

Charlie Angus

Member of Parliament / député
Timmins-James Bay / Timmins-baie James

Ottawa

900 Édifice La Promenade Building
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Tel/Tél: 613-992-2919
Fax/Télé: 613-995-0747

Constituency / Circonscription

202 - 60 ave Wilson Ave Timmins, Ontario P4N 2S7	201 - 30 rue Second St Kirkland Lake, Ontario P2N 1R1
Tel/Tél : 705-268-6464 Fax/Télé : 705-266-9125	Tel/Tél. : 705-567-2747 Fax/Télé. : 705-567-5232



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

*Commissioner Paulson
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
73 Liekin Drive
Ottawa*

May 6 2014

Re: Correspondence of April 30, 2014

Dear Commissioner Paulson

Thank you for your quick response to the letter I wrote to you on April 24, 2014 seeking clarification regarding the decision not to pursue charges against Mr. Nigel Wright. Having read your response, as well as comments in the Globe and Mail, I feel it is important to reassure you that that at no point did I raise questions about political interference in the actions of the RCMP.

I did, however, ask for clarification regarding the decision not to pursue charges under Section 16 of the Parliament of Canada Act in regards to the secret \$90,000 cheque from Nigel Wright as part of apparent attempts to make the political problem of then-Conservative Senator Mike Duffy's inappropriate expense claims go away.

Section 16 reads:

16. (1) No member of the Senate shall receive or agree to receive any compensation, directly or indirectly, for services rendered or to be rendered to any person, either by the member or another person,

(a) in relation to any bill, proceeding, contract, claim, controversy, charge, accusation, arrest or other matter before the Senate or the House of Commons or a committee of either House; or

(b) for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence any member of either House.

2) Every member of the Senate who contravenes subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not less than one thousand dollars and not more than four thousand dollars.

(3) Every person who gives, offers or promises to any member of the Senate any compensation for services described in subsection (1), rendered or to be rendered, is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one

year and to a fine of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than two thousand dollars.

In my letter, I asked whether you had consulted with the Director of Public Prosecutions over the decision not to pursue charges against Mr. Wright under the Parliament of Canada Act.

While not directly responding, you assured me that in

“complex cases, the police will consult extensively with the prosecution service of jurisdiction. This consultation will assist the police at assessing the nature and quality of the evidence available to a given case but ultimately the decision to bring a charge or nor remains with the investigator or investigative team.”

My understanding is that the Director of Public Prosecution is the service of jurisdiction in dealing with breaches of the Parliament of Canada Act and so I was quite surprised to read in a statement to the media from the Office of the DPP that said they had not been party to discussions on this case.

In your recent interview in the Globe and Mail, you stated that Nigel Wright’s transference of money to Mike Duffy did not constitute an offence under the Parliament of Canada Act. The article also says you found no evidence of wrongdoing.

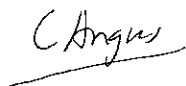
If you did not consult with the Director of Public Prosecution, then who provided the legal advice that led to the conclusion that the decision by the prime minister’s chief of staff to write a secret cheque to a sitting Senator does not represent a *prima facie* breach of Section 16 of the Parliament of Canada Act?

I am sure you will agree that it is important to reassure Canadians on this matter, and these are fair questions to raise.

Once again, I thank the RCMP and the officers working this case for their excellent investigative work that has shed light on this troubling matter.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Charlie Angus
Fax: 613-995-0747