

VIA HAND DELIVERY

PROTECTED B — PERSONAL

January 23, 2009

Ms Mary Dawson
Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner
Parliament of Canada
66 Slater Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Madam Commissioner:

I write to inform you of steps taken to address an issue that has arisen inside the Prime Minister's Office.

Mr. Bruce Carson was an employee of the Prime Minister's Office commencing February 6, 2006.

As you are aware, on August 14, 2008, the Canada School of Energy and Environment announced that Mr. Carson had been named its Executive Director, effective the same date. The Canada School results from collaboration among the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge.

You are also aware that, under an arrangement worked out with your office, Mr. Carson remained an employee of the Prime Minister's Office until November 6, 2008. Last year between September 7 and October 15 he was on unpaid leave coinciding with the general election campaign.

During his first period of employment in the PMO, Mr. Carson was lobbied by the University of Calgary. Entries connected with registration 777280-5009-6 under the *Lobbying Act* indicate that last year the University lobbied him on September 2 and September 4.

In late 2008, Mr. Carson and I discussed Mr. Carson's possible return to the PMO, either on a temporary or permanent basis. I understand that your office provided guidance that helped to inform the discussion. In particular, I understand that your office advised that it would be acceptable for Mr. Carson to accept temporary employment in the PMO while

on unpaid leave of absence from his employment as Executive Director of the Canada School of Energy and Environment.

Mr. Carson subsequently informed me that he was able to secure a temporary, unpaid leave of absence from the Canada School. He returned to the PMO and commenced duties sometime on January 5.

To confirm the unpaid leave of absence, on January 7, I e-mailed Dr. Harvey P. Weingarten, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Calgary, to ask formally that Mr. Carson be given such leave until January 30. The same day, Dr. Weingarten sent an e-mail reply, agreeing to my request. He stated that the leave was assumed to have commenced January 1. This assumption made sense to me, since our office had been closed January 1, 2, 3 and 4, and Mr. Carson had shown up the first day that we were open again, January 5.

During the afternoon of January 6, an e-mail purporting to originate from Mr. Carson's e-mail account at the Canada School was sent to Ms Cassie Doyle, the federal deputy minister of Natural Resources. The e-mail stated that it was sent by "Bruce Carson, Executive Director, Canada School for Energy and the [sic] Environment (CSEE) and David Layzell, Executive Director, Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and the Economy (ISEEE), U Calgary." The subject of the e-mail was an application that the Canada School intended to make under the Government's Networks of Centres of Excellence program.

By e-mail dated January 10, I gave the Clerk of the Privy Council general information about the issue and asked for legal and other appropriate advice from the Privy Council Office. The Clerk's office arranged for me to consult with M. Yvan Roy, Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (Legislation and House Planning/Machinery of Government) and Counsel, Privy Council Office. I did so, January 12.

I spoke the same day to Mr. Carson. According to him, the e-mail was drafted before he had returned to the Prime Minister's Office but apparently was mistakenly not sent until after his return to the PMO. Mr. Carson undertook to have the Canada School correct the error.

As a result, later that day (January 12), Ms Joan Smart, Assistant to the Executive Director, Canada School of Energy and Environment, sent an e-mail to Ms Doyle that read as follows: "Please disregard the contents of the email from Bruce Carson re: Carbon Management Centre Canada: Networks of Centers [sic] of Excellence – Letter of Intent. It was sent to you in error."

In addition, following the receipt of advice from M. Yvan Roy, I established a conflict-of-interest screen. Mr. Carson and M. Roy were informed of the screen on January 13. For greater certainty, this week I provided written confirmation of the conflict-of-interest screen to the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Director of Policy in the Prime Minister's Office, and the Clerk of the Privy Council.

According to the screen, as an employee in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. Carson will have no involvement in matters pertaining to the following:

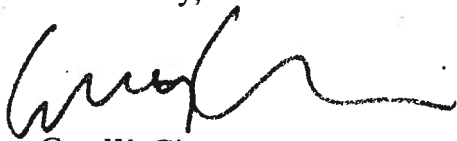
- Canada School of Energy and the [sic] Environment
- University of Calgary
- Networks of Centres of Excellence

The screen further provides that memoranda, correspondence, e-mails and other material pertaining to these matters should not be distributed or shown to Mr. Carson. Any questions concerning these matters that one may wish to raise with the PMO should be directed to Mr. Darrel Reid.

