



ARCS: 292-30
File: HTH-2013-00146

August 16, 2013

Sent by mail

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 Health. Your request is for:

- **All information held by any means of retrieval showing that an application for premium assistance can be used for an application for enrolment for the [Medical Services Plan - MSP], or all documentation that shows an application for premium assistance cannot be used for enrolment with B.C. medical at any time or in certain cases;**
- **Records or documentation that shows how many people have opted out of the [MSP] since 1998; records should include how many people have refused to join the [MSP] since 1998; records must contain how many people have been charged with any violations to the *Medicare Protection Act* or any act that enforces or regulates health care in B.C;**
- **Documentation must include how many people have been enrolled onto the MSP by the Ministry of Health without an application signed by a resident of B.C., and what years enrolment was done by the ministry or any agent or ministry acting on the government's behalf; and**
- **List all the ways a resident of B.C. must enrol with the MSP of B.C., including laws or sections of acts stating laws for enrolment or refusal to do so.**

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Please find enclosed a copy of the records located in response to your request. These records have been provided to you in their entirety. Your file is now closed.

Regarding the portion of your request pertaining to the number of people who have been charged with any violations to various laws in B.C., the ministry would not have records because “*charged*” normally denotes a formal legal action where accusations are brought forward by law enforcement agencies before a court of law. The ministry has informed that beneficiaries and practitioners are not charged for criminal offences under the *Medicare Protection Act*.

These records will be published on the B.C. 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,



On behalf of:
Maxine Vanzetta, Manager
Health / Education Team
Information Access Operations

Enclosure

<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
P.O. 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.