yea: 4; Nay: 7.

- October 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro puts out [Issues and Challenges](#) 2005, a report intended to address a number of conceptual and procedural challenges that had arisen during the first year of operation of the Office of the Ethics Commissioner.
- 5 October 2005** The House of Commons concurs in the [Fourth Report](#) of the House of Commons Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics, which recommended a new funding process for officers of Parliament. No government response is requested. A two-year pilot project, the Advisory Panel on the Funding and Oversight of Officers of Parliament, is implemented. Note, the Office of the Ethics Commissioner is not subject to the Panel. For further information about the study, see the *Canadian Parliamentary Review* article entitled "[Funding Officers of Parliament](#)," by Kristen Douglas and Nancy Holmes.
- Fall 2005** The Advisory Panel on the Funding and Oversight of Officers of Parliament is created, following the concurrence by the House in the [Fourth Report](#) on the House of Commons Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics. The Panel is a two-year pilot project designed by the Treasury Board Secretariat with the participation of five officers of Parliament. For further information on how the Panel worked, see the *Canadian Parliamentary Review* article entitled "[Funding Officers of Parliament: Canada's Experiment](#)," by Jack Stillborn. The project is evaluated in March 2008, by former Clerk of the House William Corbett.
- 18 October 2005** House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs [meets](#) on a question of privilege relating to an inquiry conducted by the Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro.
- 20 October 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on a question of privilege relating to an inquiry conducted by the Ethics Commissioner.
- 25 October 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on a question of privilege relating to an inquiry conducted by the Ethics Commissioner.
- 1 November 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on a question of privilege relating to an inquiry conducted by the Ethics Commissioner.
- 1 November 2005** [Phase 1](#) of the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities (the Gomery Commission) released.
- 3 November 2005** Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on his report on activities in relation to public office holders in 2004-2005.
- 15 November 2005** House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on a question of privilege relating to an inquiry conducted by the Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro (*in camera*).

- 17 November 2005** House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on a question of privilege relating to an inquiry conducted by the Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro (*in camera*).
- 18 November 2005** The House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs presents its [51st Report](#) to the House, finding Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro in contempt of the House of Commons. They do not recommend any sanctions. The report is not concurred in by the House.
- 24 November 2005** Deputy Ethics Commissioner Robert Benson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on its study of [Issues and Challenges 2005](#) report.
- December 2005** [The Smith Inquiry](#) (Code) released.
- January 2006** [The Grewal-Dosanjh Inquiry](#) (Code) released.
- 30 January 2006** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2005](#) is tabled.
- February 2006** The new government of Prime Minister Stephen Harper releases a slightly revised [Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders](#).
- 1 February 2006** [The final report \(phase 2\)](#) of the Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities (Gomery Commission) is released. The report recommends changes to the civil service and its relation to government.
- March 2006** [The Harper-Emerson Inquiry](#) (Code) released.
- 30 May 2006** The [7th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on *Matters relating to the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*, recommends changes to section 24 of the Code to exclude any information relating to employment of dependent children. The report is concurred in by the House.
- June 2006** [The Vellacott Inquiry](#) (Code) released.
- June 2006** [The Gallant Inquiry](#) (Code) released.
- 12 December 2006** The [Federal Accountability Act](#) (Bill C-2) receives Royal Assent. See stages of study and debates [here](#). The bill creates the *Conflict of Interest Act*, replacing the [Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders \(2006\)](#), and creates the position of the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, replacing previous position of Ethics Commissioner. The new Commissioner will be responsible for administering both the *Conflict of Interest Act* and the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*. The bill, among other measures, was to abolish the position of the Senate Ethics Officer and transfer the duties of that position to the yet-to-be created position of the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner. The Senate amends the bill to keep the position; the House disagrees. The Senate insists on the amendment and the House finally concurs.
- 31 January 2007** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2006](#) is tabled.

