



JAN 16 2019

File: 0280-30
Ref: 188762

Honourable Doug Donaldson
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Dear Colleague:

Further to my letter of December 21, 2017, I am writing to update you on my recusal from the cannabis file.

On July 4, 2018, I met with the Conflict of Interest Commissioner to discuss my further involvement in the file. Given that government has announced its policies, including the production of cannabis on ALR lands, he advised I am free to comment on and participate in debates and the vote on the impending legislation related to this file. However, I will continue to recuse myself from Cabinet discussion on any new cannabis-related policy decisions that may arise in the future.

Thank you for supporting me and providing direction on the cannabis file during my recusal. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Lana Popham
Minister

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22

Excerpt from the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*

An excerpt from the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* is noted below. **Section 10 (1)** outlines the responsibility of the committee member.

Procedure on conflict of interest¹

10 (1) A member who has reasonable grounds to believe that he or she has a conflict of interest in a matter that is before the Legislative Assembly or the Executive Council, or a committee of either of them, must, if present at a meeting considering the matter,

- (a) disclose the general nature of the conflict of interest, and
- (b) withdraw from the meeting without voting or participating in the consideration of the matter.

(2) If a member has complied with subsection (1), the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly or secretary of the meeting must record

- (a) the disclosure,
- (b) the general nature of the conflict of interest disclosed, and
- (c) the withdrawal of the member from the meeting.

(3) The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly or secretary of the meeting must file the information recorded under subsection (2) with the commissioner,

- (a) in the case of a meeting of the Legislative Assembly or a committee of the Legislative Assembly, as soon as practicable, and
- (b) in the case of a meeting of the Executive Council or a committee of the Executive Council, as soon as practicable after the Executive Council's decision on the matter which has been the subject of the disclosure is made public.

(4) The commissioner must keep all information filed under subsection (3) in a central record kept for that purpose and must

- (a) make the central record available for inspection by any person without charge during normal business hours, and
- (b) on request by any person provide a copy of the record or portion of it on payment of a reasonable copying charge.

¹ Members' Conflict of Interest Act, [RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 287,

Page 04

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Page 06 to/à Page 09

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From: [Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Recusal letters
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 5:36:07 PM
Attachments: [Outside of scope - W Shoemaker.pdf](#)

Wes

From: Lyttle, Shawna AGRI:EX
Sent: May 7, 2019 1:35 PM
To: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX <Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Recusal letters

Attached.

Shawna Lyttle

Manager of Executive Operations and Planning
Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Agriculture
T: 778 974-2142

From: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX
Sent: May 7, 2019 1:32 PM
To: Lyttle, Shawna AGRI:EX <Shawna.Lyttle@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Recusal letters

Can you send me the two letters of recusal that we recently produced for FOI?

Wes

W.H. (Wes) Shoemaker, MBA

Deputy Minister

Ministry of Agriculture

5th Floor, 808 Douglas Street

Victoria, BC V8W 9B4

Tel: 250.356.1803 | Cell: 250.516.6892 | Fax: 250.356.7279

E-mail: wes.shoemaker@gov.bc.ca

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Easton, Joan E AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Lalani, Arif AGRI:EX](#); [Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX](#)
Cc: [Minaker, Willow AGRI:EX](#); [Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX](#); [Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX](#); [Lyttle, Shawna AGRI:EX](#); [Wong, Jane T AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: [s.13](#)
Date: Friday, January 11, 2019 4:46:35 PM

Hi Wes and Arif

s.13,s.14

Our plan is to keep the package for Minister Donaldson's signature and resend via eApproval. Please advise if this works from your perspectives.

Regards

Joan

Joan Easton
Executive Director, Innovation and Adaptation Services Branch
3rd Floor, 808 Douglas Street
Ministry of Agriculture

*Phone: 778-974-2024
Cell: 250-514-3542
Fax: (250) 356 0358*

From: [Powell, Charlotte PREM:EX](#)
To: [Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX](#); [McCartney, Angela PREM:EX](#)
Cc: [Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Conflict of Interest disclosure
Date: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 4:48:51 PM

Hi Wes, all our office needs to know is when the item/decision is made public. Given that a conflict was declared for this item at the June 13th meeting, we are obliged to report to the Commissioner when it is made public. Thanks.

From: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 4:33 PM
To: McCartney, Angela PREM:EX
Cc: Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX; Powell, Charlotte PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Conflict of Interest disclosure

Charlotte,

Not sure how to respond to this. MLP had recused herself sometime ago after meeting with the Conflict of Interest Commissioner. She then wrote to Minister Donaldson in Dec. 2017 appointing him as the Designated Agriculture Minister for agriculture related cannabis decisions. She first made this recusal public at the Estimates debate in February? (first estimates debate) and has spoken to it publicly since then (as well as recusing herself from cabinet meetings).

s.13

Let me know if you need anything further.

Wes

From: McCartney, Angela PREM:EX
Sent: July 11, 2018 4:24 PM
To: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX <Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX <Erin.Hansen@gov.bc.ca>; Powell, Charlotte PREM:EX <Charlotte.Powell@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Conflict of Interest disclosure

Hello Wes,

Please find attached a memo regarding a conflict of interest disclosure our office is tracking.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank-you,
Angela

Angela McCartney | Records Management Officer | Cabinet Operations
Ph: 250 356-0256 | *e:* Angela.McCartney@gov.bc.ca | *m:* 049 - 617 Government Street, Stn Prov Gov,
Victoria BC V8W 9V1

From: [Easton, Joan E AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX](#)
Cc: [Lalani, Arif AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: s.14
Date: Friday, January 11, 2019 5:33:35 PM

Many thanks Wes – perhaps a discussion later on the nature of the recusal?

Regards

Joan

From: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX
Sent: January 11, 2019 5:31 PM
To: Easton, Joan E AGRI:EX <Joan.Easton@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Lalani, Arif AGRI:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>; Minaker, Willow AGRI:EX <Willow.Minaker@gov.bc.ca>; Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX <Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX <Erin.Hansen@gov.bc.ca>; Lyttle, Shawna AGRI:EX <Shawna.Lyttle@gov.bc.ca>; Wong, Jane T AGRI:EX <Jane.T.Wong@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: s.14

This is fine. FYI, I have the info on the recusal and the recent exchanges with the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

Wes

W.H. (Wes) Shoemaker, MBA
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture
5th Floor, 808 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9B4
Tel: 250.356.1803 | Cell: 250.516.6892 | Fax: 250.356.7279
E-mail: wes.shoemaker@gov.bc.ca

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On Jan 11, 2019, at 4:46 PM, Easton, Joan E AGRI:EX <Joan.Easton@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

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