

**From:** [Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX](#)  
**To:** [Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: MLA request for bullets: Constituent inquiry - former youth in care  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 9:29:18 AM

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Good morning Christina,

The following was provided by Tony Nelson, Director of Tuition Waiver Program:

- Tuition for former youth in care will be waived based on the following eligibility criteria for the Tuition Waiver Program.  
A student or potential student:
  - has spent a total of 24 months (consecutive or cumulative) in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development at any point in their childhood or youth,
  - is between the ages of 19 to 26,
  - is a resident of British Columbia, and
  - is attending a British Columbia public post-secondary institution.
- When the program was announced on September 1, 2017, it was meant for education and skills training going forward from that date. Unfortunately, funds dedicated to this program cannot be applied retroactively to previous years' studies.

Based on the information provided, according to our Student Services Branch, it appears that the constituent has already accessed <sup>s.22</sup> . . . . .  
s.22

|

Please advise if you would like any additional information or if we can assist any further.

Regards,

Jeremy Oaten, MA, CIAPP-C  
Manager, Business Services & Ministerial Correspondence and Research Unit  
Office of the Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
T: 250 356-6284  
C: 250 217-6951  
F: 250 356-5468

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** Smollett, Debbie AEST:EX  
**Subject:** Constituent inquiry - former youth in care

Hi Debbie,

I received a request from the Stikine constituency office regarding a combination student loan issue and question about the former youth in care tuition waiver.

I don't think there is any way to assist with current student loans (looks like a federal issue), or to get missed tuition returned from a private institution. However, <sup>s.22</sup>  
s.22

Can you please connect me with some bullets/info to pass along, or advise if you'd prefer Ministry staff connect with the constituent directly?

Thanks!  
Christina

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**From:** Maitland, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Subject:** RE: s.22

s.22

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX [<mailto:Christina.Rzepa@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** November 15, 2017 11:18 AM  
**To:** Maitland, Julie <[Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: <sup>s.22</sup>

Thanks Julie,

I can definitely pass this along to the Ministry to look in to – do you have a consent form for this constituent and ideally a brief summary of the issue? There's a lot in this thread ☺

Cheers  
Christina

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**From:** Maitland, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 4:16 PM  
**To:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Subject:** RE:s.22

Hello Christina

Unsure if you can help with this. We had sent to Cindy but s.22 has heard nothing back. s.22  
called our office again this morning.

Thanks

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**From:** Donaldson.MLA, Doug  
**Sent:** September 22, 2017 10:35 AM  
**To:** 'cindy.slesh@gov.bc.ca' <cindy.slesh@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW:s.22

Thank you Cindy! s.22 and I  
guess the new announcement about tuition breaks for Youth in Care got s.22  
s.22

Thanks

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s.22  
**From:**  
**Sent:** September 12, 2017 1:58 PM  
**To:** Donaldson.MLA, Doug <Doug.Donaldson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE s.22

s.22

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s.22

**From:** [Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX](#)  
**To:** [Avendano, Christian AEST:EX](#); [Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Cox, Michael GCPE:EX](#); [Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE:s.22  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 9:05:40 AM  
**Attachments:** s.22

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Good morning,

Just closing the loop on this one, apologies for the delay, but it was fulfilled shortly after receiving.

Attached is the summary of the call performed by Bryan Dreilich, Director of Adult Education on November 16<sup>th</sup> in response to the MLA office inquiry.

Jeremy Oaten, MA, CIAPP-C  
Manager, Business Services & Ministerial Correspondence and Research Unit  
Office of the Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
T: 250 356-6284  
C: 250 217-6951  
F: 250 356-5468

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**From:** Minister, AEST AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2017 12:46 PM  
**To:** Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX  
**Subject:** FW:s.22

Hi Jeremy,

I'm just bringing this email to your attention.  
It was directed from MLA Horgan's Office.

I have marked the item for the Ministry to follow-up with the constituent.  
Could the Ministry please loop us all back in (Christian, Christina Rzepa and Maureen at MLA Horgan's Office) when the constituent has been assisted?

Many thanks,

Michael

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**From:** Cox, Michael AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 9:05 AM  
**To:** Minister, AEST AEST:EX  
**Cc:** Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX; Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX; Avendano, Christian AEST:EX  
**Subject:** FW:s.22

Hello AEST team,

As advised by Christian, could the Ministry please follow up directly to the individual's inquiry below?

