

## DESCRIPTION

**Ian Stedman:**

### **"Transparency, Accountability and Trust: Examining the Public's Evolving Relationship with Parliamentary Ethics Laws in Canada."**

The office of the federal Ethics Commissioner was created in 2004 and was largely modeled after Ontario's then 16-year-old government ethics laws. Despite undergoing significant changes over the past decade, the federal laws continue to operate in much the same way as they did in 2004. I argue that Canada's parliamentary ethics laws are no longer an adequate reflection of the prevailing public expectations regarding what it means for our elected officials to organize their affairs in a manner that is transparent and accountable. These laws are well known to members by now, yet regular ethics scandals continue to arise and demonstrate that gaps exist between what the public expects and what the law requires. A closer look at some recent controversies will help us to situate where these gaps are emerging and to identify how they might be addressed.

Ian Stedman is an Ontario lawyer who is currently completing his PhD at Osgoode Hall Law School with a focus on Canada's government ethics regime. Ian's legal career includes having worked 3+ years at the Office of the Integrity Commissioner and Lobbyist Registrar of Ontario, as well as having spent time at one of Ontario's regulated health professions. He is currently an instructor at Osgoode Hall Law School and teaches a course called "Ethics and the Public Service: Integrity and Democracy" in York University's Public Policy and Administrative Law program. Ian sits on the Research Ethics Board at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, the Board of Directors for the Canadian Organization for Rare Disorders (CORD), the Election Compliance Audit Committee for the City of Markham and is the Executive Director and Manager, Corporate Services, for the International Justice Partnership (IJP), a not-for-profit organization that is committed to assisting other countries with strengthening their democratic development, human rights, and rule of law. Follow Ian on Twitter [@IStedman](#)

## DATE AND TIME

Thu, 16 February 2017  
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EST  
[Add to Calendar](#)

## LOCATION

Ted Rogers School of  
Management  
575 Bay Street  
Room: TRS3-129  
Toronto, ON M5G 2C5  
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