

# Ben Silverman

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## Summary

Since earning my bachelor's degree I have gained three years of progressive experience in both the private and public sectors. My work has been focused on communications, public policy, and research projects. I have dealt with the media and worked on electoral, fundraising and brand awareness campaigns.

## Experience

### Policy Assistant

#### Office of Official Opposition Critic for National Defence

November 2015-Present

- Provide daily briefings to Members of Parliament of issues related to National Defence, the Canadian Armed Forces, and Security.
- Assists Members of the Standing Committee on National Defence prepare for meetings and in drafting the committee report.
- Handles all of the MP's media relations.
- Develop talking points, QP questions, and other communication tools for use by caucus.
- Coordinated a national consultation including 54 roundtables and over 700 online submissions

### Director of Canvassing and Communications Advisor

#### Federal Campaign for Andy Wang (Nepean)

August-October 2015

- Coordinated teams of 4-12 volunteers, developed scripts to highlight the skills, knowledge & experience of our candidate to the constituents, and analyzed our data collected at the doors.
- Helped to prepare the candidate for multiple local debates.

### Parliamentary Secretary's Assistant

#### Office of the Minister of National Defence

February-November 2015

- Directly advised the Parliamentary Secretary on communications and policy strategies
- Assisted in the media relations strategy for Canada's mission extension against ISIS
- Performed research to assist Members of Parliament prepare for committee meetings, Question Period, and debates in the House of Commons.

## Education and Internships

### Bishop's University

2009-2013

Bachelor of Arts, Honours in Political Studies

- Major in International Political Economy, Minors in Public Policy and Administration & Criminology

### Parliamentary Intern, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA)

September 2014-February 2015

- Performed research and writing assignments, assisted in developing campaign and budget platforms.
- I had access to training sessions on media relations, advocacy & other areas of professional development.

### Public Affairs and Government Relations Intern, Johnson & Johnson Inc

January-May 2014

- Analyzed changes to Federal and Provincial legislation and regulations
- Developed a strategic communications campaign to increase awareness of and access to our smoking cessation products
- Help to develop and pitch public policy proposals to government officials and research groups.

**Skills**

Media relations, media monitoring	External Communications (Social media, Press and Photo Releases, Oral speeches)	Strategic communications, campaign support, development and advocacy	Developing stakeholder relationships
Administrative Duties	Ability to manage timelines and set priorities	Data analysis	Research
Supervising (teams of 4-12)	Issue/ Crisis Management	Public Policy Analysis	Microsoft Office & SPSS Statistics System

**Summer and Student Employment**

- Research Assistant, Bishop's University (Dr. Andrew Stritch) (August 2013-December 2013)
- Lead team supervisor, Canadian Built Home Products (Summer 2013)
- Fundraiser - Annual Alumni Campaign, Bishop's University (November 2012- April 2013)
- Intramural Hockey Commissioner, Bishop's University Intramural Hockey League – (December 2009- December 2013)
- One on One Councillor with special needs camper- Camp Robin Hood- (Summer 2012)
- Park Programmer- City of Ottawa (June-August 2009, June- August 2010, June-August 2011)

**Awards and Recognition**

- Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association (CUFLA) Academic All-Star 2013-2014
- Sharron Koffman Memorial Athletic Award, 2013 (Jewish Community Centre of Ottawa)- Presented annually to the University Varsity Level Athlete who exhibits a spirit of sportsmanship, participation, and dedication to personal goals of excellence
- Florence May Foreman Academic Scholarship (Bishop's University)- 2009, 2010