



ARCS: 292-30  
File: FIN-2018-86176

December 13, 2018

Sent via email:

**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 Finance. You narrowed your request on October 18, 2018 through email with Chelsea Fern. Your request is for:

*Reports and briefing notes prepared by the Policy and Legislation branch for the Minister or Deputy Minister that discuss the beneficial ownership of residential real estate in BC (e.g. titles held through corporations, trusts and nominee individuals). Please canvass for records at an Executive Director level or above only. Of particular interest are any reports and briefing notes prepared in relation to the draft Land Owner Transparency Act, the foreign buyer tax of 2016, or discussing the risks of money laundering and tax evasion through real estate; also include: reports and briefing notes related to the ownership of residential real estate through legal entities and arrangements (i.e., companies and trusts) submitted to the Ministry by the Office of the Superintendent of Real Estate, the Real Estate Foundation of B.C., the Real Estate Errors and Omissions Insurance Corporation and the Real Estate Compensation Fund Corporation (Date Range for Record Search: From 01/01/2016 To 08/30/2018)*

Please find enclosed **phase one** of your request. Additional records will follow under separate cover. Some information has been withheld in the enclosed records pursuant to sections 12 (Cabinet and local public body confidences), 13 (Policy advice or recommendations), 16 (Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations or negotiations), and 17 (Disclosure harmful

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to the financial or economic interests of a public body) of FOIPPA. A complete copy of FOIPPA is available online at:

[http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96165_00)

These records will be published on the BC Government's Open Information website a minimum of five business days after release. To find out more about Open Information, please access the Open Information website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/openinformation](http://www.gov.bc.ca/openinformation)

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Chelsea Fern, the analyst assigned to your request, at 778 698-2740. 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 778 698-2740.

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,



Natalie Appleton, Team Lead  
On behalf of Cindy Elbahir, Manager  
Central Agency 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.