



File: 292-30/HTH-2021-13273

October 19, 2021

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. You requested:

Provide copies of all documents, including e-mails, texts or Instant messages, slack messages, WhatsApp messages, memos, briefing notes., etc., regarding the proposal, development and issuing of the COVID vaccination notification letters by Interior Health (see here: <https://globalnews.ca/news/8040828/covid-19-privacy-concerns-interior-health-letters/>), and any documents regarding any privacy or personal information concerns in sending them (Date Range for Record Search: From 4/1/2021 To 7/20/2021)

At this time, government ministries are actively responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and working to balance vital priorities. As such, the Information and Privacy Commissioner has approved a 30-day extension based on section 10(2)(b) (if the commissioner otherwise considers that it is fair and reasonable to do so).

The due date for response is now December 1, 2021. We will respond sooner if possible. A copy of section 10 is enclosed and a complete copy of FOIPPA is available online at: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96165_00

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Tanya Garneau, the analyst assigned to your request, at 236 478-0882. 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 236 478-0882.

Sincerely,

Tanya Garneau, FOI Analyst
On behalf of Darlene Kotchonoski, Manager
Justice / Health Team, Information Access Operations

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Extending the time limit for responding

10 (1) The head of a public body may extend the time for responding to a request for up to 30 days if one or more of the following apply:

- (a) the applicant does not give enough detail to enable the public body to identify a requested record;
- (b) a large number of records are requested or must be searched and meeting the time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the public body;
- (c) more time is needed to consult with a third party or other public body before the head can decide whether or not to give the applicant access to a requested record.
- (d) the applicant has consented, in the prescribed manner, to the extension.

(2) In addition to the authority under subsection (1), with the permission of the commissioner, the head of a public body may extend the time for responding to a request as follows:

- (a) if one or more of the circumstances described in subsection (1) (a) to (d) apply, for a period of longer than the 30 days permitted under that subsection;
- (b) if the commissioner otherwise considers that it is fair and reasonable to do so, as the commissioner considers appropriate.

(3) If the time for responding to a request is extended under this section, the head of the public body must tell the applicant

- (a) the reason for the extension,
- (b) when a response can be expected, and
- (c) in the case of an extension under subsection (1) (a) to (c), that the applicant may complain about the extension under section 42 (2) (b) or 60 (1) (a).