



October 26, 2023

Chair: Kelly McCauley

Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates
House of Commons
131 Queen Street, Room 6-35
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Chair:

During my October 24, 2023, appearance at the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO), I was asked why I had not advised the Committee of an RCMP investigation during my last appearance.

I appeared before the Committee as part of its ArriveCAN study on November 14, 2022, and before any information had been referred to the RCMP.

I received correspondence from an individual identifying herself as the CEO of Botler AI, Ms. Ritika Dutt, on October 20, 2022, suggesting misconduct but without accompanying information. I was not familiar with their work nor their engagement with the CBSA. I sought clarification and only received details of those allegations on November 24, 2022. My officials subsequently engaged the RCMP in December and January.

In other words, I did not have this information when I appeared before the Committee.

I appreciated the opportunity to appear before the Committee again this week, and as always, I sought to answer the Committee's questions truthfully. In this spirit, I will take this opportunity to confirm that legal

services who work with CBSA were aware of this matter, and have been engaged by the CBSA's Professional Integrity Division (internal affairs).

We are following up expeditiously on the contracting details, calendars and other information requested by members at the October 24, 2023, meeting.

Should the Committee wish further clarification, I would be pleased to return at your convenience.



Sincerely,

Erin O'Gorman

President, Canada Border Services Agency

c.c.

Majid Jowhari, M.P.

Julie Vignola, M.P.

Jenica Atwin, M.P.

Parm Bains, M.P.

Kelly Block, M.P.

Garnett Genuis, M.P.

Gord Johns, M.P.

Stephanie Kusie, M.P.

Irek Kusmierczyk, M.P.

Charles Sousa, M.P.