



ARCS: 292-30
File: HTH-2013-00191

October 17, 2013

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 Health. Your request is for:

Regarding the BC Smoking Cessation Program which began in September 2011: The cost (whether in-house or contracted) of developing and implementing the program, after the June 2011 announcement and before the program start, split by STOB and whether in-house or contracted; Monthly data on the costs of the program, separating administrative and overhead costs (whether in-house or contracted) from product costs with admin/overhead costs by STOB and whether in-house or contracted and product costs split by each smoking cessation medication or nicotine replacement product; The number of clients of the program and monthly data on the number of new enrolments, split by which smoking cessation medication or nicotine replacement product the patient chose and indicate/split repeat clients; The number of deaths and hospitalizations for clients of the program and monthly data, going back to 2009, split by which smoking cessation medication or nicotine replacement product the patient used and indicating whether the death or hospitalization took place before using the product (for hospitalizations only), while using the product, or after completing the course of the product. Date range is January 1, 2009 to [July 15, 2013].

Please find enclosed a copy of the records located in response to your request. Please note some information in the records is marked 'not responsive' as it does not respond to the wording and/or the date range of your request, the remainder of the records are provided to you in their entirety.

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Ministry advises that information in response to point 4 of this request is not collected. Obtaining statistics on the number of deaths and hospitalizations related to clients in the program, and indicating whether the death or hospitalization took place before, while, during, or after using the products would entail linking the data and in depth analysis. This type of research projects would take several months to complete by one or more of ministry analysts. As a result of this, there is no obligation for the Ministry to create a record, in accordance with s. 6 (duty to assist) of the Act.

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 Elizabeth Horn, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250-387-9863. 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 250-387-9863.

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 black ink, appearing to read 'E. Horn', is shown within a light gray rectangular border.

For
Maxine Vanzetta, Manager
Health / Education 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.