

Proposed FOI fee a barrier to access

From: s.22
To: Dean.MLA, Mitzi <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Dean.MLA, Mitzi LASS:EX
Cc: CITZ.minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 18, 2021 5:27:16 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to oppose the government's legislation that would allow it to prescribe an FOI application fee. To be clear, I oppose the ability to prescribe any application fee, whether it is the \$25 fee mentioned by the minister today or a smaller fee.

I regularly file FOIs I would consider to be in the public interest, primarily related to policing. For example, I FOI'd street check data from BC's municipal police departments, which showed police departments disproportionately street check Indigenous and Black people. The Vancouver Police Department records I obtained through FOI led to a complaint from the UBCIC and BCCLA, and BCCLA has cited the records released by other departments. The proposed fees would have turned that work into a \$300 project — \$25 for each of BC's 10 municipal police departments, and an additional \$50 for the two subsequent FOIs it took to obtain any information from the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Department.

Other FOIs I have filed resulted in records showing Victoria and Esquimalt Police Department officers policing people's immigration status, and the police pressuring the media to alter its reporting. Additional records I have obtained provide the only publicly available materials showing VicPD, Oak Bay PD, and Saanich PDs' school liaison officer activities, arrest information for SD61 school properties, and records showing officers policing children under ten years old at SD61 schools.

When community members ask me how to file FOIs, including individuals from marginalized communities, I support them to file their own requests. I mention that there is no application fee to file an FOI in B.C., and I provide advice to avoid fee assessments. Individuals I have supported in the past would be unable to pay any fees.

I am writing to tell you that an application fee — any fee — will absolutely be a barrier to people using FOIs for public interest requests, including myself. I have reviewed the FOIs I have filed in recent years, and I cannot identify any I would consider frivolous. I can tell you, however, that the requirement to pay a fee would have prevented some or all of that work.

Please amend Bill 22 to eliminate the ability for the government to prescribe an application fee.

Sincerely,

s.22

Fees for Freedom of Information Requests

From : s.22
To: Chandra Herbert, Spencer LASS:EX <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>, premier@gov.bc.ca, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 9:27:17 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear BCNDP,

I am writing to say that I do not think you should be proposing charges for freedom of information requests. People should be able to access their records without financial hindrance.

I have personally had to file over a dozen FOI requests in the last few years in order to access my medical records, as well as for my husband and my father. This would have cost me over \$300 if each request cost \$25!

By accessing my records, I have been able to make corrections on my own file, as well as advocate for my husband and father when they were confined to hospital. I have also been able to use my medical records in order to self-advocate as a person living with invisible disability, and show them to specialists in order to prove that what I say is true (reduces being brushed off or minimized). Many people who need their records live in poverty and cannot afford these fees.

Please do not start charging citizens for requesting access to our records. It really comes across as a petty way to get funds. There must be a better strategy to get some revenue! For example, I live and work downtown, so do not have to drive. I do not have kids, but have a car for pleasure use. Why are you taking away tolls on bridges, giving ICBC rebates and making transit free for kids, but now proposing to charge people for making FOI Requests? From where I stand, it doesn't really make any sense.

Sincerely,

s.22

FOI requests

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 10:43:06 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Ms. Beare

So now we have to pay to receive information from our government? A modest fee, you say. But modest is the current fee. Most provinces only charge \$5, but BC, is apparently, really hurting for funds. So the tax payers who are already paying the salary of those doing the work must now pay a second time to receive information.

Now, I know that you receive a very nice salary, good benefits and significant perks but the majority of residents of BC do not. So \$25 or even \$50 would be nothing to you, but would be insurmountable to many people and many grass roots organizations.

The chill is in the air with this government. Clearly you do not have the interests of the ordinary citizens foremost in your heart.

And please do not send information on me out of the country!!

Sincerely,

s.22

\$25 for Freedom of Information Access!?!? Seriously?!?!?

From: s.22
To: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Cc: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 10:44:09 AM PDT
Attachments: \$25 for Freedom of Information Access!?!? Seriously?!?!?

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

\$25 for Freedom of Information Access!?!? Seriously?!?!?

From: s.22
To: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Cc: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 10:44:09 AM PDT
Attachments: smime.p7s

Good Morning John,

I can't help but be extremely upset when learning that you have introduced a bill that would charge the people of this province, funding your office and government, \$25, let alone any money, to access information. Forgive me for being rash, but are you trying to crush democracy in British Columbia?! Do you not see any ethical issues with charging citizens money in order to find out the truth and hold the government and public service accountable? I don't know what your intentions are regarding this bill but this looks bad. Not only does it look bad, it is bad. Government making it difficult for its citizens to know what's going on in government. I can't think of any noble intentions regarding this bill but I am open to hearing your reasoning. Though it will not change my mind as I believe this concept is fundamentally and inherently wrong, it will at least help me to understand your decision making.

One last note, I can't help but notice your party's hypocrisy in this given how many FOI requests the NDP put in while the Liberals were in office. Backpay all of those and then you can talk to me about paying \$25 to use my right to access public information.

Good day sir!

s.22

Making BC's government more secretive

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 10:50:58 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Mr Premier,

I am very disappointed that - your own words and public consultations to the contrary - your government want to make it even more difficult for the people it serves to get information about what the government is up to. Charging fees for our own data has no business in a modern democracy. I firmly believe it is possible to respect privacy while being open and transparent about what government is doing.

For too long the default mode in the civil service has been a paternalistic "we will tell you what you need to know". The people's data should be free and easy to access, not buried behind layers of bureaucracy designed to keep secrets hidden.

If the problem is FOI requests are expensive (which I doubt), the answer is to make data available by default. The government should have to justify its secrecy, not the people being asked to justify their need for the records.

Of the many things BC's government spends money on, servicing FOI requests is one I have zero concerns about (contrasted with, say, the billions of dollars for the Site C dam!).

Please reverse course and commit to making your government the most transparent and open government in BC and Canada's history.

s.22

Please confirm they are not changing FOIPPA to sacrifice privacy for convenience?

From : s.22
To: CITZ.minister@gov.bc.ca, info@oipc.bc.ca, Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca, Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca, John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX, Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 12:26:46 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021CITZ0048-001990>

s.22

s.22

I am extremely

concerned by this new information that seems to imply intent to open up and provide access to foreign countries and foreign workers to have access to BC government, BC Schools and BC Health care data?

Canada and BC should be implementing more privacy measures along the lines of the GDPR, not opening it up for foreign contractors to take over BC IT jobs and move our health care, school and government data to be hosted by, or accessed by and or managed by foreign humans, in foreign countries on foreign servers. Currently FOIPPA has a very key law, 33.1 that should not be changed to allow anymore access than was implemented in Oct 2019.

Please confirm that this new recommended change is NOT going to modify anything protected under section 33.1?

Government Microsoft Azure cloud services should and can be hosted in the Canadian Data Centers, AND the data ONLY accessed and managed by Canadian IT Technicians. Same with Service Now or any other cloud based services. Canada has an abundant IT industry and we should continue to be requiring that all IT techs supporting Public Technology reside inside Canada.

We should not be sacrificing our privacy for convenience.

The second that our public bodies private information resides on foreign servers like Microsoft Azure in the US or overseas for example, it becomes fully accessible by all the tech administrators of that service world-wide that are not required to follow Canadian laws and where Canada has no recourse for stolen data. As an administrator myself I know how much access techs have to cloud servers and that access has to remain within Canada, accessed ONLY by Canadians to keep Canadians and BC residents data safe and private.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/services-for-government/policies-procedures/foippa-manual/disclosure-inside-outside-canada>

Thank You

s.22

FW: proposed changes to provincial freedom of information and protection of privacy act

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 1:35:58 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7
P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:34 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: proposed changes to provincial freedom of information and protection of privacy act

The Honourable Lisa Beare,

I would like to express my opposition to some of the provincial government's proposed changes to BC privacy laws – in particular, the proposal to allow public bodies to send citizens' personal information outside Canada and the proposal to charge a \$25 fee for each non-personal information request. Charging a \$25 fee will not enhance government transparency, as it will be a deterrent especially to private citizens.

I do agree, however, with the amendment that would make it an offence to destroy records in response to an information request (this should have always been the case!) However, the law will still permit someone to destroy records *before* a request is made without committing an offence and I feel strongly that destroying records at any time should be an offence.

s.22 I will be very disappointed if the above-mentioned questionable amendments are passed.

Sincerely,

s.22

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act - amendment/changes

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, john.horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 2:19:18 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier, to confirm my political loyalty, s.22
since you obtained a majority.

I am pleased with your leadership

I do have an issue with the above subject, an article about which was in the Province paper this morning. I will "bullet" these below in detail and am requesting an answer to my items.

1. Amendment allowing public bodies to send British Columbians personal information outside Canada. There must be a firm protection of privacy so that information cannot be accessed by unauthorized persons for illegal use.
2. Is my personal information going to include details of my identity, PHN, SIN, details of medical history, education history, driving history? Identity details are not going to become part of an online education tool. I need this info to be maintained where it is kept private, and this must be kept within British Columbia, Canada.
3. Minister Beare has stated that the privacy issue will be brought out in Regulations. These do not have the same strength as the Regulations do, nor do they come out for debate at the same time.
4. There is no country that I would accept to store private information, other than Canada.

I will state that her responses to the privacy commissioner were too politically phrased. We need and deserve an answer that will rest my mind, as well as that of other like thinkers. My mind is trying to think about the reasoning for allowing any foreign political or educational body that needs my personal information to be useful!

You are our Premier, and as far as I'm concerned will be as long as I can vote, so take my words to heart, and accept my belief if you as our provincial leader.

Thank you, sir.

s.22

New fee for Freedom of Information Request

From : s.22
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, CITZ Deputy Minister, CITZ:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 2:30:02 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good Afternoon Premier Horgan,

I'm writing to express my concern and dismay regarding the new fee for the above, that is set to be passed in the legislature.

It is unnecessary, flies in the face of a democratic government and provides no benefit to the public.

At best this is a money grab, at worst it is initiating a gag order so that the public can not even send in a request to access information (without paying for it) that rightfully belongs to them.

If you're looking to increase revenue, increase the taxes on alcohol, cigarettes, cigars, vaping products and marijuana products.

In a *Ministerial Mandate Letter*, sent by yourself to Lisa Beare, dated, November 26, 2020, among other things, it talks of commitment to the people of BC:

- Putting People First
- Lasting and Meaning Reconciliation
- Equity and Anti-Racism
- A Better Future
- A Strong Economy

This new tax flies in the face of every one of these above-noted goals, which were taken directly from the letter written by yourself.

In this letter to the newly appointed Minister of Citizens' Services it doesn't say we need to be less transparent, we need to make it harder for people to access public documents, we need to charge them for simply making a request for information.

I'm appalled that the Government has chosen to govern in a manner of secrecy and protectionism.

This new piece of legislation needs to be abolished.

I look forward to hearing your response

Regards

s.22

PS. I've also sent this letter by mail to Bill McEvoy, Information and Privacy Commissioner of BC. To express my dismay at this new piece of legislation, which appears that its only reason for being instituted is to protect the Government from the people.

115995 - (no subject)

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 6:24:50 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Mr. Horgan

Your party has just lost my vote!!

1. you don't reply to your emails; so you obviously don't give a damn!
2. You don't do anything or haven't done a thing about ICBC. they are charging fees for everything to get around calling it a price increase in our car insurance.
3. Now, it it freedom of information has charges.

You must remember you and your party members are employees of the public.

And when you were in opposition you sure made a stink about the freedom of information act.

s.22

Freedom of information charges - charges already hidden in applications

From: s.22
To: Premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: john.horgan@leg.bc.ca
Sent: October 19, 2021 6:29:17 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier John Horgan, Mla.

Freedom of information charges - charges already hidden in applications

If you cut back some of the absurdly high wages afforded to government employees who's private sector equivalent are paid between 50 and 75% lower then there would be no need to levy ridiculous fees for "Freedom of information".

Government departments already charge for photocopies and printed documents for freedom of information requests as their way of ensuring applicants are discouraged from applying for transparency in government proceedings, process or where our money is being wasted.

I expect for once in over two years you or your office will finally reply to my email, not just bin it as your staff find it easier to do than show accountability and responsibility by replying.

Sincerely

s.22

"You can't fix stupid" - but you can elect it!

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Data protection laws apply!

Freedom of information changes - Mandate Queary

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 6:38:03 PM PDT

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In 2013

Mr. Horgan said

"That speaks to me, as a desire for the Premier to cover up information, not to be transparent". (Christie Clark)

How is this any different?

This is public information, that we pay for.

What are you covering up and why are you not being transparent?

This change is wrong, we are to have access to all government information for FREE!!!

DO NOT CHANGE THIS!!!

OR, ALL POLITICIANS WILL BE THE SAME!! (AS PER MY HUSBAND)

Look forward to a none automated reply

s.22

Sent from Mail for Windows

\$25.00 Fee

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 7:45:39 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Not impress with the fee your government is imposing for freedom of information! As a taxpayer I have already paid for the information.

This fee is unbelievable taking it in context with your previous comments about the Liberals you replaced.

This is a bad decision, on par with Justin's decision to go to Tofino on Truth and Reconciliation Day!

I expected better from your government but as always I get to vote another day!

Thanks

s.22

BC Freedom of Information

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 8:26:57 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister,

s.22

I'm writing today to express grave concerns regarding the proposed amendment to BC's freedom of information process, specifically the imposition of fees for all but personal records requests. I believe this is fundamentally harmful to government transparency. Citizens should be entitled to records from their government, and imposing fees will discourage access for everyone and make access impossible for many.

I have, in fact, personally benefited from BC's freedom of information process in the past and hope to again. A \$25 fee would have made my past request difficult and will significantly limit future requests given I am currently a university student of limited means. I would strongly urge you and your government to reconsider this change in policy, not merely for my sake but for the sake of everyone in our province.

Many thanks for your service and assistance.

Yours sincerely,

s.22

Best case against the \$25 FOI fee - the citizen applicants

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 20, 2021 1:43:27 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Beare, and Chief Information Officer:

Beyond the FOI usage by opposition parties or the (non-Mackin) investigative news media, we need to instead focus on poor, average folk, who can least afford \$25 fees, and would be most harmed, the innocents caught in the political crossfire, the “collateral damage.”

The government assures us that no application fees will be charged for personal requests, just non-personal “general” ones; one problem we have is that the NDP implies that “normal, average” folk usually do not file general requests, and so wouldn’t be harmed by fees. This assumption is mistaken.

Note what B.C. Commissioner McEvoy said in the Sun on the fee – “It poses an obstacle to access and accountability, and not just for media,” he said. “It could be a parent group, for example, that finds itself making access to information requests to multiple health authorities and to the Ministry of Health and other ministries. You could see how that number could add up awfully quickly and be a deterrent to people making legitimate requests.”

David Cuillier, PhD, president, U.S. National Freedom of Information Coalition - “Clearly, \$25 puts many citizens at a disadvantage in interacting with their government – and even worst, it differentially hurts the poor, widening the information gap in our society.... “The public records request system is a way for citizens to interact with their government, and simply should be considered a cost of doing business. So why start making it harder for citizens to know what their government is up to on this front?”

Best of all, my Excel database of 2,000 BC news stories produced by FOI requests can help.
<https://canadafoi.ca/british-columbia-foi/> I created a new category, not of subject matter, but of a key, overlooked *applicant type* - the average citizen. I wrote:

“For many readers, the most interesting and moving summaries may be found in Category 6 – Personal Requests. These 70 stories are based on FOI requests that were filed not by journalists but by individuals or their family members often in some form of distress. Working to improve their lives, they obtained documents that helped some to clear their names of false allegations, or aided adoptees to find their true parents, or enabled others to obtain redress for childhood abuse, or workplace injuries, botched surgeries, hepatitis C infections, schoolyard bullying, land appropriations and rental evictions. It shows that obtaining records is not solely within the purview of experts, and their usage best demonstrates the professed goal of the FOI law – to empower the average citizen.”

Some of those were from personal requests (with no planned fees), but some also from “general” FOI ones. Importantly, some of these citizens made general requests for their whole community’s benefit, as local activists (many too poor to pay \$25 fees), beyond their own personal interests. And anyways, their personal cases at times reveal a hidden problem shared by hundreds/thousands of others too. See samples below.

- Sincerely yours, Stanley Tromp. www.canadafoi.ca

SAMPLES – Fine usage of “general information” BC FOI requests by average citizens, aiding a larger community purpose.

Copyright

Page 018 of 320 to/à Page 023 of 320

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

FW: STOP - Freedom of information law revision.

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
: <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 8:21:23 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:44 AM

To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: STOP - Freedom of information law revision.

Mr. Horgan,

I have never contacted anyone in government before this but this is one that I just could NOT ignore. Your recent announcement of charging for processing freedom of information requests is one of the biggest hits AGAINST the democratic process in BC. It harks back to the Trump era shenanigans in the states. Are you turning into a Trump like politician? This of all things you should be doing, shutting the public out of the information that is OWNED by the CITIZENTRY is not why we voted for you! Get your head out of wherever it is and wake up! This only makes you look like you're hiding things from us and unwilling to justify your decisions. You already take liberties with the FOI as with the heavily redacted report on the tunnel/bridge debate in Richmond. It makes it impossibly expensive to do proper review of government policies and therefore direly weakens public oversight. This is a huge hit against our rights as citizens of this province! And no, "other provinces do it" just does not cut it! I am talking with all of my friends about this and though we may not agree on all things, we are in total agreement with. Please rethink this legislation and toss it out!

Best regards,

s.22

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FW: Freedom of information

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
: <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 8:21:42 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:20 AM

To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of information

Dear Premier and Minister:

Freedom of information requests must be free. Please discard the new fee you are planning to charge for requests.

Thanks,

s.22

RE: Concern over the Freedom of Information (FOI) Proposal

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 8:44:44 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 4:22 PM

To: contact@bcndp.ca; Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chant.MLA, Susie <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Concern over the Freedom of Information (FOI) Proposal

Hi there,

I am a regular citizen in Richmond BC. s.22

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the NDP proposal to increase the fee in Freedom of Information requests.

This proposal is opposed by BC's Privacy Commissioner and journalists all around. As we have seen in this pandemic, data and transparency are of utmost importance.

I hope the NDP will reconsider and shelf this proposal.

Thank you.

s.22

FOI

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 9:14:40 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Premier Horgan,
Freedom of information should be free. Yet your government has just made the difficult more expensive.
How can you possibly justify this?
Yours,
s.22

FOI FEE needs to be readdressed for fragile demographics

From: s.22
To: info@bcndp.ca, premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 9:56:22 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear NDP,

Please reconsider your amendment to fees for accessing Freedom of Information from the government. Particularly, for those who are of low-income, disabled, and single parents.

You have a duty to the people of the province to ensure adequate access of services and to ensure fairness in procedures of handling issues pertaining to the demographics I outlined.

By implementing a standard fee across the board you are deliberately discriminating against the poor, and disadvantaged persons in the province of British Columbia.

If you need to recover costs for the loss of revenue from the specified demographics perhaps you should consider charging corporations, the media and other forms of entities with resources to pay a higher portion, and permit participation of all classes of citizens, rather than the ones who can afford to make applications for information.

The new amendment makes it impossible for the Privacy Commissioner to waive fees in certain situations is really concerning, and I am certain that I could make a plea to the public and obtain the necessary support to prove my claim if that is what is required to prove my point.

Do I need to start a petition to prove this point?

