

Interim National Vice President, Government Relations – MAT LEAVE CONTRACT (15 month contract)

Reports to: President and CEO	Responsible for: 4 regional Vice Presidents, 1 Communications Manager, 1 Government Relations Coordinator
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MANDATE:

To fulfill the Vision and Mission of Restaurants Canada by identifying opportunities and developing and implementing strategies to influence government at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels. Manage a cohesive, effective Government Relations team to enhance the profile of Restaurants Canada with government officials and influential stakeholders. Experience in foodservice industry is preferred.

As a member of the Executive Team, this role provides the CEO and VP Operations with policy intelligence and updates relevant to the business and industry operating environment.

OVERVIEW:

- Maintain and enhance Restaurants Canada's advocacy initiatives with a mandate to continue implementation of a comprehensive communications and government affairs strategy to deliver meaningful and measurable results to the \$89 billion restaurant industry in Canada
- Actively manage all public policy issues of concern to the foodservice industry at all levels of government in Canada, consistent with the strategic direction provided by the association's Board of Directors and the President and CEO
- Mobilize the industry on key issues in cooperation with membership, research, marketing, and communications, to influence decision-makers and raise the profile of Restaurants Canada

OBJECTIVES:

- Develop and execute an integrated strategic response to relevant issues and identify opportunities to raise the profile of Restaurants Canada on key issues to reinforce value-add to membership base and Board of Directors
- Draft/present/review industry submissions on government affairs issues to Parliamentary Committees, Ministers, and other decision-making bodies
- Act as spokesperson to the media as needed
- Build alliances by identifying strategic stakeholders (business groups, NGO's, Consumer advocacy groups, customers, etc.)
- Make regular representations on key restaurant issues through contact with politicians, bureaucrats, and decision makers

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- Maintain open and on-going communication with the President and CEO, and Senior Leadership team, providing complete and accurate activity reports, policy updates, and situation analyses on a regular basis
- Ensure trusted partnerships with internal and external stakeholders are maintained through regular information-sharing, policy updates, and regular meetings with staff department leads
- Budget, staff and administer regional GR operations in Atlantic Canada, Federal/Quebec, Central Canada (Ontario and Manitoba), Western Canada (Saskatchewan, Alberta, B.C.), allocating resources to fulfill the mandate of the department and support the strategic vision of the organization

REQUIREMENTS:

The successful candidate will have a minimum of 10 to 15 years of experience in government relations. This leader will be a high-energy, strategic thinker, with proven leadership and communication skills, significant managerial experience, and well-developed advocacy skills. A Bachelor's degree is required. An advanced degree in political science, public administration, public policy, or other business-related fields would be preferred.

In addition, they will have:

- Demonstrated ability to work with federal and provincial government officials
- Organizational leadership and management experience, the ability to motivate others to advance goals, and the ability to effectively manage multiple projects or roles in a rapidly evolving environment
- Collaborative, with superior interpersonal skills and a demonstrable track record of working with, and earning the trust of, internal and external stakeholders
- Excellent negotiation and problem-solving skills, with a proven ability to provide communications counsel and support to executive leadership

**Please submit a cover letter and CV to: GRocha@restaurantscanada.org
by May 27, 2019.**

Restaurants Canada would like to thank all applicants for their interest. Kindly note that only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.