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Disclosure

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Your form has been received by the Office of the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner.

A representative from PSIC may contact you shortly to discuss your allegations and answer any questions you may have regarding this process.

For confidentiality and security reasons, a copy of the form cannot be sent to your email. You may wish to print this page for your records.

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Reference Number DWEB2020-11-11-1605106755

Contact Information

I am a Member of the Public

First Name ETIENNE

Last Name LEBEL

Department where you work {Empty}

Work unit or branch {Empty}

Telephone number (daytime) [REDACTED]

Telephone number (alternate) {Empty}

Fax {Empty}

Email address etienne.lebel@gmail.com

Address where you would like to be contacted

Address

Ottawa, ON. K1H 6Z9
Canada

Official language of choice for correspondence English

Representation

Are you currently being represented? No

Alleged Wrongdoing

Using your own words, while keeping in mind the aforementioned definition of wrongdoing, please describe the situation.

Who: Alleged wrongdoing committed by employees and executives at all 3 tri-council funding agencies (CIHR, SSHRC, and NSERC).

What: It appears that various kinds of mismanagement has occurred, and is still occurring, at ALL 3 of Canada's funding agencies, which is impeding their ability to fulfill their respective missions. The following evidence of various kinds of mismanagement is included in my supporting documentation (see PDF):

► Mismanagement of the FUNDED RESEARCH:

- Tri-councils have NOT ensured that the research they've funded meets basic scientific standards like transparency and open access.
- They have been overly soft on fraud in relation to their fraud investigation protocols.

► Mismanagement of the EVALUATION and SELECTION of grant proposals:

- They're using INSUFFICIENTLY TRANSPARENT grant review procedures (hence low levels of accountability).
- Tri-councils have neglected their basic duties: For example, grants have been selected without peer reviews returned, unprofessional/incompetent reviewers, late on grant results announcements.
- Have allowed political/ideological values to bias grant EVALUATION and SELECTION (hence,

money is NOT going to the most promising and rigorous research).

These alleged wrongdoings are so egregious that it appears they meet the degree of severity to be considered a “serious breach” or “gross mismanagement” under the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act.

The alleged wrongdoings prevents the funding agencies from achieving their respective missions, which includes creating new scientific knowledge and improving the lives of Canadians.

It is imperative that we get to the bottom of this case. It appears that major reforms would need to be implemented at each funding agency (e.g., transparency reforms, accountability controls) to ensure that these problems are avoided moving forward, and to ensure that the funding agencies are accountable to the public taxpayer and all stakeholders of Canadian-funded science.

When: Going back decades, with some allegations going back to the early 2000s (e.g., not ensuring funded research meets basic scientific standards).

Where: At CIHR, SSHRC, and NSERC funding agencies.

Contact information of heads of each funding agency:

CIHR: Dr. Michael Strong, President michael.strong@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

SSHRC: Dr. Ted Hewitt, SSHRC President Ted.Hewitt@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

NSERC: Dr. Alejandro Adem, President (no contact info found, except adem@math.ubc.ca)

Alleged individual

Individual Name MICHAEL STRONG

Job title or rank President of CIHR

Federal Department / Organization {Empty}

Work unit or branch {Empty}

Telephone number (work) (613) 999-9999

Ind Address {Empty}

Add another

Add Another Name Ted Hewitt

Job title or rank President of SSHRC

Federal Department / Organization {Empty}

Work unit or branch {Empty}

Telephone number (work) {Empty}

Add Ind Address {Empty}

Other Proceedings

Have you already raised your concerns through another mechanism? No

Supporting Documentation

Do you have documentation to support your allegations? Yes

Supporting dcouments

Documents



 ss-possible-mismanagement-at-tri-councils-draft-script-dr-etienne-p-lebel.pdf	842.25 KB
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