

# THE VANCOUVER ANTI-CORRUPTION INSTITUTE

1822 East Mall  
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1

INTRODUCTION TO VACI



# About the Vancouver Anti-Corruption Institute

Corruption is anathema to the Rule of Law and attacks the very core of societies. The Vancouver Anti-Corruption Institute (VACI) is dedicated to fighting corruption by fostering awareness of the tremendous damage which corruption inflicts in countries around the world.

The Institute is focused on education, research, training, and helping international organizations, governments and communities develop strategies to counter corruption in all its forms. Through our work, we hope to make a difference by supporting domestic and international efforts to strengthen public institutions and rid countries of corruption.

The Institute is the first of its kind in Canada. Situated in Vancouver, a large, multi-cultural city with close ties west and south, the Institute focuses its work on Asia and the Americas. It does so in collaboration with the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform, a program network institute of the UNODC.

We encourage you to join us in our work.



Dr. Peter German, QC, PhD

Chair, The Vancouver Anti-Corruption Institute (VACI)  
Advisory Committee



# Our objectives

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**Engage** - Engage Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments across Canada and around the world on the issues of anti-corruption and anti-money laundering.

**Act** - Act as a global academic resource to public and private entities which seek to better understand the current state of corruption and money laundering.

**Facilitate** - Facilitate the international exchange of ideas between Canada and foreign jurisdictions (with a particular focus on Asia and the Americas) regarding corruption and money laundering.

**Develop** - Develop best practices for asset recovery and the enforcement of anti-corruption laws in Canada and around the world.

**Create** - Create a global network of anti-corruption and anti-money laundering professionals and academics, centered around the work of the Institute.

# Our projects

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**Demystifying Anti-Corruption Enforcement for Journalists: Part I - Enforcement in the United States and Part II - Enforcement in Canada** - VACI partnered with Trace International to deliver awareness training to journalists regarding corruption investigations and prosecutions. Journalists are key to uncovering corruption, at home and abroad. A very successful and well-attended webinar took place on February 16, focussed on U.S. journalists and those interested in the work of the U.S. Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission. A second webinar, focussed on Canadian journalists, took place on March 29.

**International Anti-Corruption Court** - VACI is represented on a Canadian Task Force, chaired by the Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, which is focussed on the establishment of an International Anti-Corruption Court (IACC). The Task Force includes an array of well-known and dedicated individuals. Canada's federal government has endorsed the concept of an IACC, which is in the mandate letter of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In addition, VACI Advisory Committee member, the Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell, recently joined other former heads of state by signing a Declaration in support of an IACC.

**Anti-Corruption Law Program** - VACI partners with the Faculty of Law at UBC and Transparency International, to produce the Anti-Corruption Law Program (ACLP). It consists of a series of monthly workshops, which highlight topical issues in corruption. Recently the meetings have been virtual and well attended from elsewhere in Canada and abroad.

**Global Corruption - Its Regulation under International Conventions, US, UK, and Canadian Law and Practice** - Professor Gerry Ferguson, of the University of Victoria and an ICCLR senior associate, is the author of a text on global anti-corruption law, endorsed by the UNODC. Prof. Ferguson, along with guest authors, has completed a fourth revised edition, available freely online. VACI is a web sponsor of the book and its Chair is a contributor.

**Whistleblowers and Public Integrity Conference** - In partnership with the Office of the BC Ombudsperson, VACI is developing and hosting a conference focussed on whistleblowers. As we know, whistleblowers are critical to uncovering public and private corruption. Public disclosure legislation is being rolled out in many jurisdictions within Canada and abroad. For this reason, and because British Columbia's legislation will soon apply to Crown corporations, the timing is perfect for a discussion of relevant issues. The conference will take place in Vancouver during November 2022. VACI Advisory Committee member, the Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell, will act as Honourary Conference Chair.

**Supply Chains Transparency and Due Diligence Legislation to Prevent Child and Forced Labour: A Guide for Policy Makers and Legislators** - This legislative guide, written by ICCLR Senior Associates, Prof. Yvon Dandurand and Dr. Hayli Millar, describes a range of options for policy makers and legislators to consider in the drafting of supply chain transparency legislation in Canada.

**Public-Private Liaison** - VACI is an Associate Member of the Counter Illicit Financing Alliance (CIFA), an RCMP-led association of banks, other financial institutions, and regulators, focussed on improving co-operation in dealing with money laundering and suspicious financial transactions.

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE



**Professor Neil Boyd**  
Board Chair, ICCLR  
Ex-Officio Member of VACI Advisory  
Committee



**Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell**  
Former Prime Minister of Canada  
Member, VACI Advisory Committee



**Hon. Thomas Cromwell, C.C.**  
Former Justice, Supreme Court of  
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Lawyer, author and China expert  
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**Kevin Vickers**

Former Ambassador of Canada to  
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**Alexandra Wrage**

President and Founder of Trace  
International  
Member, VACI Advisory Committee

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