Please advise.

s.22

Fwd: Fee for FOI requests

From: s.22
To: citz.minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: premier <premier@gov.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 11:52:00 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: s.22
To: "lisa beare mla" <lisa.beare.mla@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: "premier" <premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:34:49 AM
Subject: re: Fee for FOI requests

This government should be ashamed to announce this infringement on democracy. What will come next, perhaps a "fee" to be able to vote, after all it costs money to provide this indulgence so why not charge for it. Just another cash grab by a free spending wasteful government looking to cover up what the public has every right to know. Mr Whorgan and his band of Socialists strike again. Hypocritical and disgusting to already overtaxed citizens, regards s.22

s.22

Open and transparent government: \$25 please

From : s.22
To: Hon. John Horgan - BC <premier@gov.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: Rick Glumac <rick.glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Adam Olsen MLA [Green critic]
<Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX, Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 12:00:00 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning, Premier Horgan:

Re: "*Taking the free out of Freedom of Information*", The Vancouver Sun, October 20, 2021, p. A9.

Thank goodness for columnist Vaughn Palmer keeping the people of British Columbia informed about the goings-on in Victoria.

I was miffed, a few years ago, when I had to pay \$5 to the federal government for a freedom of information inquiry for an accident report about a workplace fatality on Burrard Inlet. An industrial accident investigation report is a 'public' document that should be freely available.

Thus, I am writing to express my opposition to your proposal to charge **\$25.00** for a freedom of information request.

During the recent provincial election campaign I don't recall the NDP incumbent's brochure advising voters that, if re-elected, the NDP would provide open and transparent government by introducing a \$25.00 fee for freedom of information requests.

The proposed fee is dangerous because it will encourage whistle-blowers, brown envelope mailers, and internet hackers.

I am deeply disappointed by this proposal. I urge you strongly to reconsider this imposition on good government.

Very sincerely,
s.22

RE: Freedom of Information should be free

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 1:12:20 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 12:16 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; MLA KARIN KIRKPATRICK <karin.kirkpatrick@bcliberals.com>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information should be free

All government information is my personal info.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION should be FREE.

NOTE. Free is part of Freedom

Listen to the people

New high-water mark for NDP hypocrisy

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Walker, Adam LASS:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 2:02:29 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear John,

After years of preaching about the sanctity of freedom of information whenever the topic came up, your government is now going to start charging anyone who tries to exercise that right. Freedom-of-information requests for anything other than an applicant's own personal information will cost about \$25.

That is indeed an unprecedented level of hypocrisy from your government, and a new low in the level of government trust by the voters.

Please rescind this change. Thanks.

Cheers, s.22

s.22

FOI fees

From : s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca, CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, mable.elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca, john.horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 2:48:17 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon premier,

While I have been supportive of most of your agenda, it seems that a year in power with a majority has already gone to your head. Charging \$25 for FOI requests (<https://globalnews.ca/news/8278812/b-c-government-charge-freedom-of-information-requests/>) is undemocratic and exactly the type of thing that you would have opposed during 16 years in opposition. Unless you want to end up back in opposition, please stop proposing changes like this. FOI requests should be processed as a service provided by the government to ensure it is transparent and accountable, with fees only being charged for exceptional circumstances.

Regards,

s.22

I acknowledge and am thankful that I live on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.

FW: FW: BC Healthcare Information Protection Changes

From: Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 4:57:06 PM PDT
Attachments: image001.jpg

Hi Shay,

Can you please action this as MinSig, it's slightly different then the other emails that are being added to the batch response, so let's keep this one on it's own.

Cheers,

Samantha Scott | Ministerial Advisor to the Honourable Minister Beare
Ministry of Citizens' Services
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Gov, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E2 | 778-679-4889

From: Head, Heather <Heather.Head@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 1:41 PM
To: Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: FW: BC Healthcare Information Protection Changes

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good Afternoon Samantha,

Heather Head here from MLA Norm Letnick's office Kelowna/Lake Country, I hope this email finds you well. Not sure if I have the right Ministry for this concern, if not if you could please point me in the right direction.

I am reaching out today on behalf of our constituent^{s.22} He has ask that we forward his concerns to you please see the email thread below. s.22 feels that this is a critical issue who's impact may not be fully understood by the general public.

s.22

Kind Regards,

Heather Head

Constituency Assistant



Norm Letnick, MLA
Kelowna - Lake Country
101-330 Highway 33 West
Kelowna, BC V1X 1X9
Office: 250.765.8516
www.normletnickmla.bc.ca

From: s.22
Date: October 19, 2021 at 4:25:36 PM PDT
To: "Letnick.MLA, Norm" <Norm.Letnick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: BC Healthcare Information Protection Changes

Good day, Mr Letnick

I am writing to voice my deep concerns about the proposed changes to Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) as detailed below:

<https://www.castanet.net/news/BC/348978/Victoria-unveils-changes-to-information-and-privacy-legislation>

s.22

I feel that any storage of private

information outside of Canada is a terrible mistake that could have irreversible impact to our safety, privacy and security.

There have been numerous cases in recent years of serious data breaches of many US-based companies that are not subject to the same stringent levels of security and privacy protection as Canadian companies are. Furthermore, the US Patriot Act contains provisions for any data stored on US soil to be subject to search and seizure by US authorities at any time without notice or oversight.

This data then becomes the property of the US government to be disseminated as they see fit.

Reference: https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pubs_pol/gospubs/tbm_128/usapa/faq-eng.asp#:~:text=The%20Act%20permits%20U.S.%20law,person%20without%20that%20person's%20knowledge.

By ensuring that the private data of British Columbians stays safely in Canada, you will be also be protecting thousands of jobs of IT support staff^{s.22} who work very hard to ensure our healthcare system remains strong, safe and ready to accomodate any challenges we may face.

I ask you to voice my objection to this proposal in the Legislature.

Thank you

s.22

Proposed FOI Changes

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 21, 2021 7:33:14 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Minister:

The proposed changes are retrogressive to the public's access to government information and should be withdrawn. In particular, the OPIC should retain the authority to order the waiver of a fee if the matter is in the public interest. I also agree with Michael McAvoy's suggested changes to the current bill.

<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>

I occasionally use the FOI process to prepare my reports on ICBC, but these changes are wrong and are a sad comment on the NDP government,

s.22

Proposed makeover of FIPPA

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, CITZ.minister@gov.bc.ca, Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX
Sent: October 21, 2021 7:41:10 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

I am deeply concerned with the above review. This seems to be a leading down a dark path. Charging for FOI requests is an absolute no go. Isn't it the governments job to be transparent and accessible? I shake my head at this and wonder what is needing to be hidden.

Thank you.

s.22

Sent from my iPad

RE: FOI request application fee

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2021 8:30:27 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 3:59 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI request application fee

Hello,

Tolerating multiple extensions from the government so its response to each FOI request can be so thoroughly redacted as to be useless is frustrating enough. Now we are going to have to pay for the privilege of receiving nothing of value. Each day we think it can't get worse. And each day you prove us wrong. I'll be glad when you are unemployed.

s.22

RE: Proposed Privacy Change

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2021 11:56:06 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

Thank you for getting in touch. As your email pertains to the Ministry of Citizen Services I have forwarded it to CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca . Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca .

Thank you,

Kate | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
P: 604-465-9299 | 104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: October 21, 2021 11:54 AM
To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: info@oipc.bc.ca; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: Proposed Privacy Change

Hello Ms. Beare,

I read with great interest the article in the Vancouver Sun on Tuesday October 19th regarding the proposed privacy changes.

I too am extremely troubled by the government's wish to:

1. Allow public bodies to send information outside Canada for storage in any way shape or form.
2. Charge \$25., to retrieve information.
3. Consider the wilful destruction of records.
4. Not present proposed information changes side by side so that comparison with changes and additions can be noted in a meaningful manner.

1. In your response you say that by not allowing information to be sent outside of Canada it can make it difficult for universities to deliver online education tools. Not true. s.22 We have addressed this issue fully. If and when we occasionally choose to use a server outside of Canada we fully inform students, staff and faculty of this. But educational tools are not like my personal health information which is much more personal and sensitive. I do not want my health information outside of Canada. Of course it is also not stated by you where these servers will reside. Ministerial orders should not be permanent, this is not appropriate. Once the pandemic is over BC should be looking at alternate ways in BC, or Canada to allow citizens of BC to access the same

information.

2. Charge citizens to retrieve information. I see this as blow back to your Liberal colleagues and the media for FOI requests. I agree with Mr. McEvoy this is a great way to reduce the requests by the media to access information the government would rather not have in the open. I believe this poses an obstacle to access and accountability. Why charge citizens for their infrequent requests unless considered vexatious? s.22

s.22

3. Wilful destruction of records because they might be of interest to someone? Didn't Christy Clark have staff that did this? Weren't we all outraged when it happened? Didn't the records that had gone missing actually turn out to be rather valuable? How can we tell in the moment what might be valuable in the future? This is a shameful play to destroy information which might prove to be harmful to one group but helpful to another. Again I agree with Mr. McEnvoy, this cannot be right and needs to change.

4. I am troubled by your lack of willingness to compare the new and old legislation. Why not? People should be able to see them side by side. Gaps and additions should be noted on new copies so that it changes are noted by the reader.

I am not in agreement with your changes. Your practices and proposed law changes need revision with the help of the provinces information and privacy commissioner. If we have this office, I would suggest we use it to its fullest effect. This office is non-partisan. Our government is clearly not.

Please convey my concerns to Premier Horgan.

s.22

Open letter to Minister Bear from B.C.'s journalism schools

From: Chad Skelton <chad.skelton@kpu.ca>
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: jwam.director@ubc.ca, Connie Monk <Connie_Monk@bcit.ca>, ebulman@langara.ca, Ssmyrl@tru.ca
Sent: October 21, 2021 12:00:16 PM PDT
Attachments: Outlook-wv2e11em.png, FOI Fee Open Letter to Lisa Beare.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Minister Beare:

Please see the attached open letter from B.C.'s journalism schools opposing your government's plans to adopt a \$25 application fee for Freedom of Information requests.



Chad Skelton

Chair, Journalism and Communication Studies - Pronouns: *he/him/his*
e chad.skelton@kpu.ca

Kwantlen Polytechnic University ► Where thought meets action

I am honoured to live and work on the traditional and unceded traditional and ancestral lands of the Kwantlen, Musqueam, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Qayqayt and Kwikwetlem peoples.

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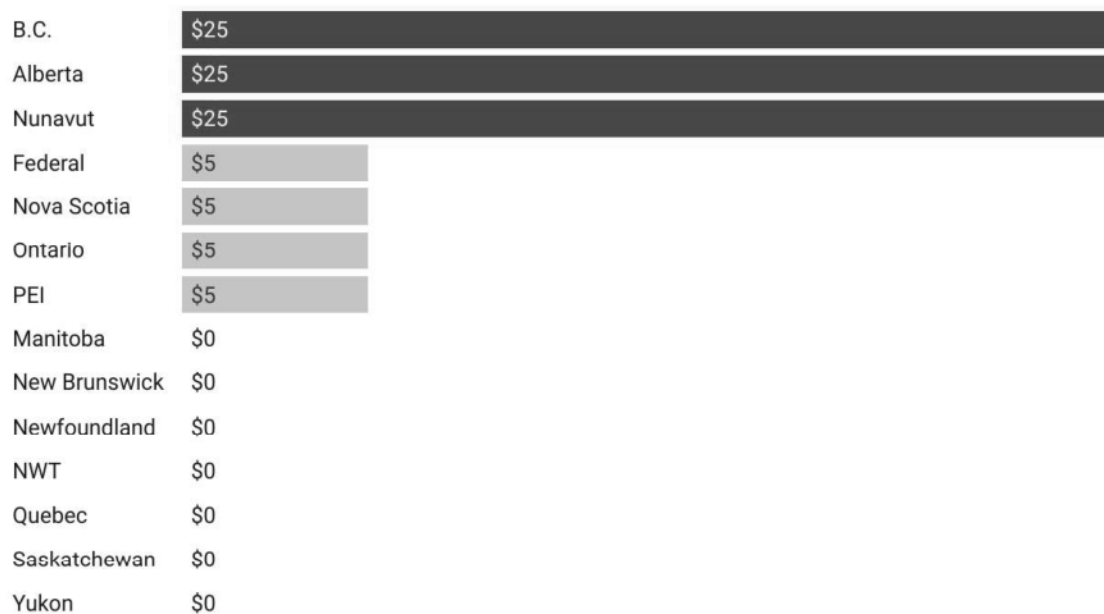
October 21, 2021

Lisa Beare
Minister of Citizens' Services
Government of British Columbia

Minister Beare:

As journalism educators, we are deeply disappointed by the B.C. government's plans to begin charging a \$25 fee to file a Freedom of Information (FOI) request. B.C.'s proposed fee would be 5 times as high as a federal request (\$5) and the highest fee in the country, tied with Alberta and Nunavut.

B.C. plans to adopt the highest FOI fees in Canada



We believe this new fee will be particularly onerous for student journalists, who often use FOI requests to uncover newsworthy information which they then publish through student newspapers. Requiring students who are already struggling to pay for tuition and textbooks to pay \$25 every time they want to access government records will discourage many of them from making such requests.

Journalists, activists and members of the public use FOI requests to hold the government accountable and help inform their fellow citizens. The value to the public of the information uncovered by FOI requests is perhaps best illustrated by the fact your own government publishes all the information released in response to FOI requests online, so all citizens can access it (<https://bit.ly/foisbc>).

We appreciate that some people may abuse the FOI system, placing undue pressure on government resources. But there are better ways of dealing with that challenge than a blanket \$25 fee. The Act already allows government agencies to charge requesters for any search that takes longer than 3 hours. And the government could impose a fee on requesters who make more than, say, 100 requests a year.

This new fee is a step backward for government transparency and openness and is particularly unfair to requesters of limited means, like students. We strongly urge you not to adopt this fee.

Sincerely,

Connie Monk
Program Head
Broadcast and Online
Journalism
BCIT

Chad Skelton
Chair
Department of Journalism
and Communication
Studies
Kwantlen Polytechnic
University

Erica Bulman
Chair
Department of Journalism
Langara College

Shannon Smyrl
Chair
Department of Journalism,
Communication and New
Media
Thompson Rivers
University

Kamal Al-Solaylee
Director
School of Journalism,
Writing, and Media
University of British
Columbia

Bill 22: Please do NOT Repeal Section 30 of the FOIPPA Act

From : s.22
To: CITZ.minister@gov.bc.ca, Info-oipc <info@oipc.bc.ca>, Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca, Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca, Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Lisa.beare@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX, Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX, Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX
Sent: October 21, 2021 6:46:12 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi,

I read Michael McEvoy's response to Bill 22 and I agree with his concerns. I just read that Bill 22 is repealing section 30.1. As a BC resident and Canadian Citizen this is extremely scary and not something that I as a taxpayer and a voter approve of.

Please, please, please do not repeal this and allow our Health Care and government data, and medical data, and school data to be stored on servers outside of Canada and managed by people residing outside of Canada. The second that you do that, you have absolutely no control over who now owns and how they distribute that data because foreign countries do not have to abide by Canadian laws. In the world of data storage, where that data resides and is accessible by, is where that data is ultimately owned. If a contractor provides a service that now hosts BC residents' privacy data in India or the US or China that puts Canadian IT workers out of jobs and puts your entire IT job market at risk. Not to mention that many foreign countries do not have the same security requirements around data theft.

You are opening up the door to people's private medical, school, government data to be stored and fully accessible by IT people in India, China, the US and other countries and distributed without even your knowledge. Once it is in the cloud, outside of Canada, it is like a ghost and unable to ever control.

Therefore, by repealing section 30.1, you are making the rest of the act un-enforceable because if the Data is stored on foreign servers, it is fully accessible by foreign techs and therefore no longer in the control or purview of the Public Body.

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/legislation-debates-proceedings/42nd-parliament/2nd-session/bills/bills-with-hansard-debate>

<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>

Current Law

Storage and access must be in Canada

30.1 A public body must ensure that personal information in its custody or under its control is stored only in Canada and accessed only in Canada, unless one of the following applies:

- (a) if the individual the information is about has identified the information and has consented, in the prescribed manner, to it being stored in or accessed from, as applicable, another jurisdiction;**
- (b) if it is stored in or accessed from another jurisdiction for the purpose of disclosure allowed under this Act;**
- (c) if it was disclosed under section 33.1 (1) (i.1).**

New Law

SECTION 17: [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, sections 30.1, 30.2, 30.4 and 30.5] repeals provisions respecting storage and access outside of Canada, foreign demands for disclosure, unauthorized

disclosure and notification of unauthorized disclosure.
17 Sections 30.1, 30.2, 30.4 and 30.5 (1) are repealed.

Thank You

s.22

From: s.22

To: "CITZ minister" <CITZ.minister@gov.bc.ca>, info@oipc.bc.ca, "Shauna Brouwer" <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>, "Jeannette Cook" <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>, "John Horgan MLA" <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, 19 October, 2021 12:26:46 PM

Subject: Please confirm they are not changing FOIPPA to sacrifice privacy for convenience?

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021CITZ0048-001990>

s.22

s.22

I am extremely

concerned by this new information that seems to imply intent to open up and provide access to foreign countries and foreign workers to have access to BC government, BC Schools and BC Health care data?

Canada and BC should be implementing more privacy measures along the lines of the GDPR, not opening it up for foreign contractors to take over BC IT jobs and move our health care, school and government data to be hosted by, or accessed by and or managed by foreign humans, in foreign countries on foreign servers.

Currently FOIPPA has a very key law, 33.1 that should not be changed to allow anymore access than was implemented in Oct 2019.

Please confirm that this new recommended change is NOT going to modify anything protected under section 33.1?

Government Microsoft Azure cloud services should and can be hosted in the Canadian Data Centers, AND the data ONLY accessed and managed by Canadian IT Technicians. Same with Service Now or any other cloud based services. Canada has an abundant IT industry and we should continue to be requiring that all IT techs supporting Public Technology reside inside Canada.

We should not be sacrificing our privacy for convenience.

The second that our public bodies private information resides on foreign servers like Microsoft Azure it the US or overseas for example, it becomes fully accessible by all the tech administrators of that service world-wide that are not required to follow Canadian laws and where Canada has no recourse for stolen data. As an administrator myself I know how much access techs have to cloud servers and that access has to remain within Canada, accessed ONLY by Canadians to keep Canadians and BC residents data safe and private.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/services-for-government/policies-procedures/foippa-manual/disclosure-inside-outside-canada>

Thank You

s.22

FOI bill

From: s.22
Sent: October 21, 2021 10:19:44 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Just a note to ask why you'd want to amend the FOI legislation to reduce transparency after all the talk you've given and the centrality of these values to your mission and (now burnished) image as careful stewards of our province. We are watching carefully and are mystified as to why you would pursue such a patently duplicitous policy. So very disappointed and hope to see these proposed changes scrapped. There are legitimate changes needed to the legislation governing use and storage of personal information, particularly in its use for healthcare and especially clinical research etc where we have seen major impediments to progress. But the attempts to package such changes with policy designed to reduce your gov't's accountability are truly discouraging. To be honest it does really seem to be shaping into a pattern these days.

