



ARCS: 292-30  
File: PSS-2011-01382

October 12, 2011

Sent via email:

Dear

**Re: Request for Access to Records**  
***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)***

I am writing further to your request received by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. Your request is for:

*Any and all contracts, including service agreements or service contracts that have been directly awarded by any Ministry, including records of the ministry's rationale for circumventing a competitive process. Time frame is January 1, 2011 to April 30, 2011.*

Please find enclosed a copy of the records located in response to your request. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section(s) 15 (Disclosure harmful to law enforcement) and 22 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy) of FOIPPA. Copies of these sections of FOIPPA are provided for your reference. A complete copy of FOIPPA is available online at:

[http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00)

Please note, creating the enclosed record captured four non-Ministry contracts that have been removed as "Not-responsive" to your request. Your file is now closed.

As part of the BC Government's new Open Information initiative, this response and the enclosed records will be published on the Open Information website a minimum of 72 hours after it is

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released electronically or a minimum of five business days after it has been released by mail in hardcopy. To find out more about Open Information, please access the Open Information website at: <http://www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca/ibc/index.page>.

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Rob Gordon, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250 356-7869. This number can be reached toll-free by calling from Vancouver, 604-660-7867, or from elsewhere in BC, 1-800-663-7867 and asking to be transferred to 250 356-7869.

You have the right to ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this decision. I have enclosed information on the review and complaint process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicki Hudson', is written over a light yellow horizontal line.

For Vicki Hudson, Manager  
Justice / Social Team  
Information Access Operations

Enclosures

<p>How to Request a Review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner</p>
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If you have any questions regarding your request please contact the analyst assigned to your file. The analyst's name and telephone number are listed in the attached letter.

Pursuant to section 52 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA), you may ask the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review any decision, act, or failure to act with regard to your request under FOIPPA.

**Please note that you have 30 business days to file your review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. In order to request a review please write to:**

Information and Privacy Commissioner  
PO Box 9038 Stn Prov Govt  
4th Floor, 947 Fort Street  
Victoria BC V8W 9A4  
Telephone 250-387-5629      Fax 250-387-1696

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's Office with:

1. A copy of your original request;
2. A copy of our response; and
3. The reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting the review.

### **Disclosure harmful to law enforcement**

- 15 (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to
  - (a) harm a law enforcement matter,
  - (b) prejudice the defence of Canada or of any foreign state allied to or associated with Canada or harm the detection, prevention or suppression of espionage, sabotage or terrorism,
  - (c) harm the effectiveness of investigative techniques and procedures currently used, or likely to be used, in law enforcement,
  - (d) reveal the identity of a confidential source of law enforcement information,
  - (e) reveal criminal intelligence that has a reasonable connection with the detection, prevention or suppression of organized criminal activities or of serious and repetitive criminal activities,
  - (f) endanger the life or physical safety of a law enforcement officer or any other person,
  - (g) reveal any information relating to or used in the exercise of prosecutorial discretion,
  - (h) deprive a person of the right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication,
  - (i) reveal a record that has been confiscated from a person by a peace officer in accordance with an enactment,
  - (j) facilitate the escape from custody of a person who is under lawful detention,
  - (k) facilitate the commission of an offence under an enactment of British Columbia or Canada, or
  - (l) harm the security of any property or system, including a building, a vehicle, a computer system or a communications system.
  
- (2) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if the information
  - (a) is in a law enforcement record and the disclosure would be an offence under an Act of Parliament,
  - (b) is in a law enforcement record and the disclosure could reasonably be expected to expose to civil liability the author of the record or a person who has been quoted or paraphrased in the record, or
  - (c) is about the history, supervision or release of a person who is in custody or under supervision and the disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the proper custody or supervision of that person.
  
