A VALUES AND ETHICS GUIDE TO
RESPECT FOR DEMOCRACY

Summary

The system of Canadian parliamentary democracy and its institutions are fundamental to serving the public interest. We recognize that elected officials are accountable to Parliament, and ultimately to the Canadian people, and that a non-partisan public sector is essential to our democratic system.

We respect democracy by:

- Respecting the rule of law and carrying out our duties in accordance with legislation, policies and directives in a non-partisan and impartial manner;
- Loyally carrying out the lawful decisions of our leaders and support ministers in their accountability to Parliament and Canadians; and
- Providing decision makers with all the information, analysis and advice they need, always striving to be open, candid and impartial.

DO

- Base decisions on sound reasoning and judgment in a lawful, fair, equitable, non-partisan and impartial way. Loyally implement the decisions of decision-makers.

- Acknowledge your Duty of Loyalty to the Government of Canada.

- Bring any criticism or concerns you may have to the attention of your supervisor or to subject matter experts within the Government of Canada.

- Be accurate, thorough, and honest.

DON'T

- Take up candidacy or non-candidacy political activities before you consult with the Public Service Commission (PSC)or the ESDC Designated Political Activities Representative.

- Make public statements and take actions that affects — or is perceived to affect — your ability to do your job in an objective and a non-partisan manner.

- Speak to the media on behalf of the Department, unless you are authorized to do so.

- Let your personal biases take over: provide complete information and advice.

Let's Discuss

What steps can I take when I think the Government is making a bad decision?

I want to advocate for a cause that is near and dear to my heart!

The speed of business is so quick; I don't have time to be thorough. What can I do?

For more information, visit Values and Ethics on iService: http://iservice.prv/ove