Regards,
s.22

re: FOI fees

From: s.22
To: premier <premier@gov.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: citz minister <citz.minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:16:54 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Mr Whorgan and Ms Beare, thank you for the FOI briefings, the public needs to be reminded regularly of the hypocritical nature of politics, however politicians should also be reminded that many many people have long memories when it comes time to vote in the next election----just ask the Liberals who got thrown out for their know-it-all attitude, keep up the reminders please so we can recognize these flaws, thank you, s.22

FW:

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:31:29 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

-----Original Message-----

s.16

Sent from my iPhone

FOI fees

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:45:18 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier Horgan:

A few years ago I contacted the highways ministry about why a highways contractor was spreading gravel on Hwy 97 instead of sand, after our windshield was broken on a winter trip between Vancouver and Williams Lake. After inquiring if there was a standard for the material used and whether the supply was audited by the ministry, I was abruptly told that I "could make a freedom of information request." About sand.

Leaving aside the personal cost, I am sure that ICBC was also affected by this, so the inquiry could be considered to be of public interest. The bottom line is that FOI is used every day to block people from knowing even simple things about how our money is spent.

If you want to fix this, create separate FOI streams for political affiliates, media and private citizens. Impose escalating fees on frequent flyers.

Or, just answer simple questions without arguing.

Best regards,

s.22

RE: BC FIPA analysis of Bill 22

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:52:42 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,
Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7
P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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-----Original Message-----

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 22, 2021 12:02 AM
To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: GCIO, Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX <LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX <Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Shauna.Brouer@gov.bc.ca; Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Subject: BC FIPA analysis of Bill 22

BC FIPA analysis of Bill 22

<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffipa.bc.ca%2Ftransparency-matters%2F&data=04%7C01%7CCITZ.Minister%40gov.bc.ca%7Ce9e97765d11948ba7e6b08d99573fc66%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637705147644618655%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IkhWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Bwy5y7A1oUn9lKLhEzfn8WQKy3dIDJLxMgCedN%2FYIE%3D&reserved=0>

<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffipa.bc.ca%2Ftransparency-matters%2Fbill-22-pluses-minuses%2F&data=04%7C01%7CCITZ.Minister%40gov.bc.ca%7Ce9e97765d11948ba7e6b08d99573fc66%7C6>

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WljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=jci73ZjUryLVVb5
li3iBcOloJFKJPi%2FX8EgArWNj1Ak%3D&reserved=0

RE: FOI fees

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:55:09 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 8:11 AM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI fees

To Minister Lisa Beare,

I'm reading that the government is proposing a \$25 fee for FOI requests, which has generated a lot of push-back from educational institutions and journalists, arguing that it would be "a step backward for government transparency and openness."

(per this article: <https://bc.ctvnews.ca/we-haven-t-settled-on-a-fee-says-b-c-premier-as-backlash-against-charging-for-information-grows-1.5633559>)

Also, that the government responds to over 10,000 FOI requests per year. That's a huge number! If government agencies were more transparent about information, and provided it through websites, then the need to process these requests would be much fewer. This is a self-made problem.

I can illustrate with our marina group's experience with the Vancouver Parks Board. (operators of Burrard Civic Marina). In times past, if we wanted to see a copy of the marina financials, or an engineering report, we simply had to ask for it, and eventually a staff member would email it to us. Now we get told that we need to submit an FOI request to the City. This stand-offishness only serves to antagonize people and make them mistrustful of civil servants.

Then there are the delays, delays, delays, which we get from the City. Being told that it "affects the interests of a 3rd party" is a favourite delaying tactic. Finally, when documents are released, several months have passed, often the delay makes it no longer relevant to any time-based need (say, an upcoming budget meeting), and one has to wonder what's been held back in the process.

The experience leads one to conclude that some civil servant has worked really hard to make access to information as difficult as possible. Clearly, some people make careers out of this, and now the government wants to charge us fees, so they can hire even more bureaucrats to stymie public access to information.

It should be government's goal to reduce the number of FOI requests by being more transparent and collaborative with the public, not by setting up roadblocks to discourage people.

best regards,

s.22

For shame gentlemen

From : s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, murray.rankin.mla@leg.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office
PREM:EX, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 9:01:28 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

He might want to run that view past his cabinet colleague Murray Rankin, the minister of Indigenous relations and reconciliation.

Back when the two of them were serving as NDP MPs in the federal parliament, Rankin denounced Ottawa's \$5 application fee "as a tollgate on the public's right to know."

"Access to information sounds like a good idea when one is in Opposition and can use it as a tool, but when in government, it is expensive and it is a pain," added Rankin, never thinking how those words might be thrown back at him when he was on the other side of the government-Opposition divide at the provincial level.

'We haven't settled on a fee,' says B.C. premier as backlash against charging for information grows

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 9:16:20 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

B.C. Premier John Horgan seems to be backing away from a steep \$25 fee proposed for Freedom of Information requests, while doubling down on controversial legislative changes that would make charging for disclosure possible.
<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbc.ctvnews.ca%2Fwe-haven-t-settled-on-a-fee-says-b-c-premier-as-backlash-against-charging-for-information-grows-1.5633559&data=04%7C01%7Cpremier%40gov.bc.ca%7C8884b489633d43fefbec08d99577496f%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637705161825594234%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikh1aWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&data=nPvQpzJBtGpt1w2aJ1U9KY1qHilxcKG8aNrexzPx%2Fg8%3D&reserved=0>

Absolutely the stupidest thing imaginable
Is this an attack on democracy by restricting access to information
Is their something you are trying to hide

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

RE: New submission from Contact Us

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 10:03:34 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 9:40 AM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: New submission from Contact Us

Name

s.22

Email

s.22

Subject

FOI Legislation

Message

Dear Lisa

Please reconsider the FOI legislation you are bringing forward. The NDP when not in government was a big supporter of FOI. Do not think you or your colleagues will not be held accountable in the next election. For the life of me I can't understand why you would limit FOI, no matter how disruptive or bothersome it may be. FOI is democratic and necessary in a free society. Please stop this

"Free"Dom of Information: a concern about legislated fee changes to access information.

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Cc: lana.popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 10:05:58 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

I am very concerned with the changes to fees charged for individuals and organizations to access information from government. I understand that the fees can range from \$5 to \$50. While there are few issues for large companies I am concerned about fettering individual access as well as access from other political parties. This change can seriously impair the democratic process. So too can the exclusion of the Premiers' Office from access to information requests! This feels like a Conservative move, not one I am accustomed to seeing from the NDP. I am going to advocate for this to be struck from the legislation, or at least amended to ensure a fair cap on costs, such as \$5.00. Keep it in, and I "campaign" for someone else.

Freedom of information legislation

From: s.22
To: John Horgan <premier@gov.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 10:22:13 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier,

s.22

I am a retired union member. The government when in a minority situation until 2020, governed sensibly. Clearly the need to have the support of Andrew Weaver kept the excesses somewhat in check, resulting in good middle of the road policies.

The arrogance already being displayed over the proposed Freedom Of Information bill is unseemly and hypocritical based on the NDP comments while in opposition.

There should be no charge for these requests. The information belongs to us, the people of this province. We rely on the journalists to do the bulk of the research for us, digging into subjects where the government isn't willing to provide the full details.

s.22 not at all pleased with how little information is being made public on Site C s.22
s.22

It's this type of behaviour that upsets people and gets them thinking about supporting the Liberals. There is no need to proceed with this charge, whose objective is only to reduce openness and transparency.

Do the right thing and drop any ability in legislation to charge for FOI requests.

Thanks, s.22

Bill 22

From: s.22
To: citz.minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: premier@gov.bc, info@oipc.bc.ca
Sent: October 22, 2021 10:49:18 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Honourable Lisa Bearer,

As a taxpayer and unionized worker and Canadian citizen I don't agree with any of Bill 22. I do not want this to be part of our Canadian history my information is personal and only to be shared with the Canadian government and not to be shared with foreign countries.

Sincerely,

s.22

Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <FIPABusiness@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 22, 2021 11:59:42 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

I once believed that this government shared similar democratic values with me and the majority. That we both recognized the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies and that this included reducing barriers and improving access to information. Yet, your proposed amendments in Bill 22 not only fail to do this, they make matters worse.

You said you were going to do something better. How can I and the public not doubt whether you care to put people first? How can we not question whether we can trust you and your mandate letters?

This legislation would extend the ability of current and future governments to keep people in the dark about vital matters of public interest. Its introduction at this time short-circuits the work of the special legislative committee responsible for reviewing FIPPA, preventing meaningful public consultation. If passed, it would immediately put up more barriers for people seeking access to information.

Transparency matters to all of us. Stop Bill 22.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies. Take steps towards more transparency, not towards secrecy and obstruction.

fees for information?

From: s.22
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 1:14:33 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Premier. We've already paid for the information. We've paid for you and your ministers and their researchers and consultants, and we've paid for the storage and retrieval and FOIPPA specialists that handle the information. Don't tell us we have to pay twice for the same information. Stop the fees for access-to-information requests.
s.22

Re: Proposed FOI fee a barrier to access

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Dean.MLA, Mitzi LASS:EX <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 3:33:23 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Terrible.

From: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Sent: October 22, 2021 3:24 PM
To: s.22
Cc: Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca; CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Subject: RE: Proposed FOI fee a barrier to access

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 18, 2021 5:27 PM
To: Dean.MLA, Mitzi LASS:EX <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: 115995 - Proposed FOI fee a barrier to access

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to oppose the government's legislation that would allow it to prescribe an FOI application fee. To be clear, I oppose the ability to prescribe any application fee, whether it is the \$25 fee mentioned by the minister today or a smaller fee.

I regularly file FOIs I would consider to be in the public interest, primarily related to policing. For example, I FOI'd street check data from BC's municipal police departments, which showed police departments disproportionately

street check Indigenous and Black people. The Vancouver Police Department records I obtained through FOI led to a complaint from the UBCIC and BCCLA, and BCCLA has cited the records released by other departments. The proposed fees would have turned that work into a \$300 project — \$25 for each of BC's 10 municipal police departments, and an additional \$50 for the two subsequent FOIs it took to obtain any information from the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Department.

Other FOIs I have filed resulted in records showing Victoria and Esquimalt Police Department officers policing people's immigration status, and the police pressuring the media to alter its reporting. Additional records I have obtained provide the only publicly available materials showing VicPD, Oak Bay PD, and Saanich PDs' school liaison officer activities, arrest information for SD61 school properties, and records showing officers policing children under ten years old at SD61 schools.

When community members ask me how to file FOIs, including individuals from marginalized communities, I support them to file their own requests. I mention that there is no application fee to file an FOI in B.C., and I provide advice to avoid fee assessments. Individuals I have supported in the past would be unable to pay any fees.

I am writing to tell you that an application fee — any fee — will absolutely be a barrier to people using FOIs for public interest requests, including myself. I have reviewed the FOIs I have filed in recent years, and I cannot identify any I would consider frivolous. I can tell you, however, that the requirement to pay a fee would have prevented some or all of that work.

Please amend Bill 22 to eliminate the ability for the government to prescribe an application fee.

Sincerely,

s.22

Re: FOI requests

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 3:41:46 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Ms. Beare

You didn't address my main point. Obviously, this is a boilerplate response which lauds all of your fine intentions, but the reality is that you are putting an obstacle in the path of residents who are seeking information from our government. This does not show commitment to diversity (especially low income residents), inclusion, reconciliation or equity. Such commitments does not require a fee.

The excuse that other provinces do so also rings false. Would it be OK to steal because my neighbour does? If this government stopped giving subsidies to oil and gas extraction companies, they could easily manage to handle FOI requests efficiently. It is clear where your priorities lie.

Sincerely,

s.22

On Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 2:42 PM Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 10:43 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 115995 - FOI requests

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Ms. Beare

So now we have to pay to receive information from our government? A modest fee, you say. But modest is the current fee. Most provinces only charge \$5, but BC, is apparently, really hurting for funds. So the tax payers who are already paying the salary of those doing the work must now pay a second time to receive information.

Now, I know that you receive a very nice salary, good benefits and significant perks but the majority of residents of BC do not. So \$25 or even \$50 would be nothing to you, but would be insurmountable to many people and many grass roots organizations.

The chill is in the air with this government. Clearly you do not have the interests of the ordinary citizens foremost in your heart.

And please do not send information on me out of the country!!

Sincerely,

s.22

Where is \$50 fee?

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 22, 2021 4:48:01 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear minister Lisa Beare:

In regards to a possible \$25 BC FOI application fee, the press noted -

‘The \$25 figure came from the minister responsible this week. On Tuesday, Beare, who has the citizen services file, said, "other jurisdictions have a fee between \$5 and \$50, I'm recommending a number right in the middle of that."’

I need to know – which province, nation, state, or city charges a \$50 FOI application fee? I have searched and cannot locate any.

(The highest fee in Canada is only in Alberta, with \$25. Ontario and the federal ATIA system have \$5.)

Also, do you know by what date this fee - if any - would be set?

Thank you,

Stanley Tromp, journalist, FOI scholar.

www.canadafoi.ca

=====

On 10/22/2021 3:32 PM, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX wrote:

Dear Stanley:

Thank you for your message regarding the government’s recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn’t protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we’re making these changes based on what we’ve heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.’s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare

Minister

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 20, 2021 1:43 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Subject: 115995 - Best case against the \$25 FOI fee - the citizen applicants

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Beare, and Chief Information Officer:

Beyond the FOI usage by opposition parties or the (non-Mackin) investigative news media, we need to instead focus on poor, average folk, who can least afford \$25 fees, and would be most harmed, the innocents caught in the political crossfire, the "collateral damage."

The government assures us that no application fees will be charged for personal requests, just non-personal "general" ones; one problem we have is that the NDP implies that "normal, average" folk usually do not file general requests, and so wouldn't be harmed by fees. This assumption is mistaken.

Note what B.C. Commissioner McEvoy said in the Sun on the fee – "It poses an obstacle to access and accountability, and not just for media," he said. "It could be a parent group, for example, that finds itself making access to information requests to multiple health authorities and to the Ministry of Health and other ministries. You could see how that number could add up awfully quickly and be a deterrent to people making legitimate requests."

David Cuillier, PhD, president, U.S. National Freedom of Information Coalition - "Clearly, \$25 puts many citizens at a disadvantage in interacting with their government – and even worst, it differentially hurts the poor, widening the information gap in our society.... "The public records request system is a way for citizens to interact with their government, and simply should be considered a cost of doing business. So why start making it harder for citizens to know what their government is up to on this front?"

Best of all, my Excel database of 2,000 BC news stories produced by FOI requests can help. <https://canadafoi.ca/british-columbia-foi/> I created a new category, not of subject matter, but of a key, overlooked *applicant type* - the average citizen. I wrote:

"For many readers, the most interesting and moving summaries may be found in Category 6 – Personal Requests. These 70 stories are based on FOI requests that were filed not by journalists but by individuals or their family members often in some form of distress. Working to improve their lives, they obtained documents that helped some to clear their names of false allegations, or aided adoptees to find their true parents, or enabled others to obtain redress for childhood abuse, or workplace injuries, botched surgeries, hepatitis C infections, schoolyard bullying, land appropriations and rental evictions. It shows that obtaining records is not solely within the purview of experts, and their usage best demonstrates the professed goal of the FOI law – to empower the average citizen."

Some of those were from personal requests (with no planned fees), but some also from "general" FOI ones. Importantly, some of these citizens made general requests for their whole community's benefit, as local activists (many too poor to pay \$25 fees), beyond their own personal interests. And anyways, their personal cases at times reveal a hidden problem shared by hundreds/thousands of others too. See samples below.

-Sincerely yours, Stanley Tromp. www.canadafoi.ca

SAMPLES – Fine usage of "general information" BC FOI requests by average citizens, aiding a larger community purpose.

Copyright

Page 068 of 320 to/à Page 073 of 320

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

RE: proposed changes to provincial freedom of information and protection of privacy act

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 5:33:17 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thank you for your reply. While I understand some of your reasoning, I stand by my opposition to the previously mentioned amendments. I am also very concerned to learn of the amendment excluding the Premier's office from information requests.

s.22

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX [mailto:CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: October 22, 2021 2:44 PM

To: s.22

Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: proposed changes to provincial freedom of information and protection of privacy act

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all. We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Honourable Lisa Beare's Office | Minister of Citizens' Services

PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Gov, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E2 | Ph: 250-387-9699

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:36 PM

To: s.22

Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 115995 - FW: proposed changes to provincial freedom of information and protection of privacy act

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the

Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The above message contains confidential information intended for a specified individual and purpose. The information is private and protected by law. Any copying or disclosure of this transmission by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately and delete this message and any attachments from your system. Thank you.

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:34 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: proposed changes to provincial freedom of information and protection of privacy act

The Honourable Lisa Beare,

I would like to express my opposition to some of the provincial government's proposed changes to BC privacy laws – in particular, the proposal to allow public bodies to send citizens' personal information outside Canada and the proposal to charge a \$25 fee for each non-personal information request.

Charging a \$25 fee will not enhance government transparency, as it will be a deterrent especially to private citizens.

I do agree, however, with the amendment that would make it an offence to destroy records in response to an information request (this should have always been the case!) However, the law will still permit someone to destroy records *before* a request is made without committing an offence and I feel strongly that destroying records at any time should be an offence.

s.22 I will be very disappointed if the above-mentioned questionable amendments are passed.

Sincerely,

s.22

Fwd: FOI amendments

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 23, 2021 9:06:40 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Re-sending to your Premier address

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22
Date: October 23, 2021 at 8:54:31 AM PDT
To: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca
Subject: FOI amendments

Mr. Premier,

Please count me as squarely against the amendments your government is proposing to FOI legislation.

Please remember that the government is to serve the people, not frustrate their ability to oversee government work.

Typically I am quite supportive of NDP policies. I am not happy about your direction on FOI - and particularly the requiring of payment from information seekers. Please make access to information more easy, not more difficult.

s.22

Fwd: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

From : s.22

To: Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kahlon.MLA, Ravi <ravi.kahlon.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Chandra Herbert. MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chow.MLA, George <george.chow.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Adrian Dix <adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca>, mable.elmore.mla@leg.bc.ca, david.eby.mla@leg.bc.ca, Vancouver Fairview <george.heyman.mla@leg.bc.ca>, niki.sharma.mla@leg.bc.ca, Chen.MLA, Katrina <katrina.chen.mla@leg.bc.ca>, janet.routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca, Anne <anne.kang.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Chouhan.MLA, Raj <raj.chouhan.mla@leg.bc.ca>, kelly.greene.mla@leg.bc.ca, henry.yao.mla@leg.bc.ca, aman.singh.mla@leg.bc.ca, Sims.MLA, Jinny <jinny.sims.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Singh.MLA, Rachna <rachna.singh.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Brar.MLA, Jagrup <jagrup.brar.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Bains.MLA, Harry <harry.bains.mla@leg.bc.ca>, harwinder.sandhu.mla@leg.bc.ca, andrew.mercier.mla@leg.gc.ca, dan.coulter.mla@leg.bc.ca, mike.starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca, bruce.ralston.mla@leg.bc.ca, murray.rankin.mla@leg.bc.ca, brenda.bailey.mla@leg.bc.ca, fin.donnely.mla@leg.bc.ca, pam.alexis.mla@leg.bc.ca, nathan.cullen.mla@leg.bc.ca, rob.fleming.mla@leg.bc.ca, john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, Ma.MLA, Bowinn <bowinn.ma.mla@leg.bc.ca>, nicholas.simons.mla@leg.bc.ca, jennifer.whiteside.mla@gov.bc.ca, mike.farnworth.mla@leg.bc.ca, bob.deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <premier@gov.bc.ca>, Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX, Kahlon.MLA, Ravi LASS:EX, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX, Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX, Chow.MLA, George LASS:EX, Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX, Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX, Eby.MLA, David LASS:EX, Heyman.MLA, George LASS:EX, Sharma, Niki LASS:EX, Chen.MLA, Katrina LASS:EX, Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX, Kang.MLA, Anne LASS:EX, Chouhan.MLA, Raj LASS:EX, Greene, Kelly LASS:EX, Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX, Singh, Aman LASS:EX, Sims.MLA, Jinny LASS:EX, Singh.MLA, Rachna LASS:EX, Brar.MLA, Jagrup LASS:EX, Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX, Sandhu, Harwinder LASS:EX, Coulter, Dan LASS:EX, Starchuk, Mike LASS:EX, Ralston.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX, Bailey, Brenda LASS:EX, Donnelly, Fin LASS:EX, Alexis, Pam LASS:EX, Cullen, Nathan LASS:EX, Fleming.MLA, Rob LASS:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX, Ma.MLA, Bowinn LASS:EX, Simons.MLA, Nicholas LASS:EX, Farnworth.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX

Cc: andrew.wilkinson.mla@leg.bc.ca, Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca, dan.ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca, shirley.bond.mla@leg.bc.ca, adam.olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca, sonia.furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca, mike.dejong.mla@leg.bc.ca, s.22
s.22 Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew LASS:EX, Lee.MLA, Michael LASS:EX, Ashton.MLA, Dan LASS:EX, Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX, Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX, Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX, Morris.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, de Jong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX

Sent: October 24, 2021 1:20:11 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear NDP MLAs,

I am writing as a very concerned citizen, s.22

I am

writing to vigorously object to the changes being considered (actually "rammed through by the premier's office") according to the Vancouver Sun:

link: <https://vancouversun.com/news/politics/vaughn-palmer-freedom-of-information-who-cares-says-b-c-premier>

We live in a democracy where the foundation of our system is public access to government records as part of our social contract on accountability. This means to hold the government to account INCLUDING the BC

NDP and the BC Liberals, each one of these parties, should as a matter of right, hold the government to account. The "no cost" structure of FOI was set up by the then NDP government of the 1990s specifically as a way to ensure a robust democracy and allow the public and journalists to do their job - HOLD THE GOVT TO ACCOUNT.

