Reasonable communications plan or muzzling?



You decide.

Environment Canada implemented new policies: all media requests to speak to scientists must go through government communications officers.

September, 2010

Scott Dallimore, a geoscientist at Natural Resources Canada was prevented from doing media interviews for his research published in Nature.

Kristi Miller (scientist at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans) had her salmon research published in **Science** but was not allowed to discuss her work publicly.

Fall, 2011

Environment Canada scientist David Tarasick was prevented from speaking about his research on the ozone layer.

The prestigious international science journal

Nature published an editorial criticising Canada's

Organizations representing scientists and science journalists signed a letter to the Prime Minister asking that government scientists be un-muzzled.

March, 2012

April, 2012 •

February, 2012

muzzling of scientists.

July, 2011

November, 2007

Ottawa Citizen reporter submitted a Freedom of Information request to find out why he didn't receive an answer to his questions about a joint NRC and NASA study on snowfall patterns.

March, 2012

Death of Evidence events took place across the country.

Scientists attending the Polar Year conference in Montreal were shadowed by media relations officers.

January, 2013

July, 2012

Ryerson Review of Journalism publishes Silence of the Labs.

Editorial from the Royal Society of Canada calling for government scientists to be unshackled.

February, 2013

January, 2013

Information Commissioner asked to investigate whether government policies on science-communication are legal under the Access to Information Act.

New DFO rules give department managers new powers to stop research from being published even after it has been accepted by a scientific journal.

February, 2013

February, 2013

Thousands of Canadians, fed up with the Government's treatment of public science, speak out against the censorship and suppression of publicly funded science in Canada.

U.S. scientist refused to sign on to Canadian rules because they could result in muzzling.

March, 2013

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