Based on advice received from M. Roy, I am providing you with this summary of the facts and of the actions that have been taken. Copies of relevant documents are attached to this letter.

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Guy W. Giorno', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Guy W. Giorno
Chief of Staff

The Notice Board

Bruce Carson to lead Canada School of Energy and Environment

August 14, 2008



**CANADA SCHOOL
OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

Long-time politico brings expertise to Alberta-led centre of excellence

The Canada School of Energy and Environment announced today the appointment of Bruce Carson, senior advisor to the prime minister, as its first executive director.

Carson will take over the helm of the Canada School of Energy and Environment (CSEE) effective August 14, 2008.

"The potential for the Canada School of Energy and Environment is unlimited," said Carson. "Canada needs this kind of leadership as it sorts out the balance between protecting the economy and protecting the environment. Over the next two to three years, CSEE will become the centre of excellence in Canada for research, policy and advice that meshes the goals of clean energy and environmental protection."

The Canada School of Energy and Environment is an innovative research and education collaboration involving the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge. It draws on the diverse knowledge, resources, and expertise of the three institutions to create and advance research and teaching programs related to one of the most pressing issues of the modern world: the need to balance sustainable energy development and environmental management.

"This can become the go-to place in Canada for research into the environment and alternative and clean energy," said Carson. "Eighty percent of the oil and gas production in Canada comes from Alberta. There is no better place to develop the research expertise and policies that will guide our country and help industry, government and the public make the right decisions."

"Canada is at a critical point in determining the future of its energy supply," said University of Calgary President Harvey Weingarten, PhD. "Bruce Carson has the experience and expertise to bring together the best and brightest researchers who specialize in environment- and energy-related research. His leadership will guide the CSEE and ensure its impact is far-reaching and on a global scale."

"In terms of energy and the environment, there is no doubt that the global community faces a major turning," said University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera. "To make this turn successfully, we need to quickly and effectively expand collaborations between researchers, educators, policy-makers and advisors, and speed the development of technical and social innovations required. With Bruce Carson's leadership, CSEE has the vision and expertise to make this happen."

"Canada is very much a world leader in energy production and the CSEE will provide important research leading to sustainable use of natural resources," said University of Lethbridge President Bill Cade. "Bruce brings much expertise into this position and we look forward to working with him and with the other Alberta research universities to build the CSEE."

Carson has worked in politics for the better part of two decades. He has more recently been serving as co-chair of a task force developing a new method for dealing with specific claims by First Nations. Carson has also served as director of policy and research for the Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper when he was leader of the Opposition and as the director of Progressive Conservative Party Research Service--Queen's Park.

Carson has an LL.B from the University of Ottawa and an LL.M specializing in constitutional law from the University of Toronto.

In the March 2007 budget, the federal government identified the CSEE as one of Canada's Centres of Research Excellence and Commercialization and, as such, granted \$15 million to support CSEE activities.

Key to the CSEE mission is the use of leading-edge technology to create a web community for industry, government, academia, media and the general public. This community will generate information resources that can be reviewed, updated and accessed regularly and frequently to provide a current, forward-thinking idea exchange that positions Canada—and the Canada School of Energy and the Environment—as the go-to place for national and international sharing, collaboration, and support.

Each of the founding universities has a coordinating structure within its institution to organize its efforts, and expected contributions, to the CSEE. At the U of A, this entity is known as the School of Energy and Environment; at the U of C, the Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy; and at the U of L, the Water Institute.

Media contact

Grady Semmens
Senior Communications Manager - Research
University of Calgary, External Relations
Phone: 403.220.7722
Cell: 403.651-2515



U of L Communications and Public Relations Contact:
Bob Cooney, Communications and PR Officer (403) 382-7173

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Canada

Communications Entry Summary

Registrant name: Dr. Harvey Weingarten
Organization: **University of Calgary**
Associated registration: 777280-5009-6
Meeting Date: 2008-09-02

Designated public office holders present at meeting: **Bruce Carson**, Senior Advisor
Prime Minister's Office (PMO) ¹

Subject Matter of the communication: Education

¹ Indicates new information that was added through a monthly communications return.

Return to search

Date Modified: 2008-12-03



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du Canada

Canada

Communications Entry Summary

Registrant name: Dr. Harvey Weingarten
Organization: **University of Calgary**
Associated registration: 777280-5009-6
Meeting Date: 2008-09-04

Designated public office holders present at meeting: **Bruce Carson**, Senior Advisor
Prime Minister's Office (PMO) ¹

Subject Matter of the communication: Education

¹ Indicates new information that was added through a monthly communications return.

[Return to search](#)

Date Modified: 2008-12-03

Giorno, Guy

From: weingart@rogers.blackberry.net
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2009 3:33 PM
To: Giorno, Guy; Harvey Weingarten
Subject: Re: Mr. Bruce Carson

Guy.

Glad to agree. I'll assume that the unpaid leave began January 1 2009. OK?

Good luck.

Harvey

-----Original Message-----

From: Giorno, Guy
To: weingart@rogers.blackberry.net
Sent: Jan 7, 2009 5:27 AM
Subject: Mr. Bruce Carson

Dr. Harvey P. Weingarten
President and Vice-Chancellor
University of Calgary

Dear Dr. Weingarten:

I would like to formally ask that Mr. Bruce Carson be given an unpaid leave of absence from the University of Calgary until January 30. This will allow Mr. Carson to assist the Prime Minister's Office with several projects.

If the University were able to accede to this request I would be most appreciative of your gracious cooperation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Regards,

Guy Giorno
Chief of Staff
Office of the Prime Minister

Sent using BlackBerry

Sent from my BlackBerry device on the Rogers Wireless Network

Subject: FW: Carbon Management Canada: Networks of Centres of Excellence - Letter of Intent

From: Bruce Carson

To: Doyle, Cassie

Cc: Dr. David Layzell

Sent: Tue Jan 06 15:04:54 2009

Subject: Carbon Management Canada: Networks of Centres of Excellence - Letter of Intent

Sent to EDAU to log for reply - MF 07-01

To: The Oil Sands Leadership Initiative

From: Bruce Carson, Executive Director, Canada School for Energy and the Environment (CSEE) and David Layzell, Executive Director, Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy (ISEEE), U Calgary

Subject: Carbon Management Canada: Networks of Centres of Excellence - Letter of Intent

Hi Cassie,

We believe there is a need for an arm's length organization to coordinate and enhance targeted research focused on the **improved management of carbon emissions from fossil fuel recovery and processing**. The Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy (ISEEE) considered submitting an October application for such an organization under the name 'Carbon Management Canada' (CMC) but - despite broad support for the concept - ISEEE decided against doing as they did not have the time to engage sufficiently with key stakeholders. Instead, ISEEE submitted a more narrowly-focused proposal on commercialization called 'Green Hydrocarbon Technologies' or 'GHTech'.

The Federal 'Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE)' program has recently announced a new competition for a \$25M/5 year "Centre of Excellence" research program with a due date of March 2 for the Letter of Intent (LOI). With the full support of the Presidents of Universities of Calgary, Alberta and Lethbridge, the Canada School for Energy and Environment (CSEE) has agreed to lead an application for CMC. ISEEE is very supportive of this initiative and will be working closely with the CSEE in developing this LOI.

At this time, we envisage that the CMC-NCE will be focused on the natural, applied and social sciences supporting both Carbon Efficient Recovery and Processing (CERP) and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS).

We will begin our consultations on this initiative early in 2009, and hope that you will be willing to work with us to ensure that CMC is best positioned to move to full proposal and help address the environmental challenges of fossil energy production and use.

We would be pleased to have the engagement and support of the ICO2N, or its associated companies, as we develop this LOI. We have talked in the past doing some work together to characterize CCS storage sites near the oil sands. CMC could be an ideal organization within which to carry out this work.

Over the next couple weeks, we would like to talk with you about how we may be able to work together to

2009-01-08

achieve common goals in this area.

We hope you had a good holiday season and wish you the best for 2009.

—
Bruce Carson, Executive Director
Canada School of Energy and Environment
Phone: 403 220-2200 FAX: 403 210-7824 CELL: 403 880-8439
Email: bruce.carson@canadaschool-ee.ca
Website: <http://www.canadaschoolofenergy.com>
Address: MS255 2500 University Drive NW Calgary, AB Canada T2N 1N4

David B. Layzell PhD, FRSC, Executive Director,
Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy (ISEEE),
Earth Sciences Room 1040
University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4
Tel: (403) 220-6100 Fax: (403) 220-2400 Email: dlayzell@ucalgary.ca
Web: <http://www.iseee.ca>

Giorno, Guy

From: Giorno, Guy
Sent: January 10, 2009 11:09 AM
To: Lynch, Kevin
Subject: Issue

Dear Kevin,

I have been informed of an issue involving an e-mail sent to the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources on behalf of a institution outside the federal government. The e-mail purports to be from an individual who is currently a temporary PMO employee on temporary, unpaid leave from the institution.

I understand from the Minister's chief of staff that the Deputy Minister will be informing you of the situation. The Minister's chief of staff informed me.

I would like to take appropriate steps to address the situation and want to take PCO's advice in that regard. In particular, I seek advice concerning the appropriate, lawful process to follow. In my mind, that process should include (not necessarily in this order):

- Consultation with the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, noting that her guidance was obtained before the leave-of-absence arrangement was made.
- Reporting to the Prime Minister.
- A proper, fair means of obtaining a response from the individual, one that respects his rights and maintains the integrity of the process.
- Other appropriate steps.

I take your advice on whether it is necessary for us to initiate steps this weekend, or whether the matter can wait for a discussion between us on Monday. I assume the latter, but am available to speak to you this weekend if you feel that we need to take steps sooner.

Thank you.

Guy

Sent using BlackBerry

Giorno, Guy

From: Carson, Bruce
Sent: Tuesday, January 13, 2009 6:23 AM
To: Giorno, Guy
Subject: FW: [Fwd: Please disregard the email from Bruce Carson re: Carbon ManagementCanada: Networks of Centers of Excellence-Letter of Intent]
Attachments: Please disregard the email from Bruce Carson re: Carbon Management Canada: Networks of Centers of Excellence-Letter of Intent

This was sent to Cassie Doyle yesterday--bc

From: Joan Smart [mailto:joan.smart@canadaschool-ee.ca]
Sent: January 12, 2009 5:45 PM
To: Carson, Bruce
Subject: [Fwd: Please disregard the email from Bruce Carson re: Carbon ManagementCanada: Networks of Centers of Excellence-Letter of Intent]

--
Joan Smart

Assistant to the Executive Director

CANADA SCHOOL OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Address: MS 253 – 2500 University Dr. NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

Phone: 403 220-8102 Fax: 210-7824 CELL: 403 700-3230

Email: joan.smart@canadaschool-ee.ca **Website:** www.canadaschoolofenergy.com

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Giorno, Guy

From: Joan Smart [joan.smart@canadaschool-ee.ca]
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2009 4:58 PM
To: CassieJ.Doyle@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca
Subject: Please disregard the email from Bruce Carson re: Carbon Management Canada: Networks of Centers of Excellence-Letter of Intent

Dear Deputy Minister Doyle:

Please disregard the contents of the email from Bruce Carson re: Carbon Management Canada: Networks of Centers of Excellence-Letter of Intent.
It was sent to you in error.

Thank you,

Joan Smart
for Bruce Carson
Executive Director
Canada School of Energy and Environment
--

Joan Smart

Assistant to the Executive Director

CANADA SCHOOL OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Address: MS 253 – 2500 University Dr. NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

Phone: 403 220-8102 Fax: 210-7824 CELL: 403 700-3230

Email: joan.smart@canadaschool-ee.ca **Website:** www.canadaschoolofenergy.com

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Memorandum

Protected B - Personal

To: Kevin Lynch, Clerk of the Privy Council
Copies: Ray Novak, Principal Secretary
Darrel Reid, Director of Policy
Bruce Carson, Senior Advisor
From: Guy Giorno, Chief of Staff
Date: January 22, 2009
Re: Bruce Carson Conflict-of-Interest Screen

Since January 13, the Privy Council Office (through Mr. Yvan Roy, on whose advice I relied) has been aware of a conflict-of-interest screen involving Mr. Bruce Carson. I am taking this opportunity to address you directly.

This will confirm that, as an employee in the Prime Minister's Office, Bruce Carson will have no involvement in matters pertaining to the following:

- Canada School of Energy and the Environment
- University of Calgary
- Networks of Centres of Excellence

Memoranda, correspondence, e-mails and other material pertaining to these matters should not be distributed or shown to Mr. Carson.

Any questions concerning these matters that one may wish to raise with the PMO should be directed to Darrel Reid.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.