

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

**COMITÉ PERMANENT DE LA
JUSTICE ET DES DROITS DE LA
PERSONNE**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Dear Ms. Wilson-Raybould,

The Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights acknowledges receipt of your letter dated February 25, 2019, and appreciates your willingness to testify before our Committee at the first available time. We take note of the concerns you have expressed and the request you have made.

As to the primary concern you have expressed, the Committee is pleased that Order in Council number 2019-0105 was issued yesterday which authorizes you to disclose to our Committee any confidences of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada related to the prosecution of SNC-Lavalin while you held the office of Attorney General. It also waived, to the extent they apply, any solicitor-client privilege or duty of confidentiality to the Government of Canada with respect to the matter as relates to your appearance before our Committee. We note that the sole limitation to the authorization relates to information or communications between yourself and the Director of Public Prosecutions concerning SNC-Lavalin. It is the view of the Committee that this Order in Council provides the clarity needed to the issues of privilege and confidence.

The Committee is also pleased to confirm that it requested and received a legal opinion on the *sub judice* convention and reviewed it last week.

Finally, you have requested the opportunity to make an extended opening statement of thirty minutes. While this is outside the Committee's normal practices, we agree to accommodate your request. We understand your desire to have sufficient time to provide your full and complete version of events.

Given the foregoing, we would like to schedule your testimony for Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 3:15 PM. We hope that time is suitable and would appreciate a swift response.

Do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any of this.

Best,

Anthony Housefather
Chair