



Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner
Commissaire aux conflits d'intérêts et à l'éthique

The *Conflict of Interest Act*

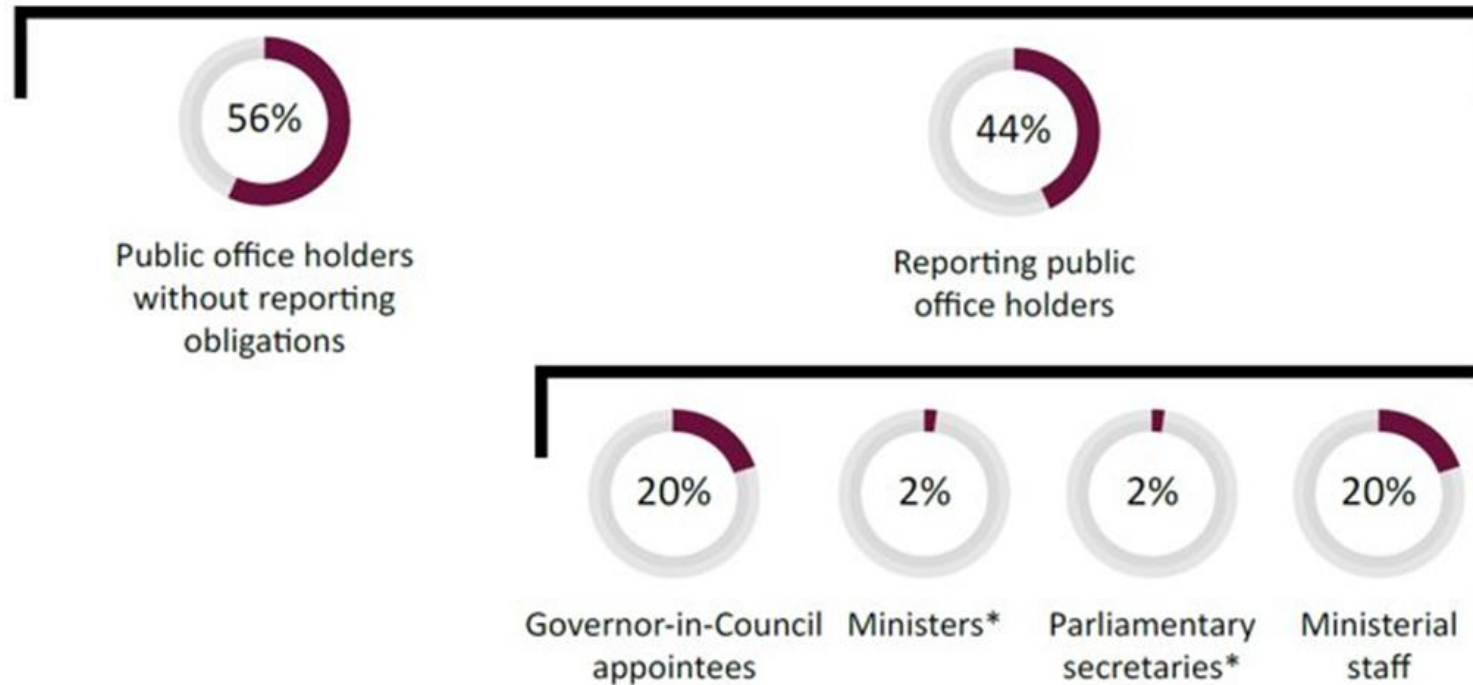
Key information for new public office holders

OVERVIEW

- What is a conflict of interest?
- Recusals
- Prohibitions
- Gifts
- Post-employment
- Helpful links

THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

Snapshot of public office holders on March 31, 2022



**Also subject to the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*

WHAT IS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST?

“[...] a public office holder is in a **conflict of interest** when he or she exercises an official power, duty or function that provides an opportunity to further his or her private interests or those of his or her relatives or friends or to improperly further another person’s private interests.”

RECUSALS

- Recuse yourself from certain situations
- A conflict of interest screen can be set up

PROHIBITIONS

- Decisions that place you in conflict of interest
- Giving preferential treatment
- Using insider information
- Using your position to influence a decision to further private interests



PROHIBITIONS (CONT'D)

- Being influenced by offers of outside employment
- Accepting certain gifts
- Employing or contracting with family members
- Soliciting funds if it results in a conflict of interest
- Trying to sidestep the rules

When you have questions, avoid issues and contact the Office.

GIFTS

“No public office holder or member of his or her family shall accept any gift or other advantage, including from a trust, that might **reasonably be seen** to have been given to influence the public office holder in the exercise of an official power, duty or function.”



POST-EMPLOYMENT

You have lifetime prohibitions:

- Taking improper advantage of your previous public office
- Switching sides
- Improperly using information obtained while in office

HELPFUL LINKS

- [What is a conflict of interest?](#)
- [Summary of rules for public office holders](#)
- [Recusal and conflict of interest screens:
Rules for public office holders](#)
- [Gift rules for public office holders](#)
- [Post-employment: Rules for public office holders](#)

TO REACH US

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