



Seminar
Event

School of Public Administration
Seminar

Tuesday January 15, 2002
12 noon to 1:30 p.m

Human & Social Development Building
Room HSD A264

The Oversight of Public Administration: Is the Public Excluded?

By: Lawrie McFarlane, Queens' University

*This seminar is free
and open to the
public. Please
register by
contacting Belle
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In recent years, officers of the Legislature, such as Auditors General and Advocacy Officers, have acquired the power to advance agendas indistinguishable from political platforms. Meanwhile, decision-making authority at the federal and provincial level appears to be withdrawing to a fortified position centered on the office of the Prime Minister or Premier.

Lawrie McFarlane examines these trends, using examples drawn from his extensive experience in government. He argues that the common factor linking these developments is the progressive exclusion of the public, and their representatives, from any meaningful role in overseeing public institutions.

Lawrie McFarlane was until recently a senior public servant, with experience both in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. He was Deputy Minister of Health in BC during the mid-90's, and most recently, Secretary of Treasury Board, a position he also held in Saskatchewan. Prior to coming to Victoria, he set up and ran Saskatchewan's first regional health authority, and before that served as Deputy Minister of Education, and Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Training in that province. He spent two years attached to the GATT negotiations in Geneva. Lawrie has a Ph. D. in philosophy from Queens' University, and is the author of two forthcoming books on public administration