- 30 March 2007** [The Obhrai Inquiry](#) (Code) released.
- 31 March 2007** The resignation of Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro becomes effective. For overview of circumstances leading to this event, see Ian Green, "[The Harper Impact on the Federal Ethics Regime](#)," CPSA-ASCP, February 2007.
- 2 April 2007** Robert Benson, Deputy Ethics Commissioner under Bernard Shapiro, is appointed Interim Ethics Commissioner (PC-[2007-0459](#)). Mr. Benson leaves the position at the end of April for a United Nations post related to ethics.
- 11 June 2007** The [54th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs recommending changes to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* is concurred in by the House.
- 14 June 2007** Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to information, Privacy and Ethics on the certificate of her nomination to the position of Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner.
- 9 July 2007** Parts of the *Federal Accountability Act* related to the *Conflict of Interest Act* and the Office of the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner come into force.
- 9 July 2007** Appointment of Mary Dawson as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner comes into effect (recommendation of [5th Report](#) of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics).
- 9 July 2007** Regulation regarding service of documents under the *Conflict of Interest Act* comes into force.
- 20 November 2007** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to advise the Committee of her priorities and recommend priorities to the Committee.
- 31 January 2008** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2007](#) is tabled.
- March 2008** Former Clerk of the House issues his assessment regarding the Advisory Panel on the Funding and Oversight of Officers of Parliament, a pilot project created in the fall of 2005, following the concurrence by the House in the [Fourth Report](#) on the House of Commons Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics. This assessment is not publicly available, but excerpts are quoted in a letter from seven agents of Parliament (Interim Auditor General, Lobbying Commissioner, Chief Electoral Officer, Information Commissioner, Privacy Commissioner, Official Languages Commissioner, Interim Public Sector Integrity Commissioner) regarding the independence and accountability of agents of Parliament (sent [February 16, 2011](#), as well as on September 2011 to the House and Senate Speakers, to the chairs of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, the Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Standing Committee Official Languages, the Standing Committee Government Operations and Estimates, and others).

- 10 April 2008** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to discuss the 2008-2009 Main Estimates.
- 7 May 2008** [The Thibault Inquiry](#) (under the Code—paragraph 3(2)(a) and section 8, Furthering Private Interests; subsections 12(1), Disclosure of a Private Interest, and 12(4) Disclosure of a Private Interest: Other Circumstances; and section 13, Debate and Voting).
- 4 June 2008** [The Soudas Examination](#) issued (under the Act—under the provisions of the 2006 Code, subsections 3(7), 22(3) and 22(8), Preferential Treatment and Private Interests).
- 5 June 2008** The [motion adopted](#) by the House of Commons in response to *The Thibault Inquiry*, results in amending section 3 of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*.
- 12 June 2008** The Honourable Jeffrey J. Oliphant is appointed to conduct an inquiry into certain allegations respecting the business and financial dealings between Mr. Schreiber and Mr. Mulroney (Order in Council PC [2008-1092](#)).
- 17 June 2008** [Response to the motion](#) adopted by the House of Commons on June 5, 2008, for further consideration of *The Thibault Inquiry* report (under the Code).
- 16 July 2008** [The Flaherty Report](#) issued (under the Act—subsection 3(4) of the 2006 Code, Private Interests, and subsections 7(1) and (2), Recusals).
- 4 December 2008** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on matters related to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*.
- 18 December 2008** [The Flaherty Report](#) issued (under the Act—subsection 3(7), 22(3) and 22(8) of the 2006 Code, Preferential Treatment; and subsections 22(4) and 22(8) of the 2006 Code, Influence).
- 27 January 2009** The [2nd Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding matters related to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* (disclosure forms) is concurred in by the House.
- 2 February 2009** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2008](#) is tabled.
- 2 March 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to provide a briefing.
- 24 March 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Subcommittee of Gifts under the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons (in camera)*.
- 20 April 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the 2009-2010 Main Estimates.

