



Communications Security
Establishment Canada

Centre de la sécurité
des télécommunications Canada



2014-2015 Ministerial Authorization Requests

Briefing to the Minister of National Defence

CERRID 17484100

TOP SECRET // SI // CANADIAN EYES ONLY

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Ministerial Authorizations (MAs): Overview

- MAs authorize CSE to undertake activities or a class of activities to pursue its foreign intelligence collection or information technology security mandates when these activities risk contravention of the *Criminal Code* provision against the interception of private communications
- Without MAs in place, CSE would be in violation of the *Criminal Code* if it intercepted a private communication in the conduct of its mandated activities
- It is important to note that these MAs do not authorize new or additional activities by CSE

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SIGINT Ministerial Authorizations: 2014-2015

CSE is requesting the approval of three SIGINT MAs which target foreign data and communications:

1 [REDACTED]: Targets foreign communications
[REDACTED]

2 [REDACTED] targets foreign
communications [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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ITS Ministerial Authorization: 2013-2014

CSE is requesting the approval of one Information Technology Security MA:

1. Cyber Defence Activities (CDA): Upon request from a client department, CSE will undertake cyber operations to detect threats and vulnerabilities in Government networks and systems and to mitigate malicious cyber activity directed at Government networks and systems

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Minor Changes to the 2014-2015 MAs

- Formatting changes have been made for greater clarity, however only two minor changes have been made in terms of content:
 1. Strengthening the review process for the retention of solicitor-client communications to require Ministerial approval
 2. CSE's notification system (to MND) regarding the deployment of Cyber Defence Activities, when requested by Federal institutions, has been improved to streamline assistance to federal institutions subject to cyber attacks



Ministerial Directives (MD): [REDACTED]

- Seven MDs related to CSE [REDACTED] collection activities require your signature.
 - These MDs govern CSE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a program referred to as
[REDACTED] It is within the [REDACTED] program that
[REDACTED] collection activities take place.

These MDs are:

1. MD on [REDACTED]
2. MD on [REDACTED]
3. MD on [REDACTED]
4. MD on [REDACTED]
5. MD on [REDACTED]
6. MD on [REDACTED]
7. MD on [REDACTED]

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Recommendation

- It is recommended that you approve
 1. CSE's 2014-15 requests for new Ministerial Authorizations, and
 2. CSE's 2014-15 requests for new Ministerial Directives on [REDACTED]
- All Ministerial Authorizations and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] MDs must be signed by November 30th, 2014 or CSE will be forced to cease all activities enabled by these instruments.

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