Therefore, when NDP MLAs state that journalists like Bob Mackin or excessive requests from, god forbid, the BC liberals (who have their own unfortunate history) are considered "excessive" or a "nuisance" because the powers that be in the premier's office don't like it - I say as a concerned citizen, too bad. This shows that democracy is working and they are holding the NDP

s.22

to account. s.22

s.22

in essence what you are saying Mr. Premier is that now

that there is a majority govt, "some animals are more equal than others".

<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/all-animals-are-equal--but-some-animals-are-more-equal-than-others>

This is not the behaviour the grassroots expects from an NDP government - imposing user fees like what Christy Clark used to do. Preventing and hindering access to FOI records under very thing grounds. Saying it's taking up government resources to process records. Newsflash, this the job of govt as part of our social contract - and with the NDP in charge, there has been a growth in govt jobs, and there is ample resources to do so, as part of the existing system. If you need more people to process, then hire them, but do not charge fees.

Please oppose these regressive changes, and remind our premier that giving thin excuses is not a good look and how distasteful I personally found it. I represent the disabled, the racialized, the disenfranchised who you are now saying do not matter because it's "too inconvenient" for the champagne socialists in charge to process, because they have forgotten about the grassroots which the NDP purports to represent. If this, then what else is my question? Let's nip this in the bud now, and allow the public, the media, and the opposition to do the job of holding government to account. Otherwise, the other question is what else is in the pipelines to take away our public access rights?

Sincerely,

s.22

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bond.MLA, Shirley** <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Date: Sat, Oct 23, 2021 at 9:56 AM

Subject: Re: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

To: s.22

Cc: Titchener, Dorothy <Dorothy.Titchener@leg.bc.ca>, Rowlands, Conrad <Conrad.Rowlands@leg.bc.ca>

Good morning,

Thank you for copying me on your recent correspondence with the Premier. I appreciate the concerns you have expressed about Bill 22, recently tabled by the government.

Access to information is critical for British Columbians as well as those charged with holding the government to account. My biggest disappointment is that there seems to be a complete disregard for the consequences of the legislation and in particular the specific concerns outlined by the Privacy Commissioner.

Again, thank you for taking the time to outline your concerns. The Official Opposition will continue to raise many of the issues you have included in your email. I would encourage you to reach out to NDP MLAs as well, who were not participating in the debate at all last week. That is disappointing to say the least, particularly when they spoke passionately about the Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act.

Take good care.

Shirley Bond MLA

Prince George Valemount

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: s.22

Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 8:26:04 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; lisa.beare@leg.bc.ca <lisa.beare@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX

<CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Info-oipc <info@oipc.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>;^{s.22}

s.22

Subject: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

Dear Premier & Minister Responsible for FOI:

I am writing to object to, and express significant outrage about the regressive changes being pushed through against our BC freedom of information laws. With respect, I ask the government to rescind these regressive changes and instead of preventing access, it should expand access for all citizens and maintain our social contract: meaning, the government provides access as part of our taxes and does not hinder access.

First, s.22 where I have given a lifetime of service to the cause of human rights and uplifting the status of the average working person.^{s.22}

s.22

I care deeply about people - but I am very worried that our premier does not seem to as these changes thwart our democracy rights. What I am not includes not being associated with "captains of industry" "business elites" or "high priced corporate types"; my people are those that work minimum wage, disabled people on monthly support, racialized people working several jobs, who are all ordinary citizens. This is the BC NDP party that I believe exists - one that fights for ordinary citizens: so why is the party going against its own principles to thwart our FOI rights? Please Mr Premier I do not like what is happening here, and I am writing^{s.22}

s.22 to voice my objections and ask that you do not take such regressive action.

Second, the initial FOI legislation was put in place by a BC NDP government that wanted to increase transparency and in so doing, make our laws the most accessible in Canada. The idea was to make the government more accountable, more accessible, but most importantly allow ordinary people the ability to get records on themselves easily, for free, and make corrections. Why is this mandate being changed now? Again, the BC NDP bills itself as the part of working people, and brands itself as "working for you" the ordinary working person. Yet, against media questions, our "people's premier" is deflecting, distracting, and mischaracterizing the issue. Please Mr Premier, we are the only province with an NDP government so please do not use examples of other provinces as a weak excuse for change; keep our values intact and ensure free access, and no sneaky regulations, and keep the office the premier within the ambit of FOI laws.

Therefore, I provide my comments below, which I have taken from the FOI Commissioner's letter.

<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>

1. The concern that OIPC is being changed by changing it from substantive legislation which has the oversight of parliament, to "framework legislation" whereby the minister can put through changes without input of our elected reps. This is an affront to our democracy as you are essentially removing public debate and criticism by this regressive approach to government. I ask that the status quo be kept where our province should be leader in public laws, not become "Stephen-Haper-esque" in the approach to government where that government worked against Canadians; we are the NDP and support human rights and open access.
2. Changing the data residency rules to remove the protection of our information and using other provisions such as in-Canada residence of the data as an effective surrogate. We have seen the issues with the breach of privacy by Life Labs, and then other security breaches that we all hear back in other countries. Please maintain such protection.
3. The deeply troubling "trick" to remove the "office of the premier" as a body covered under the FOI laws, and using weak excuses, justifications when questioned. We all know what happened with the City of Vancouver, when the now ex-"Vision Vancouver" municipal party used similar tricks to thwart access to FOI records where the FOI commisiосner rebuked them.. It seems the same

approach and personnel are using the same slippery tactics and this is wrong. Mr. Premier, if you are to be a beacon of hope, please don't use these "Jason Kenney" style tactics to thwart our democracy. The BC NDP is better than that.

4. I also that you please include within the provisions of FOI, non-profit organizations that receive principal funding from the government, similar to the federal contractors program, so that these organizations, while private, are covered by access laws. This should be an expansion of our rights that is reasonably expected.

5. The imposition of a request fee, which has been touted as \$25 per request, is an affront to our democracy. In the media, it has been noted that the government is doing this to avoid pesky journalists or the opposition, who I note are in fact doing the job of holding politicians to account. The very same approach that the NDP took when in opposition. Mr. Premier, I am deeply troubled that you are taking this regressive approach denying the very democratic access to rights that we all enjoy, thwarting a citizen's right to information which is a part of government operations and should never be on a fee for access basis (social contract). I ask that you remove this Stalinist provision from our law, never to see the light of day again. I also ask that NDP staff who are "supporting the changes" due to "demands on ministry staff time" are not thinking why comments like this support privilege from a white male, who has had NO EXPERIENCE that racialized people have with discrimination from the attitudes like this that show why systemic racism against vulnerable people exists, because government operations are paid by taxes to enable such access. Keep the access free, and disallow these ill considered comments that frankly, make me sick, s.22

s.22 - I am for full access, open access, and no fee access without bogus excuses like this from staff that just tout talking point, which do not reflect the opinion of the rank and file - e.g, the grassroots members who would never support such changes; so do not take ill conceived comments like those of Mr. Walters to be reflective of NDP values when they are not.

<https://twitter.com/brentonwalters/status/1450233822872698881>

6. I disagree with the provision to "disregard requests" as again it's thwarting our democracy. The provisions as they exist in the law allow this to occur.

7. Please restore the section 13 provision to its original intent to ensure there is full access to records.

I have copied the various MLAs on this matter, to ensure they can note there is strong public opposition to these regressive "right wing style" changes to cherished access to information laws. I am citizen who believes in a strong democracy, s.22

s.22 therefore, this is why I am very upset and displeased with these changes, and ask that in the spirit of what our party stands for, to protect citizens, make it easier, and then ensure we enhance not remove access rights.

Please advise on the reply, and so doing, please Mr. Premier do not provide talking points, pretexts or justifications from your staff, who I have come to know and sadly, seen what politics has done to them as it has "changed them" from idealists wanting to do right (including MLAs), to now being captured by the very same system that they were trying to change for the better. It seems Mr. Premier this is the case with this law, and others around it, that cannot for the life of them see these actions go against everything we believe in. Please do better and do right by the public.

Sincerely,

s.22

cc. MLA Melanie Mark

MLA Bruce Banman

MLA Shirley Bond

MLA Sonia Fursteneau

Links:

<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>

<https://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/columnists/les-leyne-opposition-finds-plenty-to-fault-in-ndp-s-freedom-of-information-proposals-1.24365188>
<https://thetyee.ca/News/2021/10/19/BC-Introduces-Troubling-Limits-Freedom-Information/>
<https://theorca.ca/resident-pod/when-freedom-of-information-is-neither-free-nor-informative/#.YW-h0amd03Q.twitter>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation

From : s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, premier@gov.bc.ca, Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 24, 2021 3:23:00 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Attention: Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services; Premier John Horgan; MP Patrick Weiler.

I am appalled at the NDP's implementation of a \$25.00 fee for routine applications under the provinces' access-to-information legislation. It is an odious and unnecessary deterrent to people making access requests. Even your Information and Privacy Commissioner, Michael McEvoy, recognized the barriers this fee will impose and recommended *against* it.

There are already far too many barriers for the public to access information. It is bad enough that citizens must go through an application process to obtain information that should be readily available in the first place, but to now charge one to do so is unconscionable. Further, removing the office of the premier from the specific list of bodies covered by the act is reprehensible.

Do not attempt to justify this fee by accusing the Opposition of abusing access to information by bombarding the government with "too many requests".

Citizens want accountability and transparency. Every level of Government and every political party boasts about their achievements in these areas. Yet once a party is elected these principals are trampled upon.

If you have any respect for citizens and the concepts of accountability and transparency, you will immediately abolish this fee and any exemptions as to who this act applies.

Sincerely,

s.22

Re: BC Freedom of Information

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 24, 2021 5:00:39 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister and staff,

I appreciate your prompt reply to my email. I do not disagree that our privacy laws are insufficient and outdated, and I appreciate many of the points of your email. However, I have grave concern about the way you address criticism of the fees for Freedom of Information requests. Arguing for the implementation of a fee to reduce information request wait times is an implicit admission that you not only expect but hope that requests will decrease if a fee is implemented. This is not a good thing, and such reductions in transparency are exactly contrary to your government's interest in (your words) "open and transparent access to information". The clarification that such a fee would not apply to personal records searches is not comforting either - individual personal data is important to have, but is not the foundation on which a transparent government is built.

Accordingly, I continue to urge you to amend this reform to fix this issue, if not remove it entirely.

Yours sincerely,

s.22

On Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 5:47 PM Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Honourable Lisa Beare's Office | Minister of Citizens' Services

PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Gov, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E2 | Ph: 250-387-9699

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 8:27 PM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 115995 - BC Freedom of Information

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister,

s.22

I'm writing today to express grave concerns regarding the proposed amendment to BC's freedom of information process, specifically the imposition of fees for all but personal records requests. I believe this is fundamentally harmful to government transparency. Citizens should be entitled to records from their government, and imposing fees will discourage access for everyone and make access impossible for many.

I have, in fact, personally benefited from BC's freedom of information process in the past and hope to again. A \$25 fee would have made my past request difficult and will significantly limit future requests given I am currently a university student of limited means. I would strongly urge you and your government to reconsider this change in policy, not merely for my sake but for the sake of everyone in our province.

Many thanks for your service and assistance.

Yours sincerely,

s.22

FOI proposed fees

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 24, 2021 6:08:41 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello Premier John Horgan, MLA

Could you please tell me what, if anything, I can do to convince you not to go through with the plan to charge a proposed fee for FOIs? I am opposed and I'll tell you why. Powell River City Council is not transparent, it is opaque. Closed in camera meetings are nearing 7 years in arrears of being released and by law they are supposed to be made available to the public in a timely manner as soon as possible. Waiting one year is incredulous but more than 6 years is a travesty.

Minutes are available to be read of council meetings, but minutes don't tell the whole story. No minutes are available of the opaque 'in camera' meetings. The webcasts tell a far more accurate story, but naturally none of the 'in camera' are available for viewing. Apparently our server here is being upgraded and none of the webcasts from Council Meetings, COWM, Finance Committee, Special Council nor Public Meetings from Jan,2016 to current times are available for viewing. Last week I could still watch the webcasts online from 2020 onwards, but they are not available anymore either.

I have requested FOI's in the past asking to be notified if the research would involve more than 3 hours of work that I be notified of the charges, so far my FOIs have not involved any charges but I have gleaned information that should have been easily accessible to the public all along. A request through FOI is a last resort, not the first intervention. An increase in requests is not a problem; it is a symptom of a problem with transparency and openness further up the food chain.

I call on you to see what you can do about this please,

s.22

Sent from my iPad

Freedom of Information Request Changes

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 8:19:25 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day: Charging \$25 per request is too much and providing responses so redacted as to be ludicrous is unworthy in a democracy. If there are that many requests coming in, it suggests to me that information that should be readily available isn't so rather than blocking the public's access, more could be done to ensure information is available.

I am sorry to see it seems a desire for secrecy with just a soupçon of hypocrisy prevail now that you have won a majority. You have acknowledged that when in opposition, the NDP filed many FOI requests so does it really seem ethical to undermine democracy and make the work of the Opposition harder now?

I was sorry to learn the new legislation (some of which is apparently good) also includes a provision to exclude the PO? I would like to hear a specific explanation for what just seems like a way to completely skate away from transparency and accountability. What has happened to you, I wonder.

Don't hide your gov't's decision making processes, expose them to the light! Secrecy does not work as a governing policy so remember your values, Premier. Your legacy should be that you strengthened our democracy, not weakened it.

Thank you. All the best.

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

RE: Proposed Changes to Freedom of Information Act

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 8:53:52 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 23, 2021 9:23 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Proposed Changes to Freedom of Information Act

Dear Ms Beare,

I am writing to you regarding the proposed changes to Freedom of Information Act in British Columbia.

I am absolutely flabbergasted that a democratic government would propose to enact any kind of fee for citizens to obtain information regarding how your government spends our tax dollars.

As well, most FOI requests are delayed for multiple months and are returned with a ton of redacted information.

What exactly is your NDP government trying to hide, and why is it taking steps to make access to this information much more expensive?

I implore that this legislation is not passed for the benefit of all tax payers in the province of British Columbia.

Thank you,

s.22

RE: Please do not vote for Bill 22 removing FOIPPA section 30.1

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 8:55:16 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

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From: s.22

Sent: October 23, 2021 4:47 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Please do not vote for Bill 22 removing FOIPPA section 30.1

To HON Lisa Beare,

I am writing as a concerned citizen and voter s.22

s.22

Please do **not vote in favour of Bill 22** and its repealing of 30.1 of the FOIPPA Act which currently protects BC residents by requiring storage of their personal information to be only in Canada, accessed only by Canadians. Why repealing section 30.1 of the FOIPPA act puts BC residents and their Personal Information at risk along with the BC Economy Sector:

1. Personal information (PI) stored on foreign servers is accessible and managed by foreign server admins, without knowledge or control from the BC Public Body.
2. Foreign servers distribute Personal Information to cloud servers worldwide without knowledge given to Public Bodies as to whom specifically has access or where specifically it is stored.
3. Personal Information stored on foreign internet cloud servers drastically increases the risk of cyber-attacks to steal PI. The July 2021 cyber-attack on the UVM Medical center in Vermont was preventable if the data had been stored and properly secured on local internal network servers by local technicians.
4. Once Personal Information (PI) is distributed to foreign cloud servers, there often can be no recourse to have data permanently removed, secured or access traced for FOI requests.
5. If Public Bodies are allowed to store PI on foreign servers and hire foreign workers to administer it, BC public sector jobs that do not have an on-site requirement have a high risk of being eliminated.
6. The NDP Government should be doing more to secure PI to remain in Canada and to ensure BC public sector jobs are protected, not opening the door to expose PI to foreign access, cyber-attacks and eliminating BC jobs by hiring foreign workers.

Why we need to keep section 30.1 of the FOIPPA Act

1. BC computer technicians working for public bodies are legally required to sign agreements and uphold the FOIPPA act and must participate in mandatory annual privacy and security training.

2. Access to Personal Information is currently managed directly by the Public Bodies. Domains like healthbc.org, idir.bcgov, and phsabc.ehcnet.ca allocate what PI BC employees or Canadian contractors have access to.
3. Personal Information is stored locally in BC on domain servers on internal networks with firewalls managed by BC Public Bodies employees and protected at multiple physical levels.
4. Microsoft has Canadian server data centers where public bodies can access Microsoft 365 services while still keeping PI within Canadian borders, accessed and managed by Canadians.
5. Google, Service Now, Airwatch and other services also have Canadian server data centers where public bodies like schools, hospitals and government can access online services while still keeping PI within Canadian borders accessed and managed by Canadians.
6. Other online services that wish to sell to BC Public Bodies have motivation to create data centers within Canada, creating jobs for Canadians and keeping the BC IT sector strong while securing PI away from foreign access and cyber-attacks.

