



Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0A3

December 1st, 2013

Assistant Commissioner Gilles Michaud
Commanding Officer, National Division
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
155 McArthur Road
Ottawa, ON K1A 0R4

Dear Assistant Commissioner Michaud:

I write to draw your attention to an issue related to the emails of former Prime Minister's Office ("PMO") staffer Benjamin Perrin.

The Privy Council Office ("PCO") and Shared Services Canada provide technical services to the PMO, including email and network services. It is the operating protocol of the PCO to close and delete email accounts of departing employees of the PCO and the PMO as a matter of course. Consistent with this protocol, upon Mr. Perrin's departure at the end of his employment in late March 2013, the PMO was provided a notice that his emails had been deleted from the computer server.

At the time of Nigel Wright's departure from the PMO in mid-May 2013, the PMO contacted the PCO's technical services and asked that email accounts for Mr. Wright be frozen and preserved. The request to freeze and preserve email accounts was repeated for other relevant staff, as noted in your recent ITO.

In September 2013, in connection with your investigation, the PMO asked the PCO to make available to the RCMP the emails of certain individuals requested by the RCMP. That list included Mr. Perrin. In response to that request, we advised the PMO, who we understand informed the RCMP, that Mr. Perrin's emails had been deleted from the server and were no longer available. This advice was repeated during the email production and search process itself in mid-September 2013.

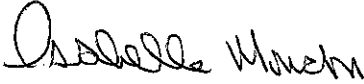
We understand that last week the RCMP sought further confirmation from the PMO's counsel that Mr. Perrin's emails were not available from any other source, including from any back-ups. On November 28, 2013, the PMO relayed this request to the PCO to confirm our prior advice on the availability of Mr. Perrin's emails.

In response to this inquiry, on November 29, 2013 we found that Mr. Perrin's emails had in fact been retained due to a litigation hold in an unrelated matter. On learning that Mr. Perrin's emails were in fact available, we informed the PMO on November 30, 2013. The PMO and the PCO agreed to inform you as soon as possible.

We understand that the PMO's counsel will contact you with a view to making Mr. Perrin's emails available to you without further delay and we stand ready to assist you in any way possible.

We regret that we previously failed, even if inadvertently, to accurately inform you and the PMO about the availability of Mr. Perrin's emails. We apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Isabelle Mondou". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Isabelle Mondou

Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet (Legal Operations, Cabinet Confidences and Democratic Reform)

Office of the Counsel to the Clerk of the Privy Council

cc Robert W. Staley, Bennett Jones