

Simon Kennedy

Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet, Plans and Consultations, Privy Council Office and Champion of the Federal Youth Network



Simon Kennedy was appointed Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (Plans and Consultations) at the Privy Council Office – the Canadian Cabinet Office – on August 1, 2008. In this capacity, he is responsible for providing assistance to the Prime Minister and Cabinet in defining the government's objectives and priorities; formulating policy on economic and fiscal matters, including the Budget; and ensuring effective governmental communications and consultation. One of his key responsibilities is to provide advice and support for Cabinet meetings and planning retreats, as well as to the Cabinet Committee on Priorities and Planning, which is chaired by the Prime Minister.

He was previously Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (Operations) at the PCO, with responsibility for providing policy advice and ensuring interdepartmental coordination on a wide range of domestic policy and program issues, and the management of five Cabinet committees. Prior to his appointment as head of Operations, he was Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet (Economic and Regional Development Policy), also at the PCO.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Kennedy held senior positions at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, where he helped to develop Canada's first agricultural policy framework as Director General of Policy Planning and Integration. He also worked for Transport Canada and the Canadian Coast Guard in a variety of progressively senior positions related to policy and communications.

In 2008, he was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40 in the national competition of the same name that is sponsored annually by several major Canadian corporations.

Mr. Kennedy holds a bachelor's degree in public relations from Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, and a master's degree in communications management from Syracuse University's Newhouse School in New York. He is also a graduate of INSEAD's Advanced Management Programme.