Thank You

s.22

FW: FOI fees

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 8:56:16 AM PDT
Attachments: As members of the PR chapter of the Council of Canadians were are.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 23, 2021 4:31 PM

To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Simons.MLA, Nicholas <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; info@oipc.bc.ca; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI fees

October 22, 2021

John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia,
PO Box 9041
Station Provincial Government,
Victoria, B.C.
V8W9E1

Premier Horgan,

s.22

stands with the Information and Privacy Commissioner,
Michael McEvoy, in opposition to the proposed fee for Freedom of Information requests in British Columbia. Our
opposition is based on the following:

- Access to information is the backbone of our democracy. An engaged electorate must have access to information if they are to make thoughtful decisions in the interest of the common good. A barrier that limits access to this information is a violation of citizens' democratic rights.
- Leadership accountability is compromised when opposition members, journalists who report on government actions, and citizens of B.C., particularly those on the margins, who may have legitimate concerns are left in the dark.
- Citizens Service Minister Lisa Beare cited escalating costs associated with FOI requests as justification for her decision. Her claim that the government processes approximately 10,000 applications suggesting that a fee of \$25 would bring in \$150,000, is misleading.* The Federal Treasury Board estimates that the cost to process an FOI request when paid by cheque is \$50.00, twice the cost of the fee proposed by the Province of B.C. This decision is not about cost recovery.
- Beare also stated that the average cost to process an FOI request is \$30,000. Let's do the math. At a clerk rate of \$20 per hour, her figures translate to five full weeks of work per request. Given that the FOI Act limits recovery of costs to include only the following, this estimate is grossly inflated.
 - Locate, retrieve and produce information
 - Prepare for disclosure (not including time to redact information)
 - Shipping and handling
 - Making a copy of the record.
- Beare argues that the suggested fee reflects other jurisdictions yet the only authority to charge \$25.00 is Alberta, long considered the most secretive jurisdiction in the country.
- Premier Horgan raised concerns about a few groups submitting an excessive number of requests. A request through FOI is a last resort, not the first intervention. An increase in requests is not a problem; it is a symptom of a problem with transparency and openness further up the food chain.
- We are living in a time when trust in leadership is at an unprecedented low. Imposing a fee erodes trust and will inevitably escalate calls for accountability, further exacerbating the problem.

We call on you to reconsider this decision.

s.22

* https://thetyee.ca/News/2021/10/19/BC-Introduces-Troubling-Limits-Freedom-Information/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_content=101921-3&utm_campaign=editorial

RE: FOI Fees.

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 9:01:45 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 4:08 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI Fees.

Dear Madam Minister:

s.22

wrote to you today regarding the government proposing a \$25 fee for FOI requests, which has generated a lot of push-back from educational institutions and journalists, arguing that it would be "a step backward for government transparency and openness."

(per this article: <https://bc.ctvnews.ca/we-haven-t-settled-on-a-fee-says-b-c-premier-as-backlash-against-charging-for-information-grows-1.5633559>)

But there are already fees for FOI services. In addition, our actual experience is that the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation refuses every reasonable request without a FOI submission and strings out responses to the statutory limit and beyond by employing the "3rd party involvement" trick. After all that, the information returned is often muddled or irrelevant. So by the time all this is sorted out, too much time has passed for meaningful engagement on the subject matter. This is not a one off but a consistent pattern that makes a farce of the concepts of "transparency" and "accountability." If our experience with FOI is commonplace, then the problem goes much deeper than whether or not to charge a standard \$25.00 fee.

Yours Truly,

s.22

FOIPPA fee

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, info@oipc.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 10:38:55 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello John and the folks at the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Office,
I am writing to say how much I **DISAGREE** with the \$25 application fee , or **ANY** fee for non-personal FOIPPA requests. I also very much **DISAGREE** with exempting the Office of the Premier from FIOPPA requests.
John, you are not correct when you say, "Who cares?"
I care very much. I have relied on BC journalists using FIOPPA access requests to dig into casino money laundering, foreign ownership of housing, the Office of the Speaker clerk misspending and pandemic information. It is not acceptable to me, to put a financial barrier in place for any journalist to do their job.
Sincerely,
s.22

Sent from Mail for Windows

copy of letter to Premier re FOI changes

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 11:02:40 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

s.22

Monday, October 25, 2021.

Premier John Horgan

Premier of The Province of British Columbia

premier@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Horgan,

As I write to express my objection to proposed changes in the Freedom of Information Act it is good to know that my opinion is shared by Information and Privacy commissioner Michael McEvoy whose thoughts on this matter are presented in Vaughn Palmer's October 21 column in The Vancouver Sun. Among the many points criticized by Mr. McEvoy, one leaps out – charging a fee of up to \$25 for applying for information under the act. Mr. McEvoy, as quoted by Vaughn Palmer, states, "Application fees pose a real barrier for many who seek information that should be readily available to the public."

Yea, verily.

Government proposals to alter the Freedom of Information Act are, as I understand them, outrageous and must be abandoned.

Yours truly,

s.22

Copy to: Citizens' Services Minister, Lisa Beare

CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

\$25 charge for Information

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, 20Premier@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 12:18:30 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi there,

The changes being put through inc. the \$25 charge does it for me.
it is bad enough that so much of info. provided is blocked out anyway.
You are heading the way of dictatorship.

While I had thought that this Govt was doing a good job compared to the
prior corrupt Liberals,

s.22

New approach to FOI requests

From: s.22
To: john horgan <Premier@gov.bc.ca>, Rankin.MLA, Murray
<murray.rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Lore.MLA, Grace <Grace.Lore.mla@leg.bc.ca>,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX, Lore, Grace
LASS:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 1:14:14 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Premier Horgan, Mr Rankin and Ms. Lore,
I just read the Tyee article on the new rules on FOI requests. Sounds like increasing government secrecy to me.

BC's FOI Changes Widely Condemned, Called 'Morally Bankrupt' | The Tyee

How about this for a solution: make government business more transparent so we can search for information on our own.

Your new approach is going backward, not forward.

Respectfully,

s.22

FW: Redirect: JERI CLIFF ID 156043

From: Jarmson, Lindsay CITZ:EX <Lindsay.Jarmson@gov.bc.ca>
To: McEwen, Shaylene CITZ:EX <Shaylene.McEwen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 3:33:06 PM PDT
Attachments: 156043 incoming concern about bc changes to foippa act.msg

Hi Shay

We got this redirected to our DMO in regards to FOIPPA – from MIN of JERI – Jeannette suggest I forward to the MO to see if this could be added to our batch responses or how MO would like us to action this one?

Thank you

Lindsay Jarmson | Administrative Coordinator
Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Citizens' Services
Ph: 250-978-9741 | *e:* lindsay.jarmson@gov.bc.ca

From: Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 25, 2021 3:19 PM

To: Jarmson, Lindsay CITZ:EX <Lindsay.Jarmson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Redirect: JERI CLIFF ID 156043

Yes please connect with Shay and see if we can add to the batch response.

JC

From: Jarmson, Lindsay CITZ:EX <Lindsay.Jarmson@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 25, 2021 3:00 PM

To: Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Molyneux, Jennifer CITZ:EX <Jennifer.Molyneux@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Redirect: JERI CLIFF ID 156043

As the incoming redirect from JERI pertains to FOIPPA – would I want to coordinate with Shay to see if the MO would want to add this to the batch response being sent out? Or would we want to action this incoming piece as a staff/reply direct?

Lindsay Jarmson | Administrative Coordinator
Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Citizens' Services
Ph: 250-978-9741 | *e:* lindsay.jarmson@gov.bc.ca

From: Correspondence Services JERI:EX <JERI.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 25, 2021 11:49 AM

To: Jarmson, Lindsay CITZ:EX <Lindsay.Jarmson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Correspondence Services JERI:EX <JERI.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Redirect: JERI CLIFF ID 156043

Good morning,

Please advise if the attached something CITZ can respond to and if so, could you please cc Minister Kahlon on the response?

Thank you,

Cathy Gao

A/Correspondence Analyst | Correspondence Unit
Ministry of Labour | Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
and Minister of State for Trade
Phone: 778.698.5466 | Email: Cathy.Gao@gov.bc.ca

Concern about BC Changes to FOIPPA act

From: s.22
To: JERI.minister@gov.bc.ca, ellis.ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Minister, JERI JERI:EX, Ross.MLA, Ellis LASS:EX
Sent: October 19, 2021 9:25:59 AM PDT
Attachments: Energizing-BC-Tech1.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi there,

I am contacting you as British Columbia's Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation. I am also cc'ing Ellis Ross who is my elected representative in the Skeena Riding.

I am very concerned with BC's amendments to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPPA) act which appears largely driven by the BC Tech Association as per <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021CITZ0048-001990>

In this news release, "Data-residency requirement changes will bring B.C. in line with other jurisdictions by removing restrictions that prevent access to digital tools and technologies." and "For example, greater access to cloud-based services will improve B.C.'s post-secondary institutions' ability to attract students by allowing them to use cloud-based education tools offered outside of B.C."

These changes amount to outsourcing BC IT jobs to multinational technology companies outside of Canada's borders and does not seem congruent with NDP's commitment to Energize BC Technology (attached). These amendments will mean an end to many IT jobs in BC and will allow our confidential data to be stored outside of the country, including the United States where it will be subject to the US Patriot Act.

Please look at who belongs to the BC Tech Association.

<https://wearebctech.com/members/member-directory/>

It's 19 pages of many multinational companies including Amazon, Electronic Arts, Microsoft and among BC companies. Would you care to guess which members are behind this push to allow data outside of Canada? Technology Cloud services is an oligopoly of Amazon, Microsoft and Google. How is giving them our IT infrastructure helping grow BC tech????

--

Disclaimer: This email and any attachments are sent in strictest confidence for the sole use of the addressee and may contain legally privileged, confidential, and proprietary data. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise the sender by replying promptly to this email and then delete and destroy this email and any attachments without any further use, copying or forwarding.



Energizing BC Tech

Page 101 of 320 to/à Page 109 of 320

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Fwd: Freedom of Information - Proposed Changes

From : s.22
To: Premier@gov.bc.ca, CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 7:41:20 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Redirected, as per your request.

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22
Subject: Freedom of Information - Proposed Changes
Date: October 25, 2021 at 7:37:21 PM PDT
To: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, lisa.beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca, janet.routledge.MLA@leg.bc.ca

I am puzzled by the apparent haste with which your new majority government has introduced a bill which proposes changes to our freedom of information laws. I say 'haste', because your government — my government — is proposing significant amendments to the legislation even before an all-party committee has submitted its recommendations. What is the point of the committee, then?

Some of the changes, around disclosure of privacy breaches for example, appear to be useful; but others, such as those which allow storage of personal information outside Canada, and the rather controversial addition of a fee, may not serve British Columbians well.

I ask that you withdraw this legislation, and revisit it once the committee has reported back to the legislature. Anything else looks like hubris, and that does not become you.

Yours truly,

s.22

Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>, john.horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX
Sent: October 25, 2021 7:49:25 PM PDT
Attachments: Community usage of B.C. FOIPP Act.docx

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act

Notes by Stanley Tromp, in response to Bill 22, Oct. 2021

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Page 112 of 320 to/à Page 122 of 320

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FW: This should go into the MO mailbox FW: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) Amendment

From: Jarmson, Lindsay CITZ:EX <Lindsay.Jarmson@gov.bc.ca>
To: McEwen, Shaylene CITZ:EX <Shaylene.McEwen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 9:02:52 AM PDT

Good morning Shay

Forwarding the below email that Deputy Minister Brouwer received in her inbox.

Are you able to get advice on whether this can be added to the batch emails?

Thank you

Lindsay Jarmson | Administrative Coordinator
Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Citizens' Services
Ph: 250-978-9741 | *e:* lindsay.jarmson@gov.bc.ca

From: Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 25, 2021 6:10 PM

To: Jarmson, Lindsay CITZ:EX <Lindsay.Jarmson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: This should go into the MO mailbox FW: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) Amendment

Lindsay – can you please connect with Shay on this one – should be included in the batch too.

Thanks.

JC

From: Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 21, 2021 2:54 PM

To: Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: This should go into the MO mailbox FW: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) Amendment

From: §.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 8:36 PM

To: Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) Amendment

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi,

I would like to write to you about my concern over the proposed Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) Amendment.

Firstly, the severe lack of detail is incredibly concerning. As someone who considers getting data protection legislation implemented correctly a key for ensuring British Columbians (and Canadians) protection on the world stage, this lack of effort and clear direction makes me lose faith in the ability for this government to put the interests of citizens first. This is clearly a move to appease industry who are not willing to put in the effort to store data locally, which is what all forward-thinking jurisdictions are currently doing (One only needs to look to the EU to see this). How could this government be so short-sighted about such important legislation?

Secondly, I am wholeheartedly against the ability for business/government/industry to be able to store British Columbians data outside of Canada. There has already been an issue back in the 2000's with British Columbians data being accessed from data centres in the US; the lack of details about where data will be able to be stored makes this even more worrying.

I have to say, §.22

the decisions made within the party over the last year have shown a severe lack of care for the humans living in the province; instead, the decisions seem to be transparently supporting corporate interest. I do believe a balance is needed, but the clear lack of respect placed onto the rights of individual citizens, in favour of industry, displayed within this province is starting to make me question if I can ever vote for this party again, which is something that pains me to say.

I thank you for reading, and ask to please consider your ability to make British Columbia a leader in data protection, rather than a laggard stuck with an outdated 20th century approach to data. This will only become a bigger issue as data becomes more valuable.

s.22

RE: FOI fee

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 9:13:59 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,
Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7
P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: October 25, 2021 5:40 PM
To: Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI fee

Dear Spencer,

It's unbelievable that now that the NDP s.22 has a majority, it seeks to introduce a \$25.00 fee for FOI requests. Says Horgan, "it's to reduce the number of requests for the service". Wow...really? The "party of the people" wants to reduce FOI requests.

Why? To improve efficiency? To limit scrutiny of their decisions, perhaps?

This bill bespeaks a political party who DOES NOT WANT to have its work, policies, decisions examined by society in general, by the opposition, by citizens. I'm appalled and ashamed to see the NDP propose this legislation.

A party who wins majority is well advised to remain humble with the trust bestowed. This kind of proposal bespeaks a

guarded, heavy-handed approach that in the end leads to the erosion of trust from the public. Shame on Lisa Beare, shame on you John Horgan for proposing this legislation.

Yours truly,

s.22

RE: Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 9:14:42 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 25, 2021 6:39 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: GCIO, Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX <LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX <Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Shauna.Brouer@gov.bc.ca; Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Subject: Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act

Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act

Notes by Stanley Tromp, in response to Bill 22, Oct. 2021

www.canadafoi.ca

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FW: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act - amendment/changes

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 11:06:24 AM PDT

Shay sent s.22 batch FOIPPA response.

Please see s.22 response below.

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 11:02 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act - amendment/changes

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning,

Thank you for the reply, though you seemed to forget/omit an answer to my biggest concern. That part was about the sending of information out of the country. What information and to which countries/locales is this pertaining to. I certainly don't want any of our citizens, including mine, going to other countries. Am I to assume correctly that this is bulk financial, employment or other non-personal information?

Thank you for your speedy reply

Have a good day.

s.22

On Oct 26, 2021, at 10:23, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 2:19 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act - amendment/changes

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier, s.22

I am pleased with your leadership

since you obtained a majority.

I do have an issue with the above subject, an article about which was in the Province paper this morning. I will "bullet" these below in detail and am requesting an answer to my items.

1. Amendment allowing public bodies to send British Columbians personal information outside Canada. There must be a firm protection of privacy so that information cannot be accessed by unauthorized persons for illegal use.
2. Is my personal information going to include details of my identity, PHN, SIN, details of medical history, education history, driving history? Identity details are not going to become part of an online education tool. I need this info to be maintained where it is kept private, and this must be kept within British Columbia, Canada.
3. Minister Beare has stated that the privacy issue will be brought out in Regulations. These do not have the same strength as the Regulations do, nor do they come out for debate at the same time.
4. There is no country that I would accept to store private information, other than Canada.

I will state that her responses to the privacy commissioner were too politically phrased. We need and deserve an answer that will rest my mind, as well as that of other like thinkers. My mind is trying to think about the reasoning for allowing any foreign political or educational body that needs my personal information to be useful!

You are our Premier, and as far as I'm concerned will be as long as I can vote, so take my words to heart, and accept my belief if you as our provincial leader.

Thank you, sir.

s.22

Re: FOI bill

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 12:06:24 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

The provisions restricting transparency and access to the Premiers' Office etc. are duplicitous and you guys know it. It's so disappointing to see your government pursue this type of policy, and indicative to me of a group that have been in power too long. So utterly disappointed to see these qualities in your policymaking.
s.22

On Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 10:41 AM Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 21, 2021 10:20 PM
Subject: FOI bill

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Just a note to ask why you'd want to amend the FOI legislation to reduce transparency after all the talk you've given and the centrality of these values to your mission and (now burnished) image as careful stewards of our province. We are watching carefully and are mystified as to why you would pursue such a patently duplicitous policy. So very disappointed and hope to see these proposed changes scrapped.

There are legitimate changes needed to the legislation governing use and storage of personal information, particularly in its use for healthcare and especially clinical research etc where we have seen major impediments to progress. But the attempts to package such changes with policy designed to reduce your govt's accountability are truly discouraging.

To be honest it does really seem to be shaping into a pattern these days.

Regards,

s.22

Fwd: FOI Bill changes

From: s.22
To: Premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 26, 2021 1:32:25 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Mr. Horgan,

A very big "no thank you" to the proposed changes in the Freedom of Information Bill. Charging a fee for information that we should all have unhindered access to sends a strong message that you and your government have something to hide. This is public information. No one should be limited in anyway to understand how the government we have elected does business with our money.

I am not sure how this benefits any of us... other than you.... so it is baffling that you expect us to buy into this hogwash.

Please do the right thing and do not make this change. Install some confidence in us so we can believe that you and your government actually have our interests at heart. This is definitely an issue for any re- election consideration. It certainly makes me look at your government in a different light.

Very seldom do I take the time to speak out... but this proposed change is beyond disappointing.

Regards,

s.22

FW: "deviant" "morally bankrupt"?

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 1:38:09 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,

I responded to s.22 (our constituent) yesterday to a previous email she had sent regarding the new FOI process.

Over to you to determine if another response is necessary.

Kind regards,
Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant |
Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7
P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: October 26, 2021 9:28 AM
To: BC NDP Caucus <BCNDPCaucus@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: "deviant" "morally bankrupt"?

To the Premier and the Minister,

Every day, it seems, there's something new. This is REMARKABLE!

https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fthetyee.ca%2FNews%2F2021%2F10%2F25%2FBC-FOI-Changes-Widely-Condemned%2F%3Futm_source%3Ddaily%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D251021&data=04%7C01%7CCITZ.Minister%40gov.bc.ca%7C3f401b70440841bfeec308d998c0870e%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637708774928127654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWlloiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IkhWwILCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=0%2FCulylmz8Me0t6uqeMdtUgpjvA2IXuomfrsuYGLvzs%3D&reserved=0

Sincerely,
s.22

Bill 22 Freedom of Information charges

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: peter.milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Milobar.MLA, Peter LASS:EX
Sent: October 26, 2021 3:03:48 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Honourable Horgan and Milobar

Mr. Horgan,

We just heard about the new charge the NDP is proposing in Bill 22 for charging for freedom Information. Plus, to have the Premiers Office off limits to any request.

Freedom of information is a right in a democratic society. This certainly makes one think that the NDP has something to hide especially when the Premiers Office is off limits!

This is discouraging news for democracy, this makes BC politics look shady and corrupt.

I'm sure that if the NDP was in opposition they would try very hard to block this bill. The fee will discourage some from paying, but not all, but that's not the point. The point is lack of free resources for average people and media requesting information in the government files.

Our little voice is nothing to you but we ask that the NDP not pass this bill.

Yours sincerely,
s.22

Sent from my iPad

Bill 22 amendments to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

From: Jason Woywada <jason@fipa.bc.ca>
To: Premier@gov.bc.ca, CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: Mike Larsen <mike@fipa.bc.ca>, BCLiberalCaucus@leg.bc.ca, greencaucus@leg.bc.ca
Sent: October 26, 2021 3:20:26 PM PDT
Attachments: Outlook-4rushshy.png, 20211026 Bill 22 Coalition Letter to Premier and Minister.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Please find the following correspondence attached and below.

