

Annual Report - 2015-2016

Commissioner's Message

It is my pleasure to present the 2015/16 Annual Report of the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner. 2015/16 was a particularly busy year for our office as we handled 432 matters, the most in any single year in our office's nine-year history. That represents a 69% increase over our previous busy year of 2014/15 when we handled 295 matters. In addition to the review of these important ethical issues (conflict of interest, political activity and financial declarations), we implemented a revamped orientation session for newly appointed and re-appointed ethics executives and managed to orient 75 officials in two sessions held this year.

I am proud to report that in 2015/16, our office began the implementation of a new paperless recordkeeping system. This included the adoption of a new functional classification scheme, new recordkeeping policies and a new records retention schedule for our case files. This makes our office one of a very few in the Ontario Public Service to be fully electronic, improving our efficiency and also allowing us to make a significant contribution to the reduction in paper consumption.

Finally, I am particularly excited about the progress we made in 2015/16 in our plans to host, in partnership with other levels of government and the academic institutions of York University and the University of Toronto, a major conference on public sector ethics scheduled for September, 2016. This is something we look forward to delivering and reporting on in the next Annual Report 2016/17.



Sidney B. Linden - Commissioner



Contents

Inside this report

Mandate of Office	2
Objectives	2
COIC Values	3
Performance Measures	4
Illustrative Case Summaries	5
2016-17 Goals	5
COIC Activity	6
Financial Information	9

Special Points of Interest

Change in Number of Matters Considered Annually	6
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