- 28 April 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Subcommittee of Gifts under the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons (in camera)*.
- 30 April 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Subcommittee of Gifts under the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons (in camera)*.
- 7 May 2009** Bill [C-30](#), *Senate Ethics Act*, is introduced. The bill abolishes to position of the Senate Ethics Officer and transfers the duties and functions of that position to the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner. The bill dies in the House.
- 26 May 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Subcommittee of Gifts under the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons (in camera)*.
- 4 June 2009** The [18th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding matters related to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*, reflecting the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Gifts, is concurred in by the House of Commons.
- 17 June 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson’s first appearance before the Commission of Inquiry into Certain Allegations Respecting Business and Financial Dealings Between Karlheinz Schreiber and the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney (the Oliphant Commission). Opening Statement no longer publicly available.
- 23 June 2009** Liberal Senator James Cowan introduces Bill [S-239](#), to amend the *Conflict of Interest Act (gifts)*. It narrows the circumstances in which public office holders and families may accept gifts, and expands circumstances in which reporting public office holders make disclosures and public declarations regarding gifts they and their families receive. The bill does not pass the Senate.
- 25 June 2009** [The Watson Report](#) (under the Act—section 2, Private Interests, section 4, Conflict of Interest, section 6, Decision-making, and section 21, Duty to Recuse).
- 28 July 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson’s second appearance before the Oliphant Commission. Opening Statement no longer publicly available.
- 6 October 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on the 2008-2009 annual report in respect of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*.
- 20 October 2009** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on 2008-2009 annual report in respect of the *Conflict of Interest Act*.
- 13 January 2010** [Discontinuance Report](#) relating to an examination of allegations of partisan advertising of government initiatives (under the Act—section 5, General Duty, subsection 6(1), Decision-making; section 7, Preferential Treatment; and section 9, Influence.)

- 9 March 2010** Liberal Senator Joseph Day introduces Bill [S-208](#), to amend the *Conflict of Interest Act (gifts)*. It narrows the circumstances in which public office holders and families may accept gifts, and expands circumstances in which reporting public office holders make disclosures and public declarations regarding gifts they and their families receive. The bill does not pass the Senate.
- 30 March 2010** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2009](#) is tabled.
- 22 April 2010** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to discuss the Main Estimates for 2010-2011.
- 29 April 2010** *The Cheques Report* issued (under the [Code](#) and the [Act](#)—Act: section 4, Conflict of Interest, sections, 5, General Duty, section 7, Preferential Treatment, section 8, Insider Information, and section 9, Influence).
- 13 May 2010** [The Raitt Report](#) issued (under the [Code](#): section 14, Gifts and other Benefits, section 25, Evasion; and the [Act](#): section 6, Decision-making, and section 7, Preferential Treatment).
- 31 May 2010** The Honourable Jeffery J. Oliphant releases his report on the Inquiry into Certain Allegations Respecting Business and Financial Dealings Between Karlheinz Schreiber and the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney (the Oliphant Commission). Report includes three volumes and makes a number of recommendations for amendments to the *Conflict of Interest Act*. See [Volume 1 \(Executive Summary\)](#), [Volume 2 \(Factual Inquiry—with Chapter 11\)](#), [Volume 3 \(Policy and Consolidated Findings and Recommendations\)](#).
- 7 September 2010** [The Dykstra Report](#) (under the Code – section 14, Prohibition Gifts and other Benefits; section 8, Furthering Private Interests; and under the [Act](#) – section 11, Gifts and other Advantages; section 16, Fundraising).
- 5 October 2010** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on the 2009-2010 annual report in respect of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*.
- 26 October 2010** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the 2009-2010 annual report in respect of the *Conflict of Interest Act*.
- 16 February 2011** Letter sent from seven agents of Parliament (Interim Auditor General, Lobbying Commissioner, Chief Electoral Officer, Information Commissioner, Privacy Commissioner, Official Languages Commissioner, Interim Public Sector Integrity Commissioner) regarding the independence and accountability of agents of Parliament (sent [February 16, 2011](#), as well as on September 2011 to the House and Senate Speakers, to the chairs of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, the Standing Committee on Access to Information Privacy and Ethics, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Standing Committee Official Languages, the Standing Committee Government Operations and Estimates, and others).
- 21 March 2011** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2010](#) is tabled.

