

STEVIE O'BRIEN



Categories: [People](#), [Lawyers](#)

Stevie O'Brien is a versatile and accomplished lawyer, government and stakeholder relations leader and public policy specialist with more than a decade of federal and provincial government experience.

Having advised senior politicians and officials at the highest levels of decision-making, including the prime minister, Stevie excels in interpreting mission-critical initiatives through a political lens and facilitating strategic interactions within government and legal ecosystems.

Stevie began her legal career at McMillan as a litigation and dispute resolution associate in Toronto, before transitioning to the public sector. Prior to rejoining McMillan, Stevie served as chief of staff to several cabinet ministers including to two ministers of public services and procurement. She has experience providing strategic political analysis across a complex portfolio encompassing large IT and defense procurements, national procurement modernization and the oversight of multiple Crown Corporations, including Canada

Post.

Her most important contributions include providing strategic advice on Canada's COVID-19 procurement response, including the agreements to secure and roll out \$9B of vaccines and \$5B of rapid tests, arguably the highest profile and most closely scrutinized purchases in Canadian history.

During her time as Chief of Staff to Bill Blair, Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction, Stevie was extensively involved in advancing the Government's legalization and regulation of cannabis, as well as setting foundations and frameworks for the assault weapon ban.

Her experience also includes serving as Director of Parliamentary Affairs and Issues Management to the Minister of Health, legal counsel to the Liberal Party of Canada during the 2021 General Election Campaign and Chief of Staff to the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.

Stevie is also a Senior Advisor at McMillan Vantage, Canada's premium public affairs firm strategically affiliated with McMillan LLP.

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Expertise: Government & Public Policy, Procurement

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Location: Ottawa

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Position/Title: Counsel, Government & Public Policy

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Education & Admissions:

Degree: Certificate in Public Procurement Law: The Rules in Practice

University: Osgoode Hall Law School

Year: 2023

Degree: Called to the Ontario Bar

Year: 2011

Degree: JD

University: Queen's University

Year: 2010

Degree: BA (Hons)

University: University of Toronto, Victoria College

Year: 2007

Media Mentions:

- "[Legal Notes: New layers of 'green' compliance added to federal projects](#)", Daily Commercial News by ConstructConnect (August 10, 2023)

Speaking Engagements:

- Canadian Institute for Procurement and Material Management (CIPMM) 33rd Annual National Workshop
 - June 6-8, 2023
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- Canadian Public Procurement Council's "Forum 2023"
- May 8, 2023

Practices: Government & Public Policy, Procurement