

Communications Issues

A Community Service of Harley House Consultants Inc.



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Phil Hurcomb Joins Harley House Consultants Inc.

Introduction

There are few dull moments in government communications. And that might explain why Phil Hurcomb keeps finding ways to stay involved with the federal communications community.

The newly-minted senior associate at Harley House Communications puts it this way.

“As a career choice, government communications might look like a great bundle of chaos and stress. But if you commit yourself to the work, it can be a rewarding and stimulating professional career. And you will never find a more energized, bright and team-spirited group of people to work with.”

That love of the business has propelled Phil through a varied coms career that has given him a unique perspective on the challenges facing modern government communicators. It started with a stint in the Parliamentary Press Gallery representing Canadian University Press. He soon parlayed that into a job as EA to a Member of Parliament and then a Parliament Hill communications advisor.



Phil Hurcomb
Senior Associate

Phil's Journey

Phil joined Transport Canada in the mid-1980s as a writer editor, and that soon produced a series of opportunities in internal communications, issues management, media relations and strategic planning. By the end of the 1990s, Phil was the DG of Communications at Transport, leading his team and department through significant communications challenges such as the government response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

2006 brought a new opportunity for Phil that again broadened his perspective on government communications. He competed for and won the position of Assistant Secretary for Strategic Communications and Ministerial Affairs at the Treasury Board Secretariat. That meant becoming responsible for management of the Communications and Federal Identity Policies of the Government of Canada.

Later in his stint with the TBS, he became the ADM Champion of the communications community, working closely with other heads of coms and the Communications Community Office to promote collaboration throughout the communications function.

Phil's Re-Invention

Official retirement in 2011 gave Phil another chance to re-invent himself, taking responsibilities with the Canada School of public service for developing and teaching its communications curriculum.

“I've been blessed with the chance to do some really interesting things, and am really excited to get this new opportunity with Dale and Harley House Consultants Inc. to contribute to the quality of communications thinking and planning,” says Hurcomb. “New pressures to be efficient, to prove the value of our work, and to find the right blend of old and new media to get the job done are just some of the challenges I am looking forward to working on through Harley House.”

“I cannot think of a more qualified communicator to join Harley House,” said Dale Harley. “I have always had great admiration and respect for Phil and the work that he has done.” The focus of Phil's work with Harley House will be on the consulting side of the practice, particularly as it relates to strategic communications planning and performance measurement/evaluation work with the federal government communications community.

For more information on how Harley House Consultants Inc. can assist you in:

- Managing internal and external relationships with key stakeholder groups; and
- Improving the effectiveness of your organization's communications and consultation programs,

Please contact:

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