

ARCS: 292-30 File: CFD-2011-01311

December 9, 2011

Sent via email:

Dear

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

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I am writing further to your request received by the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Your request is for:

"Re: File

:

- Any policy, procedure or documentation stating who has access to that file and under what circumstances access is permitted to government personnel or other individuals.
- Regarding Section 12.3.3 of the Information Management and Information Technology Management Policy, provide documentation setting out how the following statement has been implemented at the Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD) concerning respect for the privacy of clients of the Ministry, that policy states - ensure a proactive privacy framework, sound principles of privacy, security and confidentiality must be understood by all users of personal data and incorporated into daily practice within public bodies. This involves developing a culture where privacy is seen as design objective for information and technology not an obstacle to be overcome;
- Provide documentation demonstrating that privacy principles were and are taken into account during the design, implementation and evolution of programs, systems and services related to management of client records at the MCFD;

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Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government Shared Services BC Information Access Operations Mailing Address: PO Box 9569 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9K1 Website: <u>http://www.gov.bc.ca/citz/iao/</u> Telephone: 250-387-1321 Fax: 250-387-9843

- Provide the MCFDs approved records retention and disposition schedules and asset management processes that apply;
- Provide the MCFDs internal records disposition procedures that apply to above named file;
- Provide documentation on how the MCFD will maintain that file in a manner that preserves its integrity and authenticity up to and throughout transfer to the government archives;
- Regarding Section 12.3.6, please provide any documentation stating whether the above named file is considered valuable at the MCFD and how they are viewed and managed as an asset that must be protected commensurate with their value;
- Provide documentation on privacy principles that have been incorporated into the design of the information systems that file in both its print and electronic aspects."

Please find enclosed a copy of the records located in response to your request. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 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

Your file is now closed.

These records 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: <u>http://www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca/ibc/index.page</u>

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Adam Skulsky, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250-356-8985. 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 250-356-8985.

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,

Ludson

Vicki Hudson, Manager Justice / Social Team Information Access Operations

Enclosures

## How to Request a Review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner

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 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).