- 29 September 2011** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on union sponsorship at the spring 2011 NDP convention.
- 14 July 2011** [The Guergis Report](#) issued (under the Code, section 8, Furthering Private Interests; section 9, Using Influence; and section 11, Attempts).
- 14 November 2011** [Debate](#) on NDP motion to refer *The Guergis Report* to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs to resolve outstanding questions. House Speaker Andrew Scheer comments on subsection 28(9) of the Code, which gives the Member who is the subject of the report the right to make a statement in the House: Ms. Guergis is no longer a Member, and the Committee is invited to examine the Code in light of this situation and make appropriate recommendations. House voted to concur in the report.
- 15 December 2011** *Conflict of Interest Act* amended regarding outside employment (subsection 15(1.1) added). The amendment is included in [Bill C-13, Keeping Canada's Economy and Jobs Growing Act](#), which received Royal Assent on December 15, 2011.
- 13 March 2012** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Liaison Committee (*in camera*).
- 22 March 2012** [The Paradis Report](#) issued (under the Act—section 7, Preferential Treatment and subsection 6(1), Decision-making).
- 27 March 2012** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the Main Estimates for 2012-2013.
- 27 March 2012** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2011](#) is tabled.
- 26 April 2012** [The Raitt Report](#) issued (under the Act – section 11, Gifts and other Advantages).
- 18 May 2012** *Referrals from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner: [The Heinke and Charbonneau Report](#)* (under the Act— section 5, General Duty, and subsection 6(1), Decision-making).
- 31 May 2012** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs in the context of their five-year review of the Code.
- 6 June 2012** The [27th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding the review of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* is concurred in by the House. The Committee requests an extension in its deliberations on the Code.
- 18 July 2012** *Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner: [The Clement Report](#)* (under the Act—section 4, Conflict of Interest).
- 17 October 2012** [The Sullivan Report](#) issued (under the Act—subsection 35(2), Prohibition on Representation).

- 11 December 2012** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act (in camera)*.
- 28 January 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act (in camera)*.
- 30 January 2013** Commissioner Mary Dawson provides the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics with a written submission outlining her recommendations for changes to the *Conflict of Interest Act*. **No longer available publicly.**
- 30 January 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the Act. Meeting cut short because of votes in the House.
- 4 February 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the Act. Appearing are Gregory Levine (in an individual capacity) and Ian Greene (York University).
- 6 February 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the Act. Appearing are Duff Conacher (Democracy Watch) and Lori Turnbull (Dalhousie University).
- 7 February 2013** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women regarding sexual harassment in the federal workplace.
- 11 February 2013** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics as part of its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*.
- 13 February 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*. Appearing are Joe Wild (Privy Council Office) and Lorne Sossin (York University).
- 25 February 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*. Appearing are Guy Giorno (Canadian Bar Association) and Yves Boisvert (École nationale d'administration publique).
- 2 March 2013** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2012](#) is tabled.
- 4 March 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*. Appearing are Jim Patrick & W. Scott Thurlow (Government Relations Institute of Canada) and Karen Shepherd (Lobbying Commissioner).

