FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Trudeau’s former top civil servant writes the definitive handbook for political leaders

(Vancouver BC, July 28, 2021) By all accounts, Canadians are going to the polls this fall to cast their vote in a federal election. Newly elected MPs, Cabinet Ministers, and perhaps a new Prime Minister, will need to learn quickly what it means to govern and how to do it successfully.

Michael Wernick, a career public servant with experience working at the highest levels of Canadian government, including the Clerk of the Privy Council from 2016-2019, has written the essential guide to successful governing in his forthcoming book Governing Canada: A Guide to the Tradecraft of Politics due out on October 25th.

What does it really take to govern effectively? Michael Wernick shares tips, insider knowledge, and indispensable advice in this first-ever practical governance handbook. From choosing a Cabinet and getting the most out of it, to delivering on the prime minister’s mandate letter, readers will get a close-up look at how day-to-day political work actually happens. Wernick’s three decades “in the room” with prime ministers, cabinet ministers, and other members of government make this a must-read for politicians and anyone who aspires to understand them.

Michael Wernick was Canada’s twenty-third clerk of the privy council – the top public servant in the federal government. His appointment capped a distinguished public service career in which he worked closely with three prime ministers and their cabinets, as well as four ministers as deputy. Wernick has worked as a deputy minister in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, as well as in the Privy Council Office. He lives in Ottawa.

A limited number of advance review copies of Governing Canada will be available in mid-August. For more information or to arrange for an advance reading copy or an interview with Michael Wernick, please contact Kerry Kilmartin at kilmartin@ubcpress.ca.

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