



# School of Public Administration Professional Development Workshop Series 2011/12

## The Changing Face of Public Sector Ethics

Most public service codes of conduct focus on conflict of interest. But in recent years concerns about public service ethics have shifted away from conflict of interest to focus on issues such as the personal moral responsibility of public servants, the balance of their loyalty to political masters and citizens, the appropriate use of social media, and their obligations with respect to transparency, privacy protection and the welfare of their clients. This workshop will look at the changing face of public sector ethics.

### Learning Objectives

The workshop is designed to develop participants' capacity to:

- Understand changing expectations about the behaviour of public servants;
- Engage a wide range of emerging ethical issues;
- Think about the development of standards of conduct to deal with these issues;
- Become ethical leaders in their workplaces.

### Principles

The workshop will build on participants' knowledge and experience of changing expectations and emerging ethical issues in their workplaces. It will make use of ethical analysis frameworks to deal with problems not covered by codes of conduct. The facilitator will introduce ideas from leadership and management literature and practices to help participants develop skills in problem identification and techniques for maintaining and enhancing ethical culture and enforcement regimes in the workplace.

### Format

The workshop will be extremely interactive using plenary and small group encounters to do environment scanning and develop ideas and techniques for dealing with emerging issues. Short case studies will be used to illustrate dilemmas being faced in the workplace.

### Instructor Bio

Dr John Langford joined the School of Public Administration in 1979. He was a Chief Federal Treaty Negotiator on Vancouver Island from 1993-2002. He was also a member of the Enns Budget Process Review Panel in 1999. His academic background is in political science, with particular interests in Canadian government and politics, machinery of government and public sector ethics. Prior to coming to the University of Victoria he taught at York University, and worked with the Royal Commission on Financial Management and Accountability. Dr. Langford is the author of a number of books, articles, chapters and reports including *The Service State: Rhetoric, Reality and Promise* (with P. Dutil, C. Howard and J. Roy), *The Responsible Public Servant* (with Ken Kernaghan), *Corruption, Character, and Conduct* (with Allan Tupper). He holds degrees from Carleton (BA), Oxford (MA) and McGill (PhD).

### Workshop Details

**Date:** Spring 2012 TBD

**Time:** 9:00-4:00

**Location:** On-campus, specific location TBD

**Cost:** \$575.00

**Instructor:** John Langford

