



ARCS: 292-30
File: AED-2011-00052

December 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 Advanced Education on October 4, 2011. Your request is for:

- *“All records pertaining to which proposed new degree programs from public post-secondary institutions, both inside and outside British Columbia, were rejected by the board and the reasoning behind those rejections. Time frame is 2007 to [October 4, 2011].”*

The ministry has indicated that Cape Breton University of Nova Scotia was the only public post-secondary institution which submitted an application to the board during the time frame of your request. The university opted to withdraw its application in 2007 as reported in the Degree Quality Assessment Board's 2007/2008 annual report. We provided you with links to the board's annual reports by email on November 1, 2011.

Please find enclosed a copy of the record located in response to your request. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 13 (Policy advice or recommendations) of FOIPPA. A copy of this section is included for your reference. A complete copy of FOIPPA is available online at:

http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00

Your file is now closed.

2...

This record 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 Hema Paupiah, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250 387-1805. This number can be reached toll-free by calling 604 660-7867 from Vancouver or 1 800 663-7867 from elsewhere in BC and asking to be transferred to 250 387-1805.

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 blue ink that reads "Maxine Vanzetta". The script is cursive and fluid.

Maxine Vanzetta, Manager
Health / Education Team
Information Access Operations

Enclosures

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Policy advice or recommendations

- 13** (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal advice or recommendations developed by or for a public body or a minister.
- (2) The head of a public body must not refuse to disclose under subsection (1)
- (a) any factual material,
 - (b) a public opinion poll,
 - (c) a statistical survey,
 - (d) an appraisal,
 - (e) an economic forecast,
 - (f) an environmental impact statement or similar information,
 - (g) a final report or final audit on the performance or efficiency of a public body or on any of its policies or its programs or activities,
 - (h) a consumer test report or a report of a test carried out on a product to test equipment of the public body,
 - (i) a feasibility or technical study, including a cost estimate, relating to a policy or project of the public body,
 - (j) a report on the results of field research undertaken before a policy proposal is formulated,
 - (k) a report of a task force, committee, council or similar body that has been established to consider any matter and make reports or recommendations to a public body,
 - (l) a plan or proposal to establish a new program or activity or to change a program or activity, if the plan or proposal has been approved or rejected by the head of the public body,
 - (m) information that the head of the public body has cited publicly as the basis for making a decision or formulating a policy, or

(n) a decision, including reasons, that is made in the exercise of a discretionary power or an adjudicative function and that affects the rights of the applicant.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to information in a record that has been in existence for 10 or more years.

<p style="text-align: center;">How to Request a Review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner</p>

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.