

Details on the upcoming annual report, Paul Dubé is nominated among Canada's most influential lawyers, and the International Ombudsman Institute visits Toronto -- all that and more in the Ombudsman's May newsletter.

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WATCH FOR OUR 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT IN LATE JUNE!

Read about successful complaint resolutions, progress updates on major investigations, and complaint trends across all areas of the Ombudsman's oversight. Stay tuned to our Twitter and Facebook for release date details.

OMBUDSMAN NOMINATED AS ONE OF CANADA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL LAWYERS

For the second straight year, Ontario Ombudsman Paul Dubé is among the nominees for [Canadian Lawyer magazine's Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada](#). Online voting for the Top 25 is open through May 22, and results will be announced in August. The survey can be found [here](#).



The list, chosen by the magazine's internal editorial panel, readers and past honourees,

recognizes lawyers who have played a significant role in the legal profession in the past 18 months. “It’s about people who have power and influence the laws, justice system and legal profession in Canada and abroad today,” say the organizers.

Mr. Dubé was recognized for his office’s recent work “towards expanding justice reform in corrections and policing,” resulting in significant legislative change, the survey says.

It notes that his 2017 investigation and report on solitary confinement of inmates, [Out of Oversight, Out of Mind](#), “resulted in changes in Ontario’s practices relating to segregation ... and reform in the introduction of the Correctional Services Transformation Act, 2018.” As well, Mr. Dubé successfully called for [Bill 175, the Safer Ontario Act, 2018](#), to be amended to address gaps that could hinder effective police accountability, and to require that all police officers be trained in “techniques to de-escalate conflict situations.”

Last year, Canadian Lawyer’s nomination of Mr. Dubé also recognized the impact of his office’s recommendations to improve services for adults with developmental disabilities who are in crisis, all of which are in the process of being implemented by the government (see his report, [Nowhere to Turn](#)).

“This honour is once again a reflection of the dedication and hard work of the entire team at Ombudsman Ontario,” Mr. Dubé said. “My congratulations and best wishes to all nominees.”

Canadian Lawyer will choose the top five lawyers in five categories, based on online votes and its internal panel’s choices.

[Cast your vote here!](#)

**INTERNATIONAL OMBUDSMAN INSTITUTE
CELEBRATES 40 YEARS WITH BOARD MEETING IN TORONTO**



This year marks the 40th anniversary of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI), which was founded in Canada. As IOI Regional President for North America, Ombudsman Paul Dubé and his team helped mark that anniversary by welcoming the IOI board to Toronto during the first week of May for its annual board meeting. The [IOI](#), based in Vienna, Austria, is the global organization for independent ombudsman institutions, and represents some 188 ombudsmen from 90 countries.

Representatives from ombudsman offices in Zambia, Western Australia, Austria, Belgium, Argentina, Sint Maarten, Estonia, Ireland, Hong Kong, Malawai, Mexico, New Zealand, Ohio, South Korea, Senegal, Thailand, and Wales spent four days in Toronto.

Prior to the meeting in Toronto, the IOI delegates visited the United Nations in New York.

"In order to be effective, ombudsman offices have always worked together," said IOI president and Ombudsman for Ireland Peter Tyndall. "The role can be a lonely one,

because the independence which is an essential characteristic means that we must maintain a distance from the bodies in our jurisdictions. By working together, we can share best practice, develop effective training, support colleagues under threat and promote the adoption and development of the ombudsman concept worldwide.”

In the photos: Top: IOI board members on the stairs of the Ontario Legislature. Bottom left: Ontario Ombudsman Paul Dubé, IOI President Peter Tyndall, and Deputy Ombudsman Barbara Finlay. Bottom right: The group on tour inside Queen's Park.

OMBUDSMAN IN THE NEWS

- [Tehkummah council cleared by Ombudsman in December 2017 closed meeting](#) - The Manitoulin Expositor
- [Pelham cleared — again: Ombudsman, municipal affairs minister both rule in town's favour](#) - St. Catharines Standard
- [No provincial audit for Pelham](#) - Niagara This Week

HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

You'll spot Ombudsman staff next month at the [Mississauga Older Adult Expo](#) on June 5 (a free event for all attendees) and at the [2018 AMCTO Annual General Meeting](#) which runs from June 10 to 13. Stop by our booth to say hello and learn more about our office!



**Interested in having our staff attend your public outreach event?
Contact us!**

WORK WITH THE OMBUDSMAN

Are you interested in a career that would help improve the lives of Ontarians? Our



Office is currently hiring and we're looking for analytical, creative problem-solvers. We're currently hiring an Administrative Assistant, Early Resolution Officers and an Articling Student. [Click here to learn more.](#)

[File a complaint or contact us here](#)

The Ombudsman is an independent officer of the Ontario legislature who conducts oversight of provincial government agencies and municipalities, universities and school boards. Ombudsman Paul Dubé began his five-year term on April 1, 2016.

What does the Ombudsman do during a provincial election?

The provincial election is June 7, and although the legislature was dissolved May 8, the Ombudsman and other non-partisan, independent officers of the legislature remain on the job. We are taking and reviewing complaints as usual, and our ongoing investigations continue. However, we bear in mind that the Ontario public service is in a “caretaker” role during an election period, and major policy changes are unlikely. We also have no major report releases scheduled until after the election.

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