We, the undersigned, believe **transparency matters** and, because of this, we write to you to express our grave concerns about the Bill 22 amendments to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA).

Bill 22 would see substantive changes made to FIPPA for the first time in over a decade.

Unfortunately, if passed, this Bill will undermine access to information and make public bodies less transparent. It is a step backwards for openness and accountability, and a missed opportunity to protect the privacy and improve the information rights of British Columbians.

This legislation would extend the ability of current and future governments to keep people in the dark about vital matters of public interest. Its introduction at this time short-circuits the work of the special legislative committee responsible for reviewing FIPPA, preventing meaningful public consultation. If passed, it would immediately put up more barriers for people seeking access to information.

You have made prior commitments regarding the value you place on transparency and about the need to improve government accountability, but this legislation would make it harder for everyone - concerned citizens, experienced researchers, and you - to get facts rather than spin.

We recognize this majority government can readily pass this regressive Bill quickly. If that happens, it will impact the citizens of British Columbia now, haunt us into the future, and set a dangerous precedent across Canada.

Our message is simple: **Transparency matters to all of us. Stop Bill 22.**

We call on the government to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of the all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees

As interested individuals and members of organizations, we call on you to demonstrate your commitment to democratic values by taking action to im-prove—not reduce—the transparency of public bodies.

Signed by:

BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association

With support from our partners as attached.

Cheers

Jason Woywada (he/him/his)

Executive Director, BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association



PO Box 8308 Victoria Main, Victoria BC V8W 3R9

Phone: 604-739-9788

Website: <https://fipa.bc.ca>

Twitter: [@bcfipa](https://twitter.com/bcfipa)

I respect and acknowledge I am working and residing in the unceded Coast Salish Territory of the Lekwungen amongst the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historic relationships with the land continue to this day.



By email: Premier@gov.bc.ca, CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

October 26, 2021

The Honourable John Horgan M.L.A.
Premier of British Columbia
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
PROV GOVT VICTORIA, BC V8W 9E1

The Honourable Lisa Beare M.L.A.
Minister of Citizens' Services
PO Box 9068 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Premier and Minister,

Subject: Bill 22 amendments to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA).

We, the undersigned, believe **transparency matters** and, because of this, we write to you to express our grave concerns about the Bill 22 amendments to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA).

Bill 22 would see substantive changes made to FIPPA for the first time in over a decade. Unfortunately, if passed, this Bill will undermine access to information and make public bodies less transparent. It is a step backwards for openness and accountability, and a missed opportunity to protect the privacy and improve the information rights of British Columbians.

This legislation would extend the ability of current and future governments to keep people in the dark about vital matters of public interest. Its introduction at this time short-circuits the work of the special legislative committee responsible for reviewing FIPPA, preventing meaningful public consultation. If passed, it would immediately put up more barriers for people seeking access to information.

You have made prior commitments regarding the value you place on transparency and about the need to improve government accountability, but this legislation would make it harder for everyone - concerned citizens, experienced researchers, and you - to get facts rather than spin.

We recognize this majority government can readily pass this regressive Bill quickly. If that happens, it will impact the citizens of British Columbia now, haunt us into the future, and set a dangerous precedent across Canada.

Our message is simple: **Transparency matters to all of us. Stop Bill 22.**

We call on the government to:

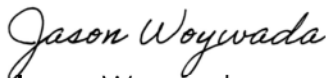
- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of the all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees

As interested individuals and members of organizations, we call on you to demonstrate your commitment to democratic values by taking action to improve—not reduce—the transparency of public bodies.

Signed by:



Mike Larsen
President



Jason Woywada
Executive Director

BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association
With support from our partners as attached.

CC:

BCLiberalCaucus@leg.bc.ca
greencaucus@leg.bc.ca

An online version of this letter is [here](#) and is continuing to gain support.

This call to action is supported by the following organizations:

- [The British Columbia Civil Liberties Association \(BCCLA\)](#)
- [The British Columbia General Employees' Union \(BCGEU\)](#)
- [The Canadian Association of Journalists](#)
- [Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives BC Office \(CCPA-BC\)](#)
- [Canadian Institute for Information and Privacy Studies \(CIIPS\)](#)
- [Centre for Access to Information and Justice \(CAIJ\)](#)
- [The Centre for Law and Democracy \(CLD\)](#)
- [Democracy Watch](#)
- [Fairley Strategies](#)
- [Forest Protection Allies FORPA](#)
- [Independent Contractors and Businesses Association](#)
- [Lawyers Rights Watch Canada](#)
- [Open Media](#)
- [Privacy & Access Council of Canada \(PACC - CCAP\)](#)
- [Public Interest Advocacy Centre \(PIAC\)](#)
- [Student Press Freedom Act Campaign \(SPFA Campaign\)](#)
- [The Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs \(UBCIC\)](#)
- [West Coast Legal Education and Action Fund \(West Coast LEAF\)](#)
- [The Wilderness Committee](#)

This call to action is supported by the following individuals:

- Jason Austin
- John Brady
- Lynn Copeland
- Carla Graebner, Librarian for Research Data Services and Government Information, W.A.C. Bennett Library, Simon Fraser University
- Sean Holman, Wayne Crookes Professor in Environmental and Climate Journalism, University of Victoria
- Patrick Jardine
- Victoria Lemieux, Associate Professor, Archival Science, School of Information, Co-Lead, Blockchain@UBC research cluster, Distinguished Scholar, Sauder School of Business, Faculty Associate, Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems, The University of British Columbia
- Lisa P. Nathan, Associate Professor, School of Information, University of British Columbia
- Marcus Ooms
- Dawe Pope
- Ken Rubin, Investigative researcher and transparency advocate
- Dan Schubart
- Chad Skelton, Chair, Department of Journalism and Communication Studies, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Stanley Tromp, FOI journalist, researcher
- Maureen Webb, FOI Author

Fwd: The larger story about the FOI regime, beyond the \$25 fee

From: s.22
To: Honourable Lisa Beare <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 26, 2021 5:53:02 PM PDT
Attachments: Hansard on section 13 19921126.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

FYI:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: s.22
Date: Tue, 26 Oct 2021 at 15:57
Subject: The larger story about the FOI regime, beyond the \$25 fee
To: Andrew Fleming <afleming@gmx.com>

Dear Mr. Fleming,

I have read a number of the media articles about the proposed new fee for FOI requests and just now I found your [iPolitics article](#). Then I found [this one](#), published in 2011.

I can certainly appreciate why journalists are concerned about a new fee, on top of all the other problems with the FOI regime.

I'm not a journalist, so a \$25 fee doesn't bother me. In fact I'd gladly have paid more than that if it would have assured that the OIPC would have dealt competently and in good faith with my FOI complaint that resulted in [this order](#), signed by Michael McEvoy.

Yes, I am saying that the current OIPC commissioner was acting in bad faith in his conduct of that inquiry. Why? Well here is a summary.

In 1997 an exercise conducted on the entire B.C. statute book was concluded. The process was what is called "statute revision". The clear understanding is that any changes to language must be strictly cosmetic. Substantive changes are amendments and require the full engagement of the legislature. But there was at least one substantive change made in the course of that statute revision - to section 13 of the Labour Relations Code. Section 13 had been very vigorously debated on November 26, 1992 (see the attached extract of the Hansard that I created). By then the statute revision exercise had already commenced. I don't have an exact date, but it may have been as early as sometime in 1990. I know it was officially completed in March 1997. Less than a year later there was a clumsy attempt at a cover up in [this report](#), which included a recommendation to more extensively amend section 13. The government ignored that recommendation, so the illegally amended version is still in place and regularly relied upon by the BCLRB. One of the four people who signed that 1998 report has been sitting on the BCSC bench since 2005.

s.22

That was issued before I tried asking the Attorney General for access to the archive of the documents created during the course of the statute revision exercise. I wanted to find out who had prevailed upon the Legislative Counsel Office team to effect that illegal amendment. I didn't tell the OIPC what I was looking for, but I came to suspect that McEvoy knew. One reason for that suspicion is that he had previously worked as a staff lawyer at the BCLRB. I had learned as well that the BC branch of the CBA had privileged and confidential access to the LCO, so I suspected that that was how the labour law community was able to convey what it wanted to the LCO.

Brian Greer was Chief Legislative Counsel while all this was happening. Two weeks to the day after I shared what I had found with Ujjal Dosanjh (who was then an MP and I think a federal cabinet minister) Greer's decision to "step down" was announced in the House by Michael de Jong. That is recorded [here](#). There is much more to what I have uncovered. I have no doubt about what would happen if I could put all that evidence to a jury. But you can't get a jury when the government is a defendant.

As for McEvoy, I wrote him off when he issued that order. He's part of the problem, not part of any solution.

Regards,

s.22

1992 Legislative Session: 1st Session, 35th Parliament

HANSARD

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1992

Afternoon Sitting

Volume 6, Number 24

<http://leg.bc.ca/hansard/35th1st/h1126pm.htm>

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Page 144 of 320 to/à Page 150 of 320

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Freedom of Information and Privacy Amendments

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 27, 2021 8:55:55 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Lisa,

I'm writing, as I'm sure many others are, to express concern for the planned amendments to the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. Upon review of the proposed changes, I fail to see how the amendments will do anything but hinder our rights as citizens to privacy, or transparency of our government bodies. I can't even begin to list the problems I see. The proposals are in need of immediate withdrawal, not committee review.

I'm not a protester, but I have to say that I might find myself standing at the front of the blockade if this government continues as planned. I really would have no choice as the negative implications to our community are too extreme to ignore.

I truly hope that you will heed the message the people of British Columbia are sending you and desist with these efforts.

With respect

s.22

Re: Proposed makeover of FIPPA

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 8:56:11 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thank you for your response. Please see Vaughn Palmer's column in today's Vancouver Sun. Sums it up perfectly. Legislating in your party's best interest, not the public's. Not listening to the Information and Privacy Commissioner. The media play a vital role in keeping governments open and transparent. You clearly are looking for a way to stifle open government.
So disappointing.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 25, 2021, at 12:56 PM, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: **s.22**

Sent: October 21, 2021 7:41 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>;
Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Proposed makeover of FIPPA

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

I am deeply concerned with the above review. This seems to be a leading down a dark path. Charging for FOI requests is an absolute no go. Isn't it the governments job to be transparent and accessible? I shake my head at this and wonder what is needing to be hidden.

Thank you.

s.22

Sent from my iPad

RE: amendments weakening B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 9:16:55 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,
Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7
P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: October 27, 2021 7:38 AM
To: Glumac.MLA, Rick <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: amendments weakening B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.

good morning Rick and Lisa: I am writing to find out what is going on with the BC NDP that you can be so indifferent to, and gut, the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. Did the government not read Michael McEvoy's letter?

In an age where governments across the world are misusing their power to destroy democracy by dis-empowering the very people who voted to elect them, our NDP government blithely grants second reading to these amendments.

As a citizen s.22

I'd like a response and an explanation.

Regards,

s.22

Freedom of Information

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:35:51 AM PDT
Attachments: image001.gif

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Premier Hogan

I write to you to ensure you understand how much the residents of BC dislike the way you are going about Freedom of Information changes. We understand it is a pain for the ruling party to have to explain their actions from the past, but this is what our democracy is all about. When you were in opposition you would have been screaming to anyone who would listen about how bad this is for democracy. Yet here you are, selling your soul to the devil. To start charging for FOI is a direct challenge to those who live in a democracy and believe in the process. This will not be forgotten in a couple of weeks which seems to be what government hope for. This change to FOI will haunt you in the next election. When the NDP are back in the opposition, which will happen eventually, you will be kicking yourself. FOI should be available to everyone for free.

STOP THIS BILL!!!!

s.22

Re: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

From: s.22
:
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office
PREM:EX <premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Garry LASS:EX <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ravi LASS:EX
<Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Spencer LASS:EX
<s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Melanie LASS:EX
<Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, George LASS:EX <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mable LASS:EX
<Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, David LASS:EX <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, George LASS:EX <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Niki LASS:EX
<Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Katrina LASS:EX <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Janet LASS:EX <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Anne LASS:EX
<Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Raj LASS:EX <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kelly LASS:EX <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Henry LASS:EX
<Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Aman LASS:EX <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Jinny LASS:EX <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rachna LASS:EX
<Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Jagrup LASS:EX <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Harry LASS:EX <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Harwinder LASS:EX
<Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, andrew.mercier.mla@leg.gc.ca, Dan LASS:EX
<Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bruce LASS:EX <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Murray LASS:EX
<Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Brenda LASS:EX
<Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Fin LASS:EX <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Pam LASS:EX <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Nathan LASS:EX
<Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rob LASS:EX <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bowinn LASS:EX
<Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Nicholas LASS:EX
<Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, jennifer.whiteside.mla@gov.bc.ca, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bob LASS:EX
<Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Andrew LASS:EX
<Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Michael LASS:EX
<Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Dan LASS:EX <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Shirley LASS:EX <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Adam LASS:EX
<Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sonia LASS:EX <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mike LASS:EX
<Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, s.22
Bob Mackin
<bob@thebreaker.news>, Info-oipc <info@oipc.bc.ca>, Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX, Kahlon.MLA, Ravi LASS:EX, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX, Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX, Chow.MLA, George LASS:EX, Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX, Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX, Eby.MLA, David LASS:EX, Heyman.MLA, George LASS:EX, Sharma, Niki LASS:EX, Chen.MLA, Katrina LASS:EX, Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX, Kang.MLA, Anne LASS:EX, Chouhan.MLA, Raj LASS:EX, Greene, Kelly LASS:EX, Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX, Singh, Aman LASS:EX, Sims.MLA, Jinny LASS:EX, Singh.MLA, Rachna LASS:EX, Brar.MLA, Jagrup LASS:EX, Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX, Sandhu, Harwinder LASS:EX, Coulter, Dan LASS:EX, Starchuk, Mike LASS:EX, Ralston.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX, Bailey, Brenda LASS:EX, Donnelly, Fin LASS:EX, Alexis, Pam LASS:EX, Cullen, Nathan LASS:EX, Fleming.MLA, Rob LASS:EX, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX, Ma.MLA, Bowinn LASS:EX, Simons.MLA, Nicholas LASS:EX, Farnworth.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX, Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew LASS:EX, Lee.MLA, Michael LASS:EX, Ashton.MLA, Dan LASS:EX, Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX, Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX, Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX, Morris.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, de Jong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX
Sent: October 27, 2021 11:11:29 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister

Thank you for the reply, however, I wish to express my significant objection to these trite justifications and talking points. The NDP believes in open access, working for the average person, and then ensuring that records are available on a without cost basis. None of what you are saying meets within these goals of a party that purports to reflect the values of working people should be, and I am very surprised that the people advising you and the party, are engendering an era that eliminates one of the best FOI laws in Canada.

First, I was extremely disheartened that this bill was referred to committee stage before 3rd reading. A review of the legislature bill status page shows 3rd reading is usually done within a matter of days without substantive changes to the law; I expect given this type of response with weak justifications, for nothing to change. I am saddened that you or your staff felt this type of response is somehow "sufficient" when it is clearly not.

Second, response to the points raised, I provide my comments as clearly the talking points are designed to put the wool over the eyes of the public, who are not actually as gullible as your politically-appointed media staff, who seem to think that we do not have any intelligence to see why the changes are regressive.

- data residency issues, I do not agree that privacy controls in foreign jurisdictions would maintain appropriate controls; it is clear what happened to the other breaches in the USA as well as with Life Labs, showing that offshore data storage, would be beyond the reach of our privacy commissioner; not mentioning this is a travesty of justice.
- the lengthy timeframes to complete FOI request is a red herring insofar as it reflects poor resourcing of staff to process requests instead of the current approach where the government delays, denied and denigrates the rights of citizens to request access to such records.
- you say that BC received more FOI requests than other jurisdictions, as a weak justification; what you are not saying is that we the 3rd largest population in BC, a robust political and journalistic tradition, as well as a polarized political culture that reflects a strong democracy where governments, including this current NDP one - which is eroding our democracy through these regressive, Stalinist - Harper-esque, Jason-Kenney-esque, changes -- where it is expected as part of our political culture that requests would be generated to hold governments such as this sneaky NDP one - to account. You need better political strategists as these are weak points.
- the "fee for access" put simply, a weak justification - we have a social contract to provide these records, and what business does an NDP government have implementing fees on the very clients that the party purports to represent; this is political games because it shows that the government has something to hide - including the Covid19 data, the massey tunnel briefing documents, Site C documents, St Paul's documents, and what else?
- You say that "non inclusive language is not working for people" in the same breath as imposing a user fee, which also is not working for people FYI.

Minister Beare, s.22

I am so sorry that after a person becomes a minister, this is the message management from the top down instead of doing the right thing and stopping these regressive changes forthwith. In addition, it appears that the premier's office seems to be full of the same or similar type of staff who journalist Bob Mackin noted ran one of the most secretive governments in Canada.

<https://thebreaker.news/business/vision-secret-government/>

<https://vancouver.sun.com/news/metro/vancouver-approach-to-access-to-information-appalling>

When a citizen looks at the changes, and weak excuses, deflection justifications thinking a public will be duped by talking points, and a premier who has changed from a champion of the underclass and working people to now denying the very rights that he initially blasted the BC liberals on, it shows that the NDP has changed from a champion of access to one of the worst examples of double talking that our democracy has ever seen. Never have I felt such a sense of shame for a government s.22 due to this frankly, misleading, response to people protesting the regressive FOI changes. These are not

"changes" but a "king of france" style fiat where you want us to "eat cake" but deny us the recipes to do so for free!

Please Minister and Premier, do not make these regressive changes, you are better than than and get rid of the misinformed, misplaced and mistaken ideas of staff you have thought this was a good idea, otherwise this portends the beginning of the end of a government, who now governing via majority, has lost what is was initially elected to do by a trusting (and now betrayed) public.

Sincerely,

s.22

On Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 10:36 AM Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22

Sent: October 24, 2021 1:20 PM

To: Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kahlon.MLA, Ravi LASS:EX <Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX

<s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chow.MLA, George LASS:EX <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Eby.MLA, David LASS:EX <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Heyman.MLA, George LASS:EX <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sharma, Niki LASS:EX <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chen.MLA, Katrina LASS:EX <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Kang.MLA, Anne LASS:EX <Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chouhan.MLA, Raj LASS:EX <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene, Kelly LASS:EX <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh, Aman LASS:EX <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sims.MLA, Jinny LASS:EX <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Rachna LASS:EX <Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Brar.MLA, Jagrup LASS:EX <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sandhu, Harwinder LASS:EX <Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; andrew.mercier.mla@leg.gc.ca; Coulter, Dan LASS:EX <Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Starchuk, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ralston.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bailey, Brenda LASS:EX <Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Donnelly, Fin LASS:EX <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Alexis, Pam LASS:EX <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Cullen, Nathan LASS:EX <Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Fleming.MLA, Rob LASS:EX <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ma.MLA, Bowinn LASS:EX <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Simons.MLA, Nicholas LASS:EX <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; jennifer.whiteside.mla@gov.bc.ca; Farnworth.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew LASS:EX <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lee.MLA, Michael LASS:EX <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan LASS:EX <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Morris.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; de Jong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; s.22
Subject: Fwd: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear NDP MLAs,

I am writing as a very concerned citizen, s.22

I am

writing to vigorously object to the changes being considered (actually "rammed through by the premier's office") according to the Vancouver Sun:

link: <https://vancouversun.com/news/politics/vaughn-palmer-freedom-of-information-who-cares-says-b-c-premier>

We live in a democracy where the foundation of our system is public access to government records as part of our social contract on accountability. This means to hold the government to account INCLUDING the BC NDP and the BC Liberals, each one of these parties, should as a matter of right, hold the government to account. The "no cost" structure of FOI was set up by the then NDP government of the 1990s specifically as a way to ensure a robust democracy and allow the public and journalists to do their job - HOLD THE GOVT TO ACCOUNT.

