

Minister
of National Defence



Ministre
de la Défense nationale

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K2

UNCLASSIFIED

CERRID # 994334

To: Chief, Communications Security Establishment

**Ministerial Directive
Communications Security Establishment
Accountability Framework**

This Directive is issued under my authority and replaces the *Accountability Framework* Ministerial Directive issued 19 June 2001.

Governance

As a stand-alone departmental agency within the National Defence portfolio, the Chief, Communications Security Establishment (CSE) is the Deputy Head and Accounting Officer and reports directly to the Minister of National Defence.

I will issue further directives to you as necessary to provide guidance on CSE's statutory mandate and related activities, and encourage you to advise me if CSE would benefit from particular directives.

As Chief, you are responsible for policy development, planning, management and control of CSE, and all matters relating to it. I expect you to manage CSE with particular regard to all relevant legislation and applicable Government of Canada policies, and to consult with the Department of Justice as required.

In the discharge of its mandate and in planning and allocating resources, CSE will be guided by the intelligence priorities and requirements set by the Government of Canada. In accordance with the *Financial Administration Act*, you are to establish the appropriate accountability regime to ensure financial probity and to foster effective financial management at CSE.

To ensure ongoing accountability, you will inform me about CSE activities and consult me when my respective input or approval is warranted. Such consultation would be required on particularly sensitive matters that are likely to have a significant impact on public affairs, foreign relations, legal, mandate, ethical, sovereignty, national security, or policy issues. I will rely on your information and advice to assist me in terms of my accountability to the Prime Minister, Parliament, and in my engagement with the public and media on matters relating to CSE.

Canada

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The Deputy Minister of National Defence is responsible for leading portfolio coordination and to ensure that I have the cohesive advice and support necessary to achieve my mandate. As Chief of the Communications Security Establishment, you will also be responsible for contributing to the overall functioning of the portfolio and provide support to the Deputy Minister of National Defence in portfolio coordination.

Finally, I expect you to report to me annually on CSE's performance, strategic priorities, program initiatives and policy, legal, and management issues of significance.

Review

The CSE Commissioner is responsible for reviewing the activities of CSE to ensure that they are in compliance with the law, investigating complaints by citizens that the Commissioner considers necessary, and informing the Minister and Attorney General of Canada of any activity of CSE that the Commissioner believes may not be in compliance with the law.

CSE is also subject to review by the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the Privacy Commissioner, the Information Commissioner, the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Auditor General of Canada. I expect you to provide full support and cooperation to the CSE Commissioner and any officials representing the aforementioned review bodies in the exercise of their review and/or statutory functions.

Finally, I expect you to maintain an effective internal review capability informed by the external members of your departmental audit committee.

Workforce and Operations

CSE's values and ethics are to be reinforced in the workplace. I expect you to administer and lead CSE's workforce in a manner that reflects sound management practices, meets the professional needs of knowledge workers, engenders mutual respect between management and staff and among employees, and respects labour regulations and safety standards.

Balancing the requirement for adequate security measures at CSE with sensitivity to the impact that it may have on the professional and private lives of CSE's employees is important for the organization's success. I expect you to ensure that CSE has internal mechanisms to address employee concerns and complaints in compliance with applicable legislation, regulation, policies, directives or other relevant instruments, and that employees are aware of their availability.

I expect you to be an active participant on significant issues and initiatives that affect international affairs, defence and security, as well as the wider information technology communities within the Government of Canada. To fulfill your mandated functions, you may enter into an arrangement or otherwise cooperate with any domestic entity, foreign

entity or class of foreign entities. In these cases, I expect you to maintain the appropriate security safeguards. Furthermore, you will ensure that any arrangements entered into or other cooperation with [REDACTED] is in accordance with the [REDACTED] Ministerial Directive and the *Framework for Addressing Risks in Sharing Information with Foreign Entities* Ministerial Directive.²

Finally, you will engage the National Security Advisor, as you deem necessary, when CSE operational, policy or other issues arise which have a potential significant impact on the wider security and intelligence community.

Dated at Ottawa, Ont this 10th day of November, 2012.



The Honourable Peter MacKay, P.C., M.P.
Minister of National Defence

¹ [REDACTED]

² In all cases, references to Ministerial Directives within the document refer to the most recently issued Ministerial Directives.