

ARCS: 292-30

File#: 292-30/AED-2012-00088

October 17, 2012

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, Innovation and Technology (Multiculturalism). Your request is for:

Records pertaining to Minister Naomi Yamamoto's visit to the Penticton campus of Okanagan College on August 23, 2012 including briefing notes, speaking notes or remarks prepared for the Minister, itineraries and anything else that describes the purpose of the visit and the expected audience; Records that will show the cost for Minister Yamamoto and any Ministry staff members to travel to and from Penticton for the visit; Any records that pertain to monitoring of media coverage following the visit. Timeframe is June 1, 2012 to August 31, 2012.

Please find enclosed a copy of the records located in response to your request. Some information has been withheld pursuant to section(s) 13 (Policy advice or recommendations), 15 (Disclosure harmful to law enforcement), and 17 (Disclosure harmful to the financial or economic interests of a public body), 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

.../2

Fax: 250-387-9843

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: http://www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca/ibc/index.page

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Beverly Newton, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250-387-7996. This number can be reached toll-free by calling from Vancouver, 604-660-2421, or from elsewhere in BC, 1-800-663-7867 and asking to be transferred to 250-387-7996.

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,

for

Maxine Vanzetta, Manager Health / Education Team Information Access Operations

Debbie Kangas

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.

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.

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 or activity 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 the financial or economic interests of a public body

- 17 (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to harm the financial or economic interests of a public body or the government of British Columbia or the ability of that government to manage the economy, including the following information:
 - (a) trade secrets of a public body or the government of British Columbia;
 - (b) financial, commercial, scientific or technical information that belongs to a public body or to the government of British Columbia and that has, or is reasonably likely to have, monetary value;
 - (c) plans that relate to the management of personnel of or the administration of a public body and that have not yet been implemented or made public;
 - (d) information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in the premature disclosure of a proposal or project or in undue financial loss or gain to a third party;
 - (e) information about negotiations carried on by or for a public body or the government of British Columbia;
 - (f) information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to harm the negotiating position of a public body or the government of British Columbia.
 - (2) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose under subsection (1) research information if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to deprive the researcher of priority of publication.
 - (3) The head of a public body must not refuse to disclose under subsection (1) the results of product or environmental testing carried out by or for that public body, unless the testing was done
 - (a) for a fee as a service to a person, a group of persons or an organization other than the public body, or
- (b) for the purpose of developing methods of testing

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,
 - (h) the disclosure may unfairly damage the reputation of any person referred to in the record requested by the applicant, and
 - (i) the information is about a deceased person and, if so, whether the length of time the person has been deceased indicates the disclosure is not an unreasonable invasion of the deceased person's personal privacy.
 - (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 the content of a personal recommendation or evaluation, a character reference or a personnel evaluation

- supplied by the third party in confidence and the applicant could reasonably be expected to know the identity of the third party,
- (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, in respect of
 - (i) a licence, a permit or any other similar discretionary benefit, or
 - (ii) a degree, a diploma or a certificate,

reveals any of the following with respect to the applicable item in subparagraph (i) or (ii):

- (iii) the name of the third party to whom the item applies;
- (iv) what the item grants or confers on the third party or authorizes the third party to do;
- (v) the status of the item;
- (vi) the date the item was conferred or granted;
- (vii) the period of time the item is valid;
- (viii) the date the item expires, or
- (j) the disclosure, in respect of a discretionary benefit of a financial nature granted to a third party by a public body, not including personal information referred to in subsection (3) (c), reveals any of the following with respect to the benefit:
 - (i) the name of the third party to whom the benefit applies;
 - (ii) what the benefit grants to the third party;
 - (iii) the date the benefit was granted;
 - (iv) the period of time the benefit is valid;
 - (v) the date the benefit ceases.

- (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
 - (a) the summary cannot be prepared without disclosing the identity of a third party who supplied the personal information, or
 - (b) with respect to subsection (3) (h), either paragraph (a) of this subsection applies or the applicant could reasonably be expected to know the identity of the third party who supplied the personal recommendation or evaluation, character reference or personnel evaluation.
- (6) The head of the public body may allow the third party to prepare the summary of personal information under subsection (5).