Therefore, when NDP MLAs state that journalists like Bob Mackin or excessive requests from, god forbid, the BC liberals (who have their own unfortunate history) are considered "excessive" or a "nuisance" because the powers that be in the premier's office don't like it - I say as a concerned citizen, too bad. This shows that democracy is working and they are holding the NDP s.22

s.22

to account. s.22

s.22

but in essence what you are

saying Mr. Premier is that now that there is a majority govt, "some animals are more equal than others".

<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/all-animals-are-equal--but-some-animals-are-more-equal-than-others>

This is not the behaviour the grassroots expects from an NDP government - imposing user fees like what Christy Clark used to do. Preventing and hindering access to FOI records under very thin grounds.

Saying it's taking up government resources to process records. Newsflash, this is the job of govt as part of our social contract - and with the NDP in charge, there has been a growth in govt jobs, and there is ample resources to do so, as part of the existing system. If you need more people to process, then hire them, but do not charge fees.

Please oppose these regressive changes, and remind our premier that giving thin excuses is not a good look and how distasteful I personally found it. I represent the disabled, the racialized, the disenfranchised who you are now saying do not matter because it's "too inconvenient" for the champagne socialists in charge to process, because they have forgotten about the grassroots which the NDP purports to represent. If this, then what else is my question? Let's nip this in the bud now, and allow the public, the media, and the opposition to do the job of holding government to account. Otherwise, the other question is what else is in the pipelines to take away our public access rights?

Sincerely,

s.22

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bond.MLA, Shirley** <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Date: Sat, Oct 23, 2021 at 9:56 AM

Subject: Re: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

To: s.22

Cc: Titchener, Dorothy <Dorothy.Titchener@leg.bc.ca>, Rowlands, Conrad <Conrad.Rowlands@leg.bc.ca>

Good morning,

Thank you for copying me on your recent correspondence with the Premier. I appreciate the concerns you have expressed about Bill 22, recently tabled by the government.

Access to information is critical for British Columbians as well as those charged with holding the government to account. My biggest disappointment is that there seems to be a complete disregard for the consequences of the legislation and in particular the specific concerns outlined by the Privacy Commissioner.

Again, thank you for taking the time to outline your concerns. The Official Opposition will continue to raise many of the issues you have included in your email. I would encourage you to reach out to NDP MLAs as well, who were not participating in the debate at all last week. That is disappointing to say the least, particularly when they spoke passionately about the Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act.

Take good care.

Shirley Bond MLA

Prince George Valemount

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From: s.22

Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 8:26:04 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; lisa.beare@leg.bc.ca <lisa.beare@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Info-oipc <info@oipc.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; s.22

Subject: FOI changes - objection to the pending changes

Dear Premier & Minister Responsible for FOI:

I am writing to object to, and express significant outrage about the regressive changes being pushed through against our BC freedom of information laws. With respect, I ask the government to rescind these regressive changes and instead of preventing access, it should expand access for all citizens and maintain our social contract: meaning, the government provides access as part of our taxes and does not hinder access.

First, s.22 where I have given a lifetime of service to the cause of human rights and uplifting the status of the average working person. s.22

s.22

s.22 I care deeply about people - but I am very worried that our premier does not seem to as these changes thwart our democracy rights. What I am not includes not being associated with "captains of industry" "business elites" or "high priced corporate types"; my people are those that work minimum wage, disabled people on monthly support, racialized people working several jobs, who are all ordinary citizens. This is the BC NDP party that I believe exists - one that fights for ordinary citizens: so why is the party going against its own principles to thwart our FOI rights? Please Mr Premier I do not like what is happening here, and I am writing as s.22 to voice my objections and ask that you do not take such regressive action.

Second, the initial FOI legislation was put in place by a BC NDP government that wanted to increase transparency and in so doing, make our laws the most accessible in Canada. The idea was to make the government more accountable, more accessible, but most importantly allow ordinary people the ability to get records on themselves easily, for free, and make corrections. Why is this mandate being changed now? Again, the BC NDP bills itself as the part of working people, and brands itself as "working for you" the ordinary working person. Yet, against media questions, our "people's premier" is deflecting, distracting, and mischaracterizing the issue. Please Mr Premier, we are the only province with an NDP government so please do not use examples of other provinces as a weak excuse for change; keep our values intact and ensure free access, and no sneaky regulations, and keep the office the premier within the ambit of FOI laws.

Therefore, I provide my comments below, which I have taken from the FOI Commissioner's letter.

<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>

1. The concern that OIPC is being changed by changing it from substantive legislation which has the oversight of parliament, to "framework legislation" whereby the minister can put through changes without input of our elected reps. This is an affront to our democracy as you are essentially removing public debate and criticism by this regressive approach to government. I ask

that the status quo be kept where our province should be leader in public laws, not become “Stephen-Haper-esque” in the approach to government where that government worked against Canadians; we are the NDP and support human rights and open access.

2. Changing the data residency rules to remove the protection of our information and using other provisions such as in-Canada residence of the data as an effective surrogate. We have seen the issues with the breach of privacy by Life Labs, and then other security breaches that we all hear back in other countries. Please maintain such protection.

3. The deeply troubling “trick” to remove the “office of the premier” as a body covered under the FOI laws, and using weak excuses, justifications when questioned. We all know what happened with the City of Vancouver, when the now ex-“Vision Vancouver” municipal party used similar tricks to thwart access to FOI records where the FOI commisiosner rebuked them.. It seems the same approach and personnel are using the same slippery tactics and this is wrong. Mr. Premier, if you are to be a beacon of hope, please don’t use these “Jason Kenney” style tactics to thwart our democracy. The BC NDP is better than that.

4. I also that you please include within the provisions of FOI, non-profit organizations that receive principal funding from the government, similar to the federal contractors program, so that these organizations, while private, are covered by access laws. This should be an expansion of our rights that is reasonably expected.

5. The imposition of a request fee, which has been touted as \$25 per request, is an affront to our democracy. In the media, it has been noted that the government is doing this to avoid pesky journalists or the opposition, who I note are in fact doing the job of holding politicians to account. The very same approach that the NDP took when in opposition. Mr. Premier, I am deeply troubled that you are taking this regressive approach denying the very democratic access to rights that we all enjoy, thwarting a citizen’s right to information which is a part of government operations and should never be on a fee for access basis (social contract). I ask that you remove this Stalinist provision from our law, never to see the light of day again. I also ask that NDP staff who are “supporting the changes” due to “demands on ministry staff time” are not thinking why comments like this support privilege from a white male, who has had NO EXPERIENCE that racialized people have with discrimination from the attitudes like this that show why systemic racism against vulnerable people exists, because government operations are paid by taxes to enable such access. Keep the access free, and disallow these ill considered comments that frankly, make me sick,^{s.22}
s.22 - I am for full access, open access, and no fee access without bogus excuses like this from staff that just tout talking point, which do not reflect the opinion of the rank and file - e.g, the grassroots members who would never support such changes; so do not take ill conceived comments like those of Mr. Walters to be reflective of NDP values when they are not.

<https://twitter.com/brentonwalters/status/1450233822872698881>

6. I disagree with the provision to “disregard requests” as again it’s thwarting our democracy. The provisions as they exist in the law allow this to occur.

7. Please restore the section 13 provision to its original intent to ensure there is full access to records.

I have copied the various MLAs on this matter, to ensure they can note there is strong public opposition to these regressive “right wing style” changes to cherished access to information laws. I am citizen who believes in a strong democracy, ^{s.22}

s.22

therefore, this is why I am very upset and displeased with these changes, and ask that in the spirit of what our party stands for, to protect citizens, make it easier, and then ensure we enhance not remove access rights.

Please advise on the reply, and so doing, please Mr. Premier do not provide talking points, pretexts or justifications from your staff, who I have come to know and sadly, seen what politics has done to them as it has “changed them” from idealists wanting to do right (including MLAs), to now being captured by the very same system that they were trying to change for the better. It seems Mr. Premier this is the case with this law, and others around it, that cannot for the life of them see these actions go against everything we believe in. Please do better and do right by the public.

Sincerely,

s.22

cc. MLA Melanie Mark

MLA Bruce Banman

MLA Shirley Bond

MLA Sonia Fursteneau

Links:

<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>

<https://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/columnists/les-leyne-opposition-finds-plenty-to-fault-in-ndp-s-freedom-of-information-proposals-1.24365188>

<https://thetyee.ca/News/2021/10/19/BC-Introduces-Troubling-Limits-Freedom-Information/>

<https://theorca.ca/resident-pod/when-freedom-of-information-is-neither-free-nor-informative/#.YW-h0amd03Q.twitter>

Re: RE: New high-water mark for NDP hypocrisy

From: Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 11:34:19 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning,

Thanks for passing this along to our office. Adam has already talked with this constituent, and will be talking to him again soon. I will forward this email for Adam to review.

Cheers,

Claire Stechishin, Constituency Assistant
Adam Walker, MLA for Parksville-Qualicum

250-248-2625 | adam.walker.mla@leg.bc.ca
A-184 Second Avenue West, Qualicum Beach, V9K 2T5

Help us improve. Rate this email: 😊 😐 😞

In response to:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all. We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 2:02 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Walker, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: New high-water mark for NDP hypocrisy

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear^{s.22}

After years of preaching about the sanctity of freedom of information whenever the topic came up, your government is now going to start charging anyone who tries to exercise that right. Freedom-of-information requests for anything other than an applicant's own personal information will cost about \$25.

That is indeed an unprecedented level of hypocrisy from your government, and a new low in the level of government trust by the voters.

Please rescind this change. Thanks.

Cheers,^{s.22}

s.22

RE: STOP - Freedom of information law revision.

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 12:14:04 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Beare,

I have no problem with having the legislation updated. It is the addition of a fee program to access the information that is my concern. A \$25 fee per request becomes quite prohibitive especially when doing research which may cover several ministries and related sources. It could cost thousands to research a single news story alone! That creates a barrier and a 2 tier system of those that have and can afford it and the have nots that can't. But, even those with money will hold off as newspapers can't afford to get proper access. And for what? A mere \$15 million in operating cost? This is a pittance in the provincial budget. This give me the impression that it is to curb any investigative review of the current government. Not a good statute. Surely the government is hurting that badly that it could cover this cost. NO FEE for access is the only way this will work.

s.22

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:18 AM
To: s.22 Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>;
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: STOP - Freedom of information law revision.
Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all. We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 8:21 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: STOP - Freedom of information law revision.

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:44 AM

To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: STOP - Freedom of information law revision.

Mr. Horgan,

I have never contacted anyone in government before this but this is one that I just could NOT ignore. Your recent announcement of charging for processing freedom of information requests is one of the biggest hits AGAINST the democratic process in BC. It harks back to the Trump era shenanigans in the states. Are you turning into a Trump like politician? This of all things you should be doing, shutting the public out of the information that is OWNED by the CITIZENTRY is not why we voted for you! Get your head out of wherever it is and wake up! This only makes you look like you're hiding things from us and unwilling to justify your decisions. You already take liberties with the FOI as with the heavily redacted report on the tunnel/bridge debate in Richmond. It makes it impossibly expensive to do proper review of government policies and therefore direly weakens public oversight. This is a huge hit against our rights as citizens of this province! And no, "other provinces do it" just does not cut it! I am talking with all of my friends about this and though we may not agree on all things, we are in total agreement with. Please rethink this legislation and toss it out!

Best regards,

s.22

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Re: Freedom of information

From : s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 12:18:24 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks for the reply regarding the changes to the Freedom of Information laws.
I don't often agree with the BC Liberal party, but they are right to oppose the changes.
Your government appears to want to be less transparent, and hide your mistakes.
The 911-heat wave situation is a perfect example of this.
Please remove the fees on access to information requests - a government that truly represents the people wouldn't stand for such a self-serving policy.
s.22

On Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 10:18 AM Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear^{s.22}

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

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Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Sent: October 20, 2021 8:22 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Freedom of information

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:20 AM

To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of information

Dear Premier and Minister:

Freedom of information requests must be free. Please discard the new fee you are planning to charge for requests.

Thanks,

s.22

Re: Making BC's government more secretive

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 1:12:32 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Sorry, I just don't buy this spin. If it is costly, the solution is to be more efficient and open more data. But what seems like the issue is that FOI is embarrassing those in power, hence why when the NDP/Liberals are out of power, they love FOI, and when you change places, suddenly your FOI concerns change too.

It'd be nice for once to have a government that was less concerned with comms-strategizing and focus-grouping every single decision, and just doing what is right and wanted by the people it purports to represent.

On Oct 27, 2021, at 10:11, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 10:51 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Making BC's government more secretive

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Mr Premier,

I am very disappointed that - your own words and public consultations to the contrary - your government want to make it even more difficult for the people it serves to get information about what the government is up to. Charging fees for our own data has no business in a modern democracy. I firmly believe it is possible to respect privacy while being open and transparent about what government is doing.

For too long the default mode in the civil service has been a paternalistic "we will tell you what you need to know". The people's data should be free and easy to access, not buried behind layers of bureaucracy designed to keep secrets hidden.

If the problem is FOI requests are expensive (which I doubt), the answer is to make data available by default. The government should have to justify its secrecy, not the people being asked to justify their need for the records.

Of the many things BC's government spends money on, servicing FOI requests is one I have zero concerns about (contrasted with, say, the billions of dollars for the Site C dam!).

Please reverse course and commit to making your government the most transparent and open government in BC and Canada's history.

s.22

RE: CLD analysis of Bill 22 - "Significantly weakens" FOI law

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 2:14:24 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 27, 2021 2:10 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: GCIO, Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX <LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX <Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Shauna.Brouer@gov.bc.ca; Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Subject: CLD analysis of Bill 22 - "Significantly weakens" FOI law

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27 October – for immediate release

**British Columbia: Proposed Amendments Significantly Weaken Access to Information
Legislation**

Page 173 of 320 to/à Page 175 of 320

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reject FOIA changes

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 27, 2021 2:36:43 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Ms. Beare;

I write to express my dissatisfaction - perhaps more accurately stated as anger - with forced changes to the FOIA Act.

This absurd erosion of the act for the never-ending gratification of corporations must be halted, and changes withdrawn, At least until a wide spread round of public hearings is completed.

Forcing these changes on B.C. citizens - including the offensive addition of a fee - is at best unjustified, and at worst, an abuse of power.

The arrogant imposition of these changes on BC citizens is not in our interests.

Withdraw the changes. Start over.

sincerely,

s.22

Re: Freedom of Information Request Changes

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 5:19:37 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello and while I appreciate this response, it's just a press release that does not acknowledge or address the specific issues I took the time to address so it's not really very helpful. I would prefer no response to one that ignores the content of my communication so if you are short-staffed perhaps just say thanks for writing.

If you want to address the issues I raised (the fee and the exclusion of the PO's office), I would appreciate hearing from you but if there's no time or interest in doing that, please don't bother.

Oh and the comment that BC gets more requests than the other three provinces combined doesn't in and of itself support your argument. First, that could be because the other three provinces are more open with their data. Secondly, it sounds like your intention in adding a fee is to reduce the FOI requests - the opposite of being open and transparent.

I do appreciate the hard work of you and your staff so thank you.s.22

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2021, at 15:27, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

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As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 8:19 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information Request Changes

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day: Charging \$25 per request is too much and providing responses so redacted as to be ludicrous is unworthy in a democracy. If there are that many requests coming in, it suggests to me that information that should be readily available isn't so rather than blocking the public's access, more could be done to ensure information is available.

I am sorry to see it seems a desire for secrecy with just a soupçon of hypocrisy prevail now that you have won a majority. You have acknowledged that when in opposition, the NDP filed many FOI requests so does it really seem ethical to undermine democracy and make the work of the Opposition harder now?

I was sorry to learn the new legislation (some of which is apparently good) also includes a provision to exclude the PO? I would like to hear a specific explanation for what just seems like a way to completely skate away from transparency and accountability. What has happened to you, I wonder.

Don't hide your gov't's decision making processes, expose them to the light! Secrecy does not work as a governing policy so remember your values, Premier. Your legacy should be that you strengthened our democracy, not weakened it.

Thank you. All the best.

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

Re: Incoming: Concern about BC Changes to FOIPPA act

From : s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, JERI JERI:EX <JERI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Ross.MLA, Ellis LASS:EX <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Shaylene.McEwen@gov.bc.ca, McEwen, Shaylene CITZ:EX
Sent: October 27, 2021 6:32:31 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

On 27/10/2021 3:42 p.m., Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX wrote:

Dear^{s.22}

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

If anything the BC Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy legislation should be updated to be more restrictive not less. Covid-19 did change the way we work and it forced companies like Zoom, Microsoft, and Google to open Data centers here in Canada in order to support Canadians. Covid-19 also increased Cyber attacks by 256% and as we saw in multiple attacks that used foreign servers in the US that were exposed to hackers by being stored outside the country.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

Please explain how eliminating Canadian Jobs and moving them to foreign countries, eliminating privacy protections by handing BC privacy data over to foreign countries in the care of foreign technicians where BC has absolutely no control will improve services?

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

Data residency is literally the only protection you have to protect Personal information in BC.

Consider a real life scenario: Imagine you have a filing cabinet in your home containing the paper copies of all the private data (this is BC as it is now).

You take a copy of all those papers and you give them to your neighbour to store in his home (United States – 200 non Canadians now have access to your private data), US makes a copy and sends them to the next house (India – 500 more non Canadians have access) who makes copies and sends them to the next house (China, 1000 more non Canadians have access) who makes copies and sends them to multiple other houses (Ireland, Brazil etc).

Imagine if China's house has a disgruntled tenant who left the house and took a copy of your files with them as they were accessing them and sells them on the dark web. The person whose personal data you are storing has comes to you and say "Freedom of Information Request – How many people have access to my data. Please provide their names and their signed confidentiality forms and please fire the person who has stolen

my identity and recover the data? You have no idea and the Cloud vendor's Service Level Agreements protects them, not you.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

You can't possibly find the data of all the people that have access once all the privacy data has left the country and is no longer under the control of the BC Government Bodies.

Further reading for you:

<https://www.mondaq.com/canada/privacy-protection/191964/cloud-computing-and-the-usa-patriot-act-canadian-implications--update>

<https://www.kinstellar.com/insights/detail/121/cloud-computing-in-the-context-of-the-usa-patriot-act>

"The USA PATRIOT Act allows the US security services general access to various records and registers and types of electronic communications., and permits them to seize electronic data. These powers relate not only to data stored in the US – the US security agencies can also demand that companies operating in the US provide access to data that is stored by them anywhere else in the world."

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

You consulted with everyone but the IT workers whose jobs will be outsourced, some of whom are indigenous workers.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 9:26 AM

To: Minister, JERI JERI:EX <JERI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Ross.MLA, Ellis LASS:EX <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Incoming: Concern about BC Changes to FOIPPA act

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi there,

I am contacting you as British Columbia's Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation. I am also cc'ing Ellis Ross who is my elected representative in the Skeena Riding.