- (3) The head of a public body must not refuse to disclose under this section
  - (a) a report prepared in the course of routine inspections by an agency that is authorized to enforce compliance with an Act,

- (b) a report, including statistical analysis, on the degree of success achieved in a law enforcement program unless disclosure of the report could reasonably be expected to interfere with or harm any of the matters referred to in subsection (1) or (2), or
  - (c) statistical information on decisions under the Crown Counsel Act to approve or not to approve prosecutions.
- (4) The head of a public body must not refuse, after a police investigation is completed, to disclose under this section the reasons for a decision not to prosecute
  - (a) to a person who knew of and was significantly interested in the investigation, including a victim or a relative or friend of a victim, or
  - (b) to any other member of the public, if the fact of the investigation was made public.

### **Disclosure harmful to personal privacy**

- 22 (1) The head of a public body must refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.
- (2) In determining under subsection (1) or (3) whether a disclosure of personal information constitutes an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy, the head of a public body must consider all the relevant circumstances, including whether
  - (a) the disclosure is desirable for the purpose of subjecting the activities of the government of British Columbia or a public body to public scrutiny,
  - (b) the disclosure is likely to promote public health and safety or to promote the protection of the environment,
  - (c) the personal information is relevant to a fair determination of the applicant's rights,
  - (d) the disclosure will assist in researching or validating the claims, disputes or grievances of aboriginal people,
  - (e) the third party will be exposed unfairly to financial or other harm,
  - (f) the personal information has been supplied in confidence,
  - (g) the personal information is likely to be inaccurate or unreliable, and
  - (h) the disclosure may unfairly damage the reputation of any person referred to in the record requested by the applicant.
- (3) A disclosure of personal information is presumed to be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if
  - (a) the personal information relates to a medical, psychiatric or psychological history, diagnosis, condition, treatment or evaluation,
  - (b) the personal information was compiled and is identifiable as part of an investigation into a possible violation of law, except to the extent that disclosure is necessary to prosecute the violation or to continue the investigation,
  - (c) the personal information relates to eligibility for income assistance or social service benefits or to the determination of benefit levels,
  - (d) the personal information relates to employment, occupational or educational history,
  - (e) the personal information was obtained on a tax return or gathered for the purpose of collecting a tax,
  - (f) the personal information describes the third party's finances, income, assets, liabilities, net worth, bank balances, financial history or activities, or creditworthiness,
  - (g) the personal information consists of personal recommendations or evaluations, character references or personnel evaluations about the third party.
- (h) the disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal that the third party supplied, in

confidence, a personal recommendation or evaluation, character reference or personnel evaluation,

- (i) the personal information indicates the third party's racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation or religious or political beliefs or associations, or
  - (j) the personal information consists of the third party's name, address or telephone number and is to be used for mailing lists or solicitations by telephone or other means.
- (4) A disclosure of personal information is not an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if
- (a) the third party has, in writing, consented to or requested the disclosure,
  - (b) there are compelling circumstances affecting anyone's health or safety and notice of disclosure is mailed to the last known address of the third party,
  - (c) an enactment of British Columbia or Canada authorizes the disclosure,
  - (d) the disclosure is for a research or statistical purpose and is in accordance with section 35,
  - (e) the information is about the third party's position, functions or remuneration as an officer, employee or member of a public body or as a member of a minister's staff,
  - (f) the disclosure reveals financial and other details of a contract to supply goods or services to a public body,
  - (g) public access to the information is provided under the Financial Information Act,
  - (h) the information is about expenses incurred by the third party while travelling at the expense of a public body,
  - (i) the disclosure reveals details of a licence, permit or other similar discretionary benefit granted to the third party by a public body, not including personal information supplied in support of the application for the benefit, or
  - (j) the disclosure reveals details of a discretionary benefit of a financial nature granted to the third party by a public body, not including personal information that is supplied in support of the application for the benefit or is referred to in subsection (3) (c).
- (5) On refusing, under this section, to disclose personal information supplied in confidence about an applicant, the head of the public body must give the applicant a summary of the information unless the summary cannot be prepared without disclosing the identity of a third party who supplied the personal information.
- (6) The head of the public body may allow the third party to prepare the summary of personal information under subsection (5).