



## Decision on Closing Submissions

1. On 17 October 2021 I issued a direction setting a 30-page limit for closing submissions from Participants. I indicated that any Participant who required additional pages could ask for permission.
2. On 18 October, the Attorney General of Canada wrote to request an additional 10 pages for its closing submissions. It also requested the right to make 10 pages of classified closing submissions related to the evidence that I received *in camera*.
3. I grant both requests.
4. I agree with the Attorney General that it is involved in all facets of the Commission's investigation and has more to respond to than any other Participant. The Stage 2 factual hearings were, in essence, an investigation into the Government of Canada's actions, policies and programs. While other Participants have very significant interests in this subject matter, none are as comprehensive as the Attorney General's.
5. I also agree that the Attorney General should be permitted to file an additional set of classified closing submissions. While much of the *in camera* evidence was presented in public in the form of summaries, I will still be required to consider the classified evidence itself. The Attorney General ought to have an opportunity to make submissions on the classified record before me.
6. Although this may constitute a limit on the open court principle, I believe that it is justified for the same reasons that justified holding the *in camera* hearings themselves.



7. I consider the additional 20 pages requested by the Attorney General – 10 for its public submissions and 10 for its classified submissions – as a reasonable request in all of the circumstances.

8. I therefore grant the Attorney General the relief it has requested.

*Signed*

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Commissioner Marie-Josée Hogue

October 25, 2024