



ARCS: 292-30
File: FIN-2011-00184

November 30, 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 Finance. Your request is for:

"Any Ministry documents that indicate the last time the Gentax, TACS, and FAST computer systems were upgraded; The names of any other computer systems that were used in the administration of the provincial sales tax (PST) and the dates those systems were last updated."

In response to your above request for information, the Ministry has advised of the following:

- The PST was administered using the Taxpayer Administration Compliance & Services (TACS) system.
- TACS was built using a computer off the shelf (COTS) package called GenTax developed by FAST Enterprises.
- TACS was implemented on GenTax Version 1 in 1999/2000.
- Version 2 upgrade was completed March 2003.
- Version 3 upgrade was completed December 2005.
- Microsoft stopped supporting the underlying technology of Version 3 since April 2008.

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- The ministry has maintained version 3 over the years to ensure it remained effective.
- GenTax is currently on Version 8 – there have been significant technology advancements, new product features including electronic service capabilities.
- The ministry is re-implementing the PST using Version 8 in order to minimize operational risks, reduce support costs and transform service delivery (eServices and self-service) within the restricted time frame.
- Once the PST is established, we will migrate administration of other taxes into the updated system.

Your file is now closed.


This letter will be published on the BC Government's Open Information website a minimum of 72 hours after it is 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 Kristin Hodgins, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250-952-7944. 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 250-952-7944.

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,



 Russ Fuller, Manager
Business and Infrastructure 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.