



ARCS: 292-30
File: CFD-2016-60341

March 3, 2016

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 Children and Family Development. Your request is for:

Regarding the CFD/RCY joint report, The Placement of Children and Youth in Care in Hotels in British Columbia: Records about each placement from November 2014 to October 2015 for the South Fraser Service Delivery Area (32 placements), North Fraser SDA (27), Vancouver/Richmond SDA (14), and Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society (12), including: the name and address of each hotel used for placements, the length of each stay, the dates of the placements, reasons for each hotel placement, and the cost of each placement - payment to the hotel for room, food, beverage and entertainment, in dollars; an Excel spreadsheet is acceptable. (Date Range for Record Search: From 11/01/2014 To 01/14/2016)

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. A complete copy of FOIPPA is available online at:

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96165_00

The Ministry advises that, in order to provide you with the requested information without the need to issue a fee, the attached spreadsheet was created to respond to your request. The cost of each placement is not readily available to be provided via the attached spreadsheet, as expenses, such as hotel stays for children in care, are paid either directly by the Ministry to the hotel or by the contracted agencies and the Ministry's financial coding does not track costs specific to hotels utilized to house children in either of these situations.

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For hotel placements made directly by the Ministry, expenses are charged to a financial code that also includes hotel stays for parents of children in care as well as caregivers travelling with children in care. The Ministry has this aggregate data on the total cost of hotels stays; however, in order to provide you with the records you have requested, Ministry staff will need to review each file to differentiate hotel costs for children in care and those for parents/caregivers travelling with children. Such a review will generate a fee due to the amount of time required.

For hotel placements made by contracted agencies, the Ministry makes lump sum payments to contracted agencies for all support costs, which may include a hotel placement. In order to provide you with the hotel cost, ministry staff will need to review each contract file to identify aggregate payments related to hotel placement and contact the agency for further breakdown of the hotel only specific costs. Again, this would incur a fee.

The records are stored in this manner to meet the business needs of the program area, and unfortunately there is not an electronic solution to pull the specific records or data you are seeking.

Your file is now closed.

These records will be published on the BC Government's Open Information website a minimum of 72 hours after electronic release or a minimum of five business days after release 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 Kelly Morita, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250 356-2030. 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 250 356-2030.

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 'kmorita', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kelly Morita for:
Kris Ghag, Manager
Justice / Social 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.