- 6 March 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*. Appearing are Lynn Morrison (Integrity Commissioner of Ontario) and Paul D.K. Fraser (Conflict of Interest Commissioner of British Columbia).
- 18 March 2013** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics as part of its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*.
- 26 March 2013** [The Hill Report](#) issued (under the Act—section 33, Prohibitions after Leaving Office, subsection 35(3), Prohibition on Former Ministers, section 37, Report to Commissioner).
- 22 April 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*—summary of evidence (*in camera*).
- 30 April 2013** *Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner: [The Fonberg Report](#)* (under the Act—subsection 6(1) Decision-making, section 7, Preferential Treatment, section 21, Duty to recuse).
- 1 May 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*—summary of evidence (*in camera*).
- 6 May 2013** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics as part of its statutory five-year review of the Act. Meeting is *in camera*. Also met in public on the Main Estimates for 2013-2014.
- 3 June 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*—summary of evidence (*in camera*).
- 10 June 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*—consideration of draft report (*in camera*).
- 13 June 2013** Liberal Senator Joseph Day introduces Bill [S-222](#), to amend the *Conflict of Interest Act* (*gifts*). It narrows the circumstances in which public office holders and families may accept gifts, and expands circumstances in which reporting public office holders make disclosures and public declarations regarding gifts they and their families receive. The bill does not pass the Senate.
- 26 June 2013** Bill [C-60](#), *Economic Action Plan 2013 Act, No. 1*, receives Royal Assent. It amends the definition of “public office holder” in the *Conflict of Interest Act* to include person appointed or employed under the *Public Service Employment Act* who are heads of missions.

- 26 June 2013** NDP Member Alexandrine Latendresse’s private Member’s bill, Bill [C-419](#), receives Royal Assent. It creates the *Language Skills Act* which requires persons appointed to certain offices, including the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, “must, at the time of his or her appointment, be able to speak and understand clearly both official languages.”
- 7 August 2013** [The Paradis Report](#) (under the Act—section 5, General Duty; section 11, Gifts and other Advantages).
- 16 October 2013** Conservative MP Mark Adler reintroduces Bill [C-520](#), *Non-Partisan Offices of Agents of Parliament Act*. The bill dies in the Senate.
- 31 October 2013** Liberal Senator Joseph Day introduces Bill [S-207](#), to amend the *Conflict of Interest Act (gifts)*. It narrows the circumstances in which public office holders and families may accept gifts, and expands circumstances in which reporting public office holders make disclosures and public declarations regarding gifts they and their families receive. The bill does not pass the Senate.
- 19 November 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act*—briefing by the analysts (*in camera*).
- 21 November 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act (in camera)*.
- 21 November 2013** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the Senate Standing Committee on Banking regarding Budget Bill C-4, in relation to changes to the Canadian financial institutions legislation.
- 26 November 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act (in camera)*.
- 28 November 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act (in camera)*.
- 3 December 2013** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics [meets](#) on its statutory five-year review of the *Conflict of Interest Act* — adopt draft report (*in camera*).
- 3 December 2013** [The Paradis Report](#) (under the Code and the Act—section 5 [Code], Assisting Constituents, and section 64 [Act], Activities on Behalf of Constituents).
- 12 December 2013** Definition of “public office holder” and “reporting public office holder” amended in *Conflict of Interest Act* (paragraphs 2(1)(e) and (f), subsections 62.1(1) and 62.2(1)). Part of [Bill C-4](#), *Economic Action Plan 2013 Act No. 2* receives Royal Assent on December 12, 2013.
- 4 February 2014** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the Senate Standing Committee on National Finance, regarding the Main Estimates for 2013-2014.

- 5 February 2014** The House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics presents its report on the [Statutory Review of the Conflict of Interest Act](#) to the House of Commons.
- 25 February 2014** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics regarding Bill C-520, CPC MP Mark Adler’s private Member’s bill on the non-partisanship of agents and officers of Parliament. The bill dies in the Senate.
- 28 March 2014** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2013](#) is tabled.
- 6 May 2014** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the Main Estimates for 2014-2015.
- 10 June 2014** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to discuss the certificate of her nomination to the position of Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner.
- 12 June 2014** Reappointment of Mary Dawson as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner for two years (see [Journals](#)). (Recommended in the [5th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics.)
- 19 June 2014** [Bill C-23](#) amends the definition of “public office holder” and “reporting public office holder” in the *Conflict of Interest Act* to include the Chief Electoral Officer (paragraph 2(1)(a)).
- 26 June 2014** [The Lynn Report](#) issued (under the Act—Prohibited Activities, paragraph 15(1)(b) and 15(1)(e)).
- 29 September 2014** Issued: *Order Designating Public Office Holders and Reporting Public Office Holders under Section 62.2 of the Conflict of Interest Act*. (See [Order](#).)
- 1 October 2014** The [1st Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics, regarding the Statutory Review of the *Conflict of Interest Act* concurred in by the House. A [government response](#) was presented to the House on June 5, 2014, as required, given that the report was tabled in the House in February 2014. No action is taken to amend the *Conflict of Interest Act*.
- 20 November 2014** [The Glover Report](#) is issued (under the Act—Fundraising).
- 4 December 2014** *Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner: [December 2014 Report](#)* issued (under the Act).
- 4 February 2015** The [28th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs recommending changes to the Standing Orders, including changes to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* is concurred in by the House.

