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**Charlie Angus**

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Commissioner Mario Dion  
Office of the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner  
Parliament of Canada  
Centre Block, PO Box 16  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

March 28, 2018

**Re: Mr. Grewal and the Conflict of Interest Code**

Dear Commissioner Dion,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about an apparent breach of the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* on the part of Mr. Raj Grewal, the MP for Brampton East.

It is my understanding that Mr. Grewal entered into a business relationship with a company based in his riding after his election in 2015, which is not itself prohibited by the *Code*. He reportedly facilitated the invitation of the owner of this business, by whom he is still occasionally employed on a contract basis, to an event organized by the Canadian High Commissioner in New Delhi with the Prime Minister and other senior ministers.

Sections 8 and 9 of the *Conflict of Interest Code* prohibit Members of Parliament from “further[ing] [their] private interests ... or to improperly further another person’s or entity’s private interests” in the course of performing parliamentary duties or functions or by virtue of their positions as Members of Parliament.

I am concerned that Mr. Grewal’s invitation of an occasional employer to an event at which senior government decision-makers, including the Prime Minister, as well as Canadian and Indian businesspeople were present while abroad on parliamentary business and using his office’s prerogative to invite guests, may constitute a breach of Sections 8 and 9 of the *Conflict of Interest Code*.

This businessperson has said that he went to India “looking to partner with Indian businesses looking to expand in Canada.” I believe that Mr. Grewal’s promotion of his occasional employer’s business

expansion efforts by facilitating access to high-level networking opportunities meets the definition laid out in Section 3(2)(a) of “private interests.”

This would suggest that Mr. Grewal has failed the test of principles laid out in Section 2(c) and 2(d). These sections demand that Members always “perform their official duties and functions and arrange their private affairs in a manner that bears the closest public scrutiny, an obligation that may not be fully discharged by simply acting within the law” and that they “arrange their private affairs so that foreseeable real or apparent conflicts of interest may be prevented from arising.”

In light of this apparent breach, I ask that you investigate the situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlie Angus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Charlie Angus, MP  
Timmins—James Bay