Kind regards,

Michael

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**From:** Horgan.MLA, John [<mailto:John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 10, 2017 4:26 PM  
**To:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX; Cox, Michael AEST:EX  
**Subject:** s.22

Hello Christina and Michael,

s.22 and s.22 stopped by our office for some information, and although I did read your press release and checked the website, I was not 100% sure on the answer to his question:

s.22

s.22

I have attached his consent form and if easier, please communicate direct with s.22 and perhaps you could advise me of the answer.

s.22

Best regards,  
Maureen

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**Maureen Mitchell-Starkey** | Constituency Assistant to John Horgan, MLA, Langford-Juan de Fuca  
#122 - 2806 Jacklin Road Victoria BC V9B 5A4 | P: 250-391-2801 | F: 250-391-2804  
E: [Maureen.Mitchell-Starkey@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Maureen.Mitchell-Starkey@leg.bc.ca)  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm



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s.22

**From:** [Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX](#)  
**To:** [Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Cox, Michael GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent inquiry - student loans  
**Date:** Monday, November 27, 2017 3:51:54 PM

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Checking, I'll get back to you shortly. I don't have any records on this one but likely Ashley may.

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 3:47 PM  
**To:** Smollett, Debbie AEST:EX  
**Cc:** Cox, Michael AEST:EX  
**Subject:** Constituent inquiry - student loans

Hi Debbie,

The Maple Ridge-Mission CO called me to follow up on an inquiry from a month or so ago. The case has now being handled by another office because the constituent actually lives in another part of town. The CA from Maple Ridge-Mission is now receiving calls from this constituent about her student loan situation, still looking for a response.

A constituency assistant from Pitt Meadows spoke with Michael about this person and I believe someone from the Ministry was going to contact the constituent directly.

I'm wondering if I could please get an update:

- Was the constituent contacted directly by the Ministry?
- What was the advice given, so that the new CA can gain more of an understanding of the case, and help re-iterate the steps this person needs to take.

The constituent's name is <sup>s.22</sup>

Thank you so much!

Christina Rzepa  
Executive Assistant to Hon. Melanie Mark  
Minister for Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
Room 133 Parliament Buildings  
Cell: 250-812-6940



**From:** [Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX](#)  
**To:** [Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Student loans questions from constituent  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 1:06:34 PM

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Good afternoon Christina,

The following bullets were prepared by our Student Services Branch in response to the inquiry from MLA Katrine Conroy's office:

- Government is committed to phasing out interest on B.C. student loans.
- August 1, 2017 marked the first reduction in interest, reducing the provincial student loan interest rate by 2.5% to the prime rate.
- All SABC borrowers have benefitted from this reduction that took effect on August 1, 2017, as will future borrowers; however, interest collected prior to August 1, 2017 will not be adjusted.

s.13,s.17

- Provinces/territories do not have jurisdiction over the interest rate the federal government applies to federal loans issued to B.C. students. The federal government sets the interest rate for the federal component of Canada-B.C. Integrated Student Loans, and the Provincial government sets the interest rate for the provincial component.

Please advise if there is any additional information required, or if we can provide any further assistance.

Thank you,

Jeremy Oaten, MA, CIAPP-C  
Manager, Business Services & Ministerial Correspondence and Research Unit  
Office of the Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
T: 250 356-6284  
C: 250 217-6951  
F: 250 356-5468

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, November 10, 2017 3:06 PM  
**To:** Smollett, Debbie AEST:EX  
**Subject:** Student loans questions from constituent

Hi Debbie, not time sensitive. I let this constituent know that we have reduced student loan interest rates to 2.5% but wondering if there is any more information that I could provide her with?

Thanks!  
Christina

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**From:** Brunner, Angelika [<mailto:Angelika.Brunner@leg.bc.ca>]

**Sent:** Friday, November 10, 2017 11:54 AM  
**To:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Subject:** student loans questions from constituent

Hi Christina,

I was hoping you could direct me to some information about any updates on the Ministry's plans to mitigate the financial burden of student loans. A constituent is asking me "what the government is doing about this", as she was very keen to hear that we were interested in doing something about it before becoming government. Specifically, she is wondering if there are plans to reduce the interest on student loans, and if there will be any retroactive application of whatever new policy will be put in place.

I realize these specific questions may be too premature, but I thought I'd ask if there's anything you suggest I tell her. Just a few bullet points.

Thanks Christina!