- 19 February 2015** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on its review of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*.
- 26 February 2015** Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner: [The Bonner Report](#) issued (under the Act—Acceptability of Gifts).
- 10 March 2015** [The Finley Report](#) issued (under the Act—a Preferential Treatment).
- 26 March 2015** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2014](#) is tabled.
- 25 May 2015** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the Main Estimates for 2015-2016.
- 18 June 2015** The [39th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs recommending changes to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*, following a review of the Code, is concurred in by the House. (Extensive changes to the Code.)
- 15 September 2015** [The Kosick Report](#) (under the Act—subsection 35(1), Prohibition on Contracting).
- 20 October 2015** The [39th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs recommending changes to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* comes into effect, the day after the October 19, 2015 federal election. (Extensive changes to the Code).
- 13 November 2015** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau publicly releases, for the first time, all [ministerial mandate letters](#). The letters outline the government’s vision to deliver change and shared prosperity, and provide a framework for what ministers are expected to accomplish, including specific policy objectives and challenges to be addressed. Each letter notes that ministers must ensure that they are aware of and fully compliant with the *Conflict of Interest Act* and Treasury Board policies and guidelines. Ministers are each given a copy of *Open and Accountable Government*, with mention of the ethical guidelines set out in [Annex A](#) of the document, which apply to ministers and their staff. Ministers must uphold the highest standards of honest and impartiality, and the performance of their official duties and arrangement of their private affairs should bear the closest public scrutiny. This obligation is not fully discharged by simply acting within the law.
- 27 November 2015** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau makes public [Open and Accountable Government](#) (2015). The document lays out individual and collective ministerial responsibilities, details on ministers’ relationships with the prime minister and Cabinet, their portfolios and Parliament. It outlines the standards of conduct expected of ministers—including accountability and ethical guidelines—and addresses a range of administrative, procedural and institutional matters. It also provides guidance to ministerial exempt staff.

- 6 January 2016** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau makes public, for the first time, the [Guide for Parliamentary Secretaries](#). It is designed to provide them with information about their role within Canada’s system of responsible parliamentary government. The guide outlines the rules and policies that relate to their work, including their activities pertaining to House of Commons business and their departmental-related duties as assigned by their ministers.
- 18 February 2016** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs to provide a briefing on the Office and the Committee’s recent review of the Code.
- 23 February 2016** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to brief the Committee as the Committee considers its future business.
- 24 February 2016** [The Gill Report](#) issued (under the Act—section 9, Influence).
- 7 March 2016** The [4th Report](#) of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding matters relating to the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* is concurred in by the House (disclosure forms).
- 24 March 2016** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2015](#) is tabled.
- 3 May 2016** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the Main Estimates for 2016-2017.
- 16 June 2016** Introduction of Bill [C-22](#), *An Act to establish the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians and to make consequential amendments to certain Act*. Amends definition of “public office holder” in subsection 2(1) of the *Conflict of Interest Act*. See progress of legislation [here](#).
- 9 July 2016** Appointment of Mary Dawson as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner on an interim basis, for a term of six months, effective July 9, 2016. Issued by Privy Council Office (*Parliament of Canada Act*, subsection 82(2); see Privy Council Office, PC [2016-0661](#)).
- 13 September 2016** [The Vennard Report](#) issued (under the Act—subsection 11(1), Gifts and other Advantages).
- 27 October 2016** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to provide a briefing for the Committee (“exit interview”).
- 17 November 2016** *Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner: [The Bennett Report](#)* issued (under the Act—section 11, Gifts and other Advantages).
- 16 December 2016** Appointment of Mary Dawson as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner on an interim basis, for a term of six months, effective January 9, 2017. Issued by Privy Council Office (*Parliament of Canada Act*, subsection 82(2); see Privy Council Office, PC [2016-1148](#)).