I am very concerned with BC's amendments to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPPA) act which appears largely driven by the BC Tech Association as per <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021CITZ0048-001990>

In this news release, "Data-residency requirement changes will bring B.C. in line with other jurisdictions by removing restrictions that prevent access to digital tools and technologies." and "For example,

greater access to cloud-based services will improve B.C.'s post-secondary institutions' ability to attract students by allowing them to use cloud-based education tools offered outside of B.C."

These changes amount to outsourcing BC IT jobs to multinational technology companies outside of Canada's borders and does not seem congruent with NDP's commitment to Energize BC Technology (attached). These amendments will mean an end to many IT jobs in BC and will allow our confidential data to be stored outside of the country, including the United States where it will be subject to the US Patriot Act.

Please look at who belongs to the BC Tech Association.

<https://wearebctech.com/members/member-directory/>

It's 19 pages of many multinational companies including Amazon, Electronic Arts, Microsoft and among BC companies. Would you care to guess which members are behind this push to allow data outside of Canada? Technology Cloud services is an oligopoly of Amazon, Microsoft and Google. How is giving them our IT infrastructure helping grow BC tech???

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Fwd: Freedom of information legislation

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 7:31:09 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Minister,

The number of requests compared to the other 3 provinces is irrelevant and no justification for change. Even if the number of requests per 100 people were higher, that's a reflection that the BC government is not as forthcoming as it should be when it comes to sharing information.

Neither does it matter that one journalist had more requests than other journalists combined. That speaks more to the challenged news industry by the megaweights in Google and Amazon.

The fact that people are waiting too long for requests has everything to do with the government dragging its feet and staffing levels. It's irrelevant to the proposed changes will make no difference, unless staffing levels are increased.

It's appalling that the Office of the Premier is being made exempt from FOI. One can only assume there is something to hide.

It is counterproductive to charge a fee when the cost to government of collecting and managing the fee will result in it costing more than the fee provides. If it does in fact cover the cost, then it will have been set too high, as all the new fee does is discourage placing requests.

You need to be listening to the Information and Privacy Commissioner and adapting the legislation accordingly.

👤 Thanks, s.22

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX" <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Date: October 27, 2021 at 10:33:47 AM PDT

To: s.22 "OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX"
<Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: "Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX" <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Freedom of information legislation

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 10:22 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of information legislation

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier,

s.22

I am a retired union member. The government when in a minority situation until 2020, governed sensibly. Clearly the need to have the support of Andrew Weaver kept the excesses somewhat in check, resulting in good middle of the road policies.

The arrogance already being displayed over the proposed Freedom Of Information bill is unseemly and hypocritical based on the NDP comments while in opposition.

There should be no charge for these requests. The information belongs to us, the people of this province. We rely on the journalists to do the bulk of the research for us, digging into subjects where the government isn't willing to provide the full details.

s.22

It's this type of behaviour that upsets people and gets them thinking about supporting the Liberals. There is no need to proceed with this charge, whose objective is only to reduce openness and transparency.

Do the right thing and drop any ability in legislation to charge for FOI requests.

👤 Thanks, s.22

Re: FOI amendments

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 9:45:45 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Odd then that our Privacy Commissioner so vehemently disagrees with many of the directions of the bill. Odd too that there has been no Committee work on this to ensure wide perspective - and maybe public consultations.

Unhappily,
s.22

On Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 10:35 AM Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

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Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 23, 2021 9:07 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: FOI amendments

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Re-sending to your Premier address

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22
Date: October 23, 2021 at 8:54:31 AM PDT
To: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca
Subject: FOI amendments

Mr. Premier,

Please count me as squarely against the amendments your government is proposing to FOI legislation.

Please remember that the government is to serve the people, not frustrate their ability to oversee government work.

Typically I am quite supportive of NDP policies. I am not happy about your direction on FOI - and particularly the requiring of payment from information seekers. Please make access to information more easy, not more difficult.

s.22

re: FOI interviews

From: s.22
To: citz minister <citz.minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 28, 2021 8:21:29 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Ms Beare, if your plan is to continue on with this attack on transparency you really should take some lessons on body language when lying, your interview last evening showed you as uncomfortable and uneasy with the ridiculous rhetoric, regards s.22

RE: Father of B.C.'s FOI law says NDP can't be proud of Bill 22

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 8:26:53 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your emails.

Once again, as your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. **Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email.** However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 27, 2021 5:29 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>; GCIO, Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX <LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX <Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Shauna.Brouer@gov.bc.ca; Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Father of B.C.'s FOI law says NDP can't be proud of Bill 22

<https://thebreaker.news/news/gabelmann-on-foi-bill/>

BUSINESS, NEWS

OCTOBER 27, 2021

AUTHOR: THEBREAKER

Father of B.C.'s freedom of information law says NDP can't be proud of Bill 22

Bob Mackin

The Attorney General behind B.C.'s 1993 freedom of information law said the goal under NDP Premier Mike Harcourt was "to create the best legislation in the western world."

Page 188 of 320 to/à Page 190 of 320

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

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RE: Please do not vote in favour of Bill 22

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 8:41:15 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 7:50 PM

To: Alexis.MLA, Pam <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Anderson.MLA, Brittany <Brittany.Anderson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Babchuk.MLA, Michele <Michele.Babchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bailey.MLA, Brenda <Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bains.MLA, Harry <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Brar.MLA, Jagrup <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Chant.MLA, Susie <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chen.MLA, Katrina <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chouhan.MLA, Raj <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chow.MLA, George <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Coulter.MLA, Dan <Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Cullen.MLA, Nathan <Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dean.MLA, Mitzi <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; D'Eith.MLA, Bob <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Donnelly.MLA, Fin <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dykeman.MLA, Megan <Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Fleming.MLA, Rob <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kahlon.MLA, Ravi <Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kang.MLA, Anne <Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae <Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lore.MLA, Grace <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ma.MLA, Bowinn <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Malcolmson.MLA, Sheila <Sheila.Malcolmson.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Osborne.MLA, Josie <Josie.Osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Paddon.MLA, Kelli <Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Popham.MLA, Lana <Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ralston.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rankin.MLA, Murray <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rice.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Robinson.MLA, Selina <Selina.Robinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Routley.MLA, Douglas <Douglas.Routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Russell.MLA, Roly <Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sandhu.MLA, Harwinder <Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Simons.MLA, Nicholas <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sims.MLA, Jinny <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Aman <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Rachna

<Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Starchuk.MLA, Mike <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Whiteside.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Whiteside.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Banman.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bernier.MLA, Mike <Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie <Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Clovechok.MLA, Doug <Doug.Clovechok.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Davies.MLA, Dan <Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; de Jong.MLA, Mike <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Doerkson.MLA, Lorne <Lorne.Doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Halford.MLA, Trevor <Trevor.Halford.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kirkpatrick.MLA, Karin <Karin.Kirkpatrick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kyllö.MLA, Greg <Greg.Kyllö.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lee.MLA, Michael <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Letnick.MLA, Norm <Norm.Letnick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Merrifield.MLA, Renee <Renee.Merrifield.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Milobar.MLA, Peter <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Morris.MLA, Mike <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Oakes.MLA, Coralee <Coralee.Oakes.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Paton.MLA, Ian <Ian.Paton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ross.MLA, Ellis <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rustad.MLA, John <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Stewart.MLA, Ben <Ben.Stewart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Stone.MLA, Todd <Todd.Stone.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sturdy.MLA, Jordan <Jordan.Sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wat.MLA, Teresa <Teresa.Wat.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Please do not vote in favour of Bill 22

I am writing as a concerned citizen and voter.

Please do **not vote in favour of Bill 22** and its repealing of 30.1 of the FOIPPA Act which currently protects BC residents by requiring storage of their personal information to be only in Canada, accessed only by Canadians.

Why repealing section 30.1 of the FOIPPA act puts BC residents and their Personal Information at risk along with the BC Economy Sector:

1. Personal information (PI) stored on foreign servers is accessible and managed by foreign server admins, without knowledge or control from the BC Public Body.
2. Foreign servers distribute Personal Information to cloud servers worldwide without knowledge given to Public Bodies as to whom specifically has access or where specifically it is stored.
3. Personal Information stored on foreign internet cloud servers drastically increases the risk of cyber-attacks to steal PI. The July 2021 cyber-attack on the UVM Medical center in Vermont was preventable if the data had been stored and properly secured on local internal network servers by local technicians.
4. Once Personal Information (PI) is distributed to foreign cloud servers, there often can be no recourse to have data permanently removed, secured or access traced for FOI requests.
5. If Public Bodies are allowed to store PI on foreign servers and hire foreign workers to administer it, BC public sector jobs that do not have an on-site requirement have a high risk of being eliminated.
6. The NDP Government should be doing more to secure PI to remain in Canada and to ensure BC public sector jobs are protected, not opening the door to expose PI to foreign access, cyber-attacks and eliminating BC jobs by hiring foreign workers.

Why we need to keep section 30.1 of the FOIPPA Act

1. BC computer technicians working for public bodies are legally required to sign agreements and uphold the FOIPPA act and must participate in mandatory annual privacy and security training.
2. Access to Personal Information is currently managed directly by the Public Bodies. Domains like healthbc.org, idir.bcgov, and phsabc.ehcnet.ca allocate what PI BC employees or Canadian contractors have access to.
3. Personal Information is stored locally in BC on domain servers on internal networks with firewalls managed by BC Public Bodies employees and protected at multiple physical levels.
4. Microsoft has Canadian server data centers where public bodies can access Microsoft 365 services while still keeping PI within Canadian borders, accessed and managed by Canadians.

5. Google, Service Now, Airwatch and other services also have Canadian server data centers where public bodies like schools, hospitals and government can access online services while still keeping PI within Canadian borders accessed and managed by Canadians.
6. Other online services that wish to sell to BC Public Bodies have motivation to create data centers within Canada, creating jobs for Canadians and keeping the BC IT sector strong while securing PI away from foreign access and cyber-attacks.

Thank You,

RE: Bill 22

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 8:42:09 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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From: s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 9:21 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Bill 22

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Why we need to keep section 30.1 of the FOIPPA Act

1. BC computer technicians working for public bodies are legally required to sign agreements and uphold the FOIPPA act and must participate in mandatory annual privacy and security training.
2. Access to Personal Information is currently managed directly by the Public Bodies. Domains like healthbc.org, idir.bcgov, and phsabc.ehcnet.ca allocate what PI BC employees or Canadian contractors have access to.
3. Personal Information is stored locally in BC on domain servers on internal networks with firewalls managed by BC Public Bodies employees and protected at multiple physical levels.
4. Microsoft has Canadian server data centers where public bodies can access Microsoft 365 services while still keeping PI within Canadian borders, accessed and managed by Canadians.
5. Google, Service Now, Airwatch and other services also have Canadian server data centers where public bodies like schools, hospitals and government can access online services while still keeping PI within Canadian borders accessed and managed by Canadians.
6. Other online services that wish to sell to BC Public Bodies have motivation to create data centers within Canada, creating jobs for Canadians and keeping the BC IT sector strong while securing PI away from foreign access and cyber-attacks.

Thank You,

s.22

Re: 'We haven't settled on a fee,' says B.C. premier as backlash against charging for information grows

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 8:53:39 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

This is not an answer to my question
What do you have to hide
Is this an attack on democracy

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2021, at 10:33 AM, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information - effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 9:16 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 'We haven't settled on a fee,' says B.C. premier as backlash against charging for information grows

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

B.C. Premier John Horgan seems to be backing away from a steep \$25 fee proposed for Freedom of Information requests, while doubling down on controversial legislative changes that would make charging for disclosure possible. <https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbc.ctvnews.ca%2Fwe-haven-t-settled-on-a-fee-says-b-c-premier-as-backlash-against-charging-for-information-grows-1.5633559&data=04%7C01%7Ccitiz.minister%40gov.bc.ca%7C59208091cfd4f9aa5f108d99a2b1c74%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637710332210698134%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=8NV3poZPiZYdVKFHJcoI0g63BmRDKZQF3hNmVQts8Os%3D&reserved=0>

Absolutely the stupidest thing imaginable Is this an attack on democracy by restricting access to information Is their something you are trying to hide

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

CAJ denounces B.C.'s proposed FOI amendments

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca, Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca, Shauna.Brouer@gov.bc.ca, Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca, stromp <stromp@telus.net>, GCIO Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX, Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX, Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX
Sent: October 28, 2021 10:39:59 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Canadian Association of Journalists - CAJ

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/-a-thumb-in-the-eye-of-transparency-caj-denounces-b-c-s-proposed-foi-amendments-869827283.html>
Copyright

FOI changes to impact BC First Nations

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca, GCIO Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX
Cc: Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca, Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca, Matt.Reed@gov.bc.ca, stromp <stromp@telus.net>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX, Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX, Reed, Matt CITZ:EX
Sent: October 28, 2021 11:53:15 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/freedom-of-information-changes-will-disproportionately-affect-first-nations-indigenous-leaders-ubcic-1.5642454>

Freedom of Information changes will disproportionately affect First Nations, Indigenous leaders: UBCIC

Copyright

Re: Freedom of Information and Privacy Amendments

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 2:59:21 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Lisa,

I appreciate your reply. Unfortunately, it is not in line with my own opinion or that of the Privacy Commissioner of BC. Once again, I urge to immediately withdraw this legislation. The legislation may be outdated and need to be changed, but your proposed amendments won't accomplish this goal.

I reiterate that I will be one of those protesting this move, and will physically take part if necessary. I've never done anything like that in my life, but I will do so. Please don't see this as a threat. It's not. It's an honest assessment of how I feel about this situation, and the danger that the proposed amendments present. Your explanations have done nothing to change my opinion of this matter.

With respect

s.22

On 2021-10-28 1:44 p.m., Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with

other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 8:56 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information and Privacy Amendments

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Lisa,

I'm writing, as I'm sure many others are, to express concern for the planned amendments to the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. Upon review of the proposed changes, I fail to see how the amendments will do anything but hinder our rights as citizens to privacy, or transparency of our government bodies. I can't even begin to list the problems I see.

The proposals are in need of immediate withdrawal, not committee review.

I'm not a protester, but I have to say that I might find myself standing at the front of the blockade if this government continues as planned. I really would have no choice as the negative implications to our community are too extreme to ignore.

I truly hope that you will heed the message the people of British Columbia are sending you and desist with these efforts.

With respect

s.22

RE: amendments weakening B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.

From: Glumac.MLA, Rick <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 4:56:09 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear s.22

Thank you for writing to MLA Glumac with your concerns about the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. I see that Minister Beare has responded directly.

Businesses, universities, and health authorities have repeatedly told the BC government that our data residency rules were outdated and stopped them from being competitive and responsive to the needs of people. As Minister Beare outlined, the proposed amendments reflect what we've heard through extensive consultations, including input from subject-matter experts across the public sector and recommendations from the OIPC and past Special Committees of the Legislative Assembly.

The government is implementing mandatory breach reporting and extending the privacy management program to the entire public sector. We are requiring all public bodies to conduct privacy impact assessments (PIAs) to ensure they appropriately handle personal information.

Again, thank you for writing to us. Please feel free to contact our office with further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Christian Higham (she/her) | Constituency Assistant
Rick Glumac, MLA | Port Moody-Coquitlam
2708 St. Johns Street | Port Moody, BC | V3H 2B7 | Ph: 604-936-8709

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: October 27, 2021 7:38 AM
To: Glumac.MLA, Rick <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: amendments weakening B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.

good morning Rick and Lisa: I am writing to find out what is going on with the BC NDP that you can be so indifferent to, and gut, the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. Did the government not read Michael McEvoy's letter?

In an age where governments across the world are misusing their power to destroy democracy by dis-empowering the very people who voted to elect them, our NDP government blithely grants second reading to these amendments.

As a citizen and one who voted NDP in good faith, I'd like a response and an explanation.

Regards,

s.22

Re: Freedom of Information - Proposed Changes

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 7:26:54 PM PDT

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Dear Minister,

Thank you for your reply. You have not addressed my central point, however. You have an all-party committee which has been charged with submitting a report that would seem to be relevant to the work that you have undertaken to update BC's freedom of information legislation. Why not wait for the report prior to introducing new legislation? Why do we have parliamentary committees, anyway.

Yours truly,

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 28, 2021, at 10:58 AM, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dears.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 7:41 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX

<CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: Freedom of Information - Proposed Changes

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Redirected, as per your request.

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22

Subject: Freedom of Information - Proposed Changes

Date: October 25, 2021 at 7:37:21 PM PDT

To: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, lisa.beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca,
janet.routledge.MLA@leg.bc.ca

I am puzzled by the apparent haste with which your new majority government has introduced a bill which proposes changes to our freedom of information laws. I say 'haste', because your government — my government — is proposing significant amendments to the legislation even before an all-party committee has submitted its recommendations. What is the point of the committee, then?

Some of the changes, around disclosure of privacy breaches for example, appear to be useful; but others, such as those which allow storage of personal information outside Canada, and the rather controversial addition of a fee, may not serve British Columbians well.

I ask that you withdraw this legislation, and revisit it once the committee has reported back to the legislature. Anything else looks like hubris, and that does not become you.

Yours truly,

s.22

Coalition news, Globe and Mail, etc

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca, Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca, Matt.Reed@gov.bc.ca, Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca, Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca, stromp <stromp@telus.net>, GCIO Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX, Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX, Reed, Matt CITZ:EX, Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX, Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX
Sent: October 30, 2021 12:55:12 PM PDT
Attachments: Scottish FOI, 2004 Launch.mp4, Morocco - No more pacifiers.mp4

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Beare,

One can see the growing FIPA-led Coalition against Bill 22 at - <https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/>

FYI, I attached two inspiring FOI promotion videos, from the Morocco and Scotland Information Commissioners. - Stanley Tromp. <https://canadafoi.ca/british-columbia-foi/>

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/british-columbia/article-the-bc-governments-proposed-freedom-of-information-changes-are-cynical/>

Government's proposed FOI-law change is cynical and self-serving

30 Oct 2021: A8. By Gary Mason. Globe and Mail
Copyright

Bill 22 and the data residency requirement in FIPPA

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: October 30, 2021 5:29:33 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Minister Beare,

As a parent and postsecondary educator in BC, I am deeply concerned about the provisions in Bill 22 that would permit public bodies such as schools and universities to continue using Internet services that are hosted outside Canada (such as Zoom) post-COVID, without the Ministerial orders that have permitted them to do so during the pandemic. I am in agreement with the privacy commissioner that this change would be in opposition to the spirit of FIPPA.

I am a parent of two children who currently attend university in BC.^{s.22}

s.22

s.22

This technical background has enabled me to closely follow the steadily-increasing threats to personal privacy online, and to inform my students about them. I always tell my students and my children that they are fortunate to live in a province that has some of the strongest privacy legislation in North America. In my view, we should be strengthening FIPPA so that it provides British Columbians with protections on par with those in the European Union, not weakening it. During the pandemic I played a significant role in helping my fellow teacher educators ^{s.22} to adapt their courses for remote delivery using technologies such as Zoom. I was not happy about ^{s.22} use of Zoom, knowing that its creators' privacy and security practices had been criticized by others in the computing industry; but we were in a crisis, and we needed to continue to serve our students. There was no time to investigate and implement an alternative.

However, we no longer need to operate in crisis mode. There exist free and open-source competitors to Zoom, which could be hosted locally in BC or elsewhere in Canada. One such option is Jitsi Meet (<https://meet.jit.si/>). If hosted in Canada, this free Zoom alternative would be fully compliant with FIPPA as it stands. What is more, Canadian IT professionals would be able to inspect the software code themselves to ensure that user privacy is in fact protected -- which one cannot do with a closed-source solution such as Zoom. Of course, this would require some public