



Whistleblowing
Canada Research
Society



Dear Friend,

As we approach the holiday season — a time when we reflect on what matters most — I want to share a story that speaks to courage, integrity, and the urgent need for change in Canada.

You may have heard about the [ArriveCAN scandal or the Botler AI whistleblowers](#).

These government contractors came forward to expose serious misconduct in the Government of Canada's procurement practices at the Canada Border Services Agency. Their revelations helped shine a light on what the Auditor General later described as a “glaring disregard for basic management and contracting practices” around the ArriveCAN application.

What began as a project reportedly estimated at under \$100,000 spiraled into a situation where the Auditor General could only estimate the cost to the public of the apparent misconduct — roughly \$59.5

million — because of the CBSA's *poor financial record-keeping*. The total was likely a lot more. The facts are alarming. But even more alarming is what happened next.

Instead of being protected for doing the right thing, these ethical Canadians — who showed the highest level of civic integrity — are now being sued for defamation by senior government officials, the very individuals implicated in the wrongdoing.

Because Canada's whistleblowing laws exclude contractors, these individuals are left to defend themselves alone, absorbing enormous financial and emotional costs. This is happening despite assurances that testimony before Parliament is protected from defamation suits.

But Botler did not have to face this entirely on their own as Whistleblowing Canada was called in. We provided critical guidance and support that Botler needed when the very system that should have protected them failed. And through our Lawyer's Directory, they found the legal champion they needed.

Botler's story begs the question: Is this really how we want to treat people who stand up for Canadians and safeguard our hard-earned tax-payer dollars? Is this the message we want to send to the next person who witnesses wrongdoing?

At Whistleblowing Canada, we believe the answer is a resounding “no”. But we cannot change this reality without you.

That's why we're launching a new goal this month:

...[to welcome 30 new monthly donors](#) — supporters who believe, as we do, that speaking up for what's right should never come at the cost of one's livelihood or well-being.

Monthly donors are the backbone of our organization. They give us the steady, reliable support that allows us to answer every call, continue our education and research plans, and press harder for the legislative change Canada urgently needs.

If the courage of the Botler AI whistleblowers inspires you, if you believe that those who protect the public interest deserve protection themselves, [please consider making a gift today](#). Your support — in any amount — helps us ensure that whistleblowers are never alone.

Together, we can create a Canada where standing up for what is right doesn't come at the cost of your livelihood or your future.

[Please donate today](#).

Thank you for standing with us this holiday season.

Pamela

Pamela Forward

President

Whistleblowing Canada Research Society

<https://www.whistleblowingcanada.com/>

About Us

Research - Educate - Advocate

Whistleblowing Canada's work to better understand and improve whistleblowing in Canada, in the end, depends on the political will for change. Developing the political will depends on the strength of the public will to become informed and to campaign for needed improvements.

Support a Stronger Democracy [Here](#) – Donate, Volunteer, Get Updates

Whistleblowing Canada welcomes your feedback. Please comment to:

info@whistleblowingcanada.com

Whistleblowing Canada Research Society

<https://www.whistleblowingcanada.com/>

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