- 21 December 2016** [The Philpott Report](#) issued (under the Act—section 7 and subsection 6(1), Preferential Treatment and Decision-making).
- 24 March 2017** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2016](#) is tabled.
- 11 April 2017** Bill [C-44](#), *Budget Implementation Act, 2017, No. 1*, is introduced. Makes the Parliamentary Budget Officer an independent Officer of Parliament, with restrictions, and amends the *Conflict of Interest Act* to include the Parliamentary Budget Officer in subsections 2(1) and 24(2) (see clauses 187 and 188 of the bill).
- 21 April 2017** [The Toews Report](#) issued (under the Act—subsections 34(1) and 35(1), Previously acting for the Crown and Prohibition on contracting).
- 2 May 2017** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the Main Estimates for 2017-2018.
- 25 May 2017** [The Wright Report](#) issued (under the Act—subsection 6(1) and section 9, Decision-making and Influence).
- 7 June 2017** Appointment of Mary Dawson as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner on an interim basis, for a term of six months, effective July 9, 2017. Issued by Privy Council Office (*Parliament of Canada Act*, subsection 82(2); see Privy Council Office, PC [2017-0699](#)).
- 17 October 2017** Commissioner Mary Dawson [appears](#) before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on Bill [C-50](#), *Canada Elections Act (political financing)*.
- 30 October 2017** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics agrees unanimously to study the *Conflict of Interest Act*, as seen in the following motion (see [minutes](#) and [testimony](#)):
- “That, pursuant to Standing Order 108(3)(h)(vi), the Committee undertake a study of the *Conflict of Interest Act* and how it relates to public office holders; that the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner be invited to discuss her 2013 recommendations provided in the context of the five-year review of the Act; and that this study begin in January or February 2018.”
- 11 December 2017** Certificate of Nomination of Mario Dion as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner tabled in the House of Commons (Sessional Paper No. 8540-421-25-07, see [Journals](#)).
- 11 December 2017** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics agrees that Mario Dion, nominee for the position of the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, be invited to appear. (See [minutes](#).)
- 12 December 2017** Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the certificate of nomination as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner. (See [minutes](#) and [testimony](#).)

13 December 2017	The House of Commons agrees, on division, to approve the appointment of Mario Dion as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, for a term of seven years. (See Journals .)
20 December 2017	The Trudeau Report issued under the Act and Code (Act: contravened sections 5, 11, 12 and 21, but not subsection 6(1) or section 7; Code: did not contravene section 14).
9 January 2018	Appointment of Mario Dion as Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner comes into effect. (See PC 2017-1557 .)
10 January 2018	Former Commissioner Mary Dawson appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics regarding <i>The Trudeau Report</i> . (See evidence .)
8 February 2018	Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics in the context of its review of the <i>Conflict of Interest Act</i> . (See evidence .)
7 March 2018	Commissioner Mario Dion sends the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics information related to questions that were asked by the Committee during his February 8, 2018 appearance.
23 March 2018	Commissioner Mario Dion sends the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics information related to the Memorandum of Understanding signed with Lobbying Commissioner Nancy Bélanger on March 22, 2018.
27 March 2018	The List of Sponsored Travel for 2017 is tabled.
1 May 2018	Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the 2018-2019 Main Estimates. (See evidence .)
7 June 2018	Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, on Bill C-50, <i>An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (political financing)</i> . (See evidence .)
7 June 2018	The Carson Report – Discontinuance of an Examination issued (under the Act – section 33, Influence peddling and subsection 44(3), Discontinuing a report).
14 June 2018	The Angus Report I and the Angus Report II issued (under the Code – subsection 27(2.1), commenting publicly on an inquiry).
18 June 2018	The Morneau Report issued (under the Act – subsection 6(1), Decision-making, and section 21, Recusal).
22 June 2018	The Chapman Report – <i>Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner</i> issued (under the Act – subsection 6(1), Decision-making, and section 21, Recusal).
12 September 2018	The LeBlanc Report issued (under the Act – subsection 6(1), Decision-making).
4 December 2018	The Kusie Report issued (under the Code – subsection 27(2.1), Commenting publicly on an inquiry).