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**Angelika Brunner, Constituency Assistant**

Katrine Conroy, MLA | Kootenay West | #2, 1006 3rd Street | Castlegar, BC | V1N 3A9 | T:[250-304-2783](tel:250-304-2783) | F: 250-304-2655

**From:** [Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX](#)  
**To:** [Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent inquiry - former youth in care  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 4:45:20 PM

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Yes, your call for sure. Typically if staff do direct follow up it is to the client directly, not the MLA office. For now, we'll initiate a request for draft MLA bullets for you to share with the MLA office but if you decide we should do the direct reply instead, we'll redirect as needed.

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 4:43 PM  
**To:** Smollett, Debbie AEST:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent inquiry - former youth in care

s.13

s.13 . I like getting a quick response back to constituents for sure!

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**From:** Smollett, Debbie AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 4:39 PM  
**To:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent inquiry - former youth in care

We'd be happy to have a direct response and then get you a summary of that discussion...let me know if you are ok with that? It speeds up the response for sure when someone can just pick up the phone. ☺

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** Smollett, Debbie AEST:EX  
**Subject:** Constituent inquiry - former youth in care

Hi Debbie,

I received a request from the Stikine constituency office regarding a combination student loan issue and question about the former youth in care tuition waiver.

I don't think there is any way to assist with current student loans (looks like a federal issue), or to get missed tuition returned from a private institution. However,<sup>s.22</sup>

s.22

Can you please connect me with some bullets/info to pass along, or advise if you'd prefer Ministry staff connect with the constituent directly?

Thanks!  
Christina

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**From:** Maitland, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 11:28 AM

To: Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
Subject: RE: s.22

s.22

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**From:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX [<mailto:Christina.Rzepa@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** November 15, 2017 11:18 AM  
**To:** Maitland, Julie <[Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: s.22

Thanks Julie,

I can definitely pass this along to the Ministry to look in to – do you have a consent form for this constituent and ideally a brief summary of the issue? There's a lot in this thread ☺

Cheers  
Christina

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**From:** Maitland, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Maitland@leg.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 4:16 PM  
**To:** Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX  
**Subject:** RE: s.22

Hello Christina

Unsure if you can help with this. We had sent to Cindy but s.22 has heard nothing back s.22 called our office again this morning.

Thanks

---

**From:** Donaldson.MLA, Doug  
**Sent:** September 22, 2017 10:35 AM  
**To:** 'cindy.slesh@gov.bc.ca' <[cindy.slesh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:cindy.slesh@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: s.22

Thank you Cindy! s.22

and I

guess the new announcement about tuition breaks for Youth in Care s.22

s.22

Thanks

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22

## CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN PERSONAL INFORMATION

This completed form constitutes the Certificate of Authority that complies with the provisions of section 33.2(g) of the (FOIPPA), which allows a public body to disclose personal information inside Canada "to a member of the Legislative Assembly who has been requested by the individual the information is about to assist in resolving a problem".

To: ***Advanced Education, Skills and Training***

From: ***Julie Maitland***

For the purposes of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, I certify the following:

1. ***Doug Donaldson*** ("MLA"), in whose office I am employed as a constituency assistant, has been asked by the constituent whose name and address are set out below to assist that constituent in resolving the problem described below;
2. I have explained to the constituent that, in order to assist the constituent, I and the other individuals named below, all of whom are employed in the MLA's office, may need to obtain the constituent's personal information from your ministry/public body;
3. I have explained to the constituent that personal information disclosed to us may be of a sensitive nature;
4. Personal information you disclose to us is necessary for the purpose of assisting the constituent to resolve the problem described below and will be used only for that purpose; and
5. I have explained to the individual that this form only authorizes the release of their own personal information. Third party personal information cannot be released based on this certificate. I have referred the constituent to the Guidelines for MLAs and Constituency Assistants obtaining personal information from a public body.

If the constituent is acting on the behalf of another individual, consent from that individual is required. See the Guidelines for MLAs and Constituency Assistants obtaining personal information from a public body for more information.

The information below is to be completed on behalf of the constituent and is provided in order to support the public body in locating the appropriate information for disclosure:

☐ The constituent is acting on their own behalf.

Name of constituent: s.22

Constituent's address and contact information: s.22  
s.22

## CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN PERSONAL INFORMATION

For Health Related Services Only		
PHN	or	Date of Birth
		s.22

The venue in which records may be found (city and site): ***e.g. name of school, hospital or medical facility***

The problem for which the constituent has requested the MLA's assistance is <sup>s.22</sup>  
s.22

MLA employees covered by this certification: ***Julie Maitland, Shelley Worthington***

***November 17, 2017; Hazelton BC***

x *Julie Maitland*  
***insert name of Constituency Assistant***