SAVE THE DATE and REGISTER NOW: NOVEMBER 8-9



On November 8-9, 2022, the Vancouver Anti-Corruption Institute (VACI) in partnership with the Ombudsperson of British Columbia will host a major conference on "Whistleblowers and Public Integrity" at the JW Marriott Parg Hotel in Vancouver. Chaired by the Right Honourable Kim Campbell, the conference is designed for public sector leaders; experts in transparency and anti-corruption; those in watchdog, ombuds and advocacy functions; journalists specializing in government integrity and accountability; and anyone whose work involves questions of public sector integrity and accountability. Our many confirmed speakers include the following:



Right Honourable Kim Campbell, fmr. Prime Minister of Canada



Jennifer Khor, CLASBC and Can't Buy My Silence Campaign



President and Founder, TRACE

D. Ross McGowan,

Partner, Borden

Ladner Gervais LLP



BC Ombudsperson



Jim Wasserstrom, US State Dept and Founder, Integrity Sanctuary



Andre Moniz, OSC Office of the Whistleblower, Ontario



Charis Kamphuis, Univ. of Victoria Environmental Law Clinic



Deputy Minister Bobbi Sadler, Head of the BC Public



Service



Marshal Wong, Senior Manager, Attaché IRS Criminal Advisory Services, Investigations, US KPMG Embassy, Ottawa

Bovdell, Kwantlen Polytechnic University



Chris Ewaniuk, Office of Alberta Public Interest

Commissioner

Dr Meghan Van

Portfliet,

University College

Cork, Ireland









Agenda Highlights

Tuesday, November 8th

~ Continental Breakfast ~

Opening

Welcome to the traditional unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Opening remarks from the Right Honourable Kim Campbell, former Prime Minister of Canada, and Peter German, President of the Vancouver Anti-Corruption Institute

Keynote remarks: "The Whistleblower's Dilemma"

Alexandra Wrage, President and CEO, TRACE International

~ Network Break ~

Panel 1: Whistleblowing in the Canadian context

Panelists will consider the factors behind the current wave of legislation in Canada, and what is distinct about whistleblowing versus other accountability systems, followed by a moderated question and discussion period.

~ Lunch ~

Panel 2: Case studies of whistleblowing in public bodies

Panelists will take a close look at recent significant Canadian cases, focusing on the issues brought forward by whistleblowers, the institutional responses in each case, and the outcomes, followed by a moderated question and discussion period.

~ Network Break ~

Panel 3: Whistleblowing, personal experience, and outcomes

Panelists will discuss retaliation, mental health, and other outcomes of whistleblowing for whistleblowers themselves, as well as the prospects of limiting the inappropriate use of non-disclosure agreements, followed by a moderated question and answer period.

~ Reception ~

~ Dinner ~

Dinner Remarks: "Founding of the Integrity Sanctuary" James Wasserstrom, Anti-Corruption Officer, US Embassy, Athens (*via* live link, with questions facilitated by Alexandra Wrage)

Wednesday, November 9th

~ Continental Breakfast ~

Panel 4: BC and Canadian whistleblower law in context

Panelists will discuss BC's Public Interest Disclosure Act in the Canadian context, and contrast legislative approaches to whistleblowing in the US, UK and European Union, followed by a moderated question and discussion period.

~ Network Break ~

Panel 5: Whistleblowing in the private sector

Panelists will discuss whistleblowing in the natural resource sector, and incentive structures for whistleblowing, followed by a moderated question and discussion period.

~ Lunch ~

Panel 6: Finding the right response

Panelists will consider the role of Designated Officers in public authorities' response to whistleblower reports, and the ethical, legal, and practical considerations of internal and outsourced investigations, followed by a moderated question and discussion period.

~ Network Break ~

Panel 7: Looking forward as whistleblowing law and practice evolves

A roundtable panel will consider the key challenges and tensions regarding whistleblowing in British Columbia and Canada. Interventions from the floor will be encouraged, reflecting on lessons from our two days together.

Closing

Remarks from the Honourable Murray Rankin, Attorney General of British Columbia [to be confirmed] will be followed by closing remarks of appreciation from the Right Honourable Kim Campbell and from Peter German.

~ Conference adjourns at 4 pm ~