12 December 2018	The Kristmanson Report issued (under the Act – subsection 11(1), Accepting gifts).
28 March 2019	The List of Sponsored Travel for 2018 is tabled.
16 May 2019	Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the 2019-2020 Main Estimates. (See evidence .)
30 May 2019	The Smolik Report issued (under Act—section 33 and subsection 35(2), Taking improper advantage, Making representations on behalf of an entity to an organization with which one had direct and significant dealings).
10 July 2019	The Vandenbeld Report issued (under Code – sections 9 and 11, using position as Member to further their private interests or improperly further another’s, engaging in prohibited activities).
14 August 2019	The Trudeau II Report issued (under Act – section 9, Using position to seek to influence the decision of another).
5 February 2020	The Peschisolido Report issued (under Code – subsections 20(1) and 21(3), Fully disclosing private interests during initial compliance, Notifying of material change).
10 March 2020	The Wernick Report – <i>Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner</i> issued (under Act – section 9, Using position to seek to influence the decision of another).
12 March 2020	The List of Sponsored Travel for 2019 is tabled.
22 April 2020	The Miller Report — <i>Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner</i> issued (under Act – General conflict of interest concerns).
22 April 2020	The Qualtrough Report — <i>Referral from the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner</i> issued (under Act – General conflict of interest).
9 July 2020	The Report on Alleged Wrongdoing by a Tribunal Member issued. Referred by the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner (under Act – General conflict of interest).
16 September 2020	Commissioner Dion issued an order under subsection 41(1) of the <i>Conflict of Interest Act</i> to nine regulatees to restrict their official dealings with former reporting public office holder and ambassador David MacNaughton.
30 September 2020	The Report on an Alleged Wrongdoing by a Deputy Minister issued. Referred by the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner (under Act – Influence).
19 November 2020	The Maloney Report issued (under Code – failing to disclose his private interests and those of his family).
24 November 2020	Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance on government Spending, WE Charity and the Canada Student Service Grant. (See evidence .)

- 27 November 2020** Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on Questions of Conflict of Interest and Lobbying in Relation to Pandemic Spending. (See [evidence](#).)
- 11 March 2021** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2020](#) is tabled.
- 13 May 2021** The [Trudeau III Report](#) issued (under Act – subsection 6(1) Decision-making; section 7 preferential treatment; section 21 duty to recuse).
- 13 May 2021** The [Morneau II Report](#) issued (under Act – subsection 6(1) Decision-making; section 7 Preferential treatment; section 21 Duty to recuse).
- 28 May 2021** Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics on the 2021-2022 Main Estimates. (See [evidence](#).)
- 10 June 2021** House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics tables in the House of Commons the 2nd Report, [Questions of Conflict of Interest and Lobbying in Relation to Pandemic Spending](#). The report details the events surround the awarding of the contribution agreement for the administration of the Canada Student Service Grant, among other areas of focus.
- 15 June 2021** The [Ratansi Report](#) issued (under Code – section 8, furthering private interests).
- 14 December 2021** Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Procedure and House Affairs Committee to provide a briefing focussed on the functioning of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*. (See [evidence](#))
- 3 February 2022** Commissioner Mario Dion appears before the House of Commons Procedure and House Affairs Committee on its review of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*. (See [evidence](#))
- 3 March 2022** The [List of Sponsored Travel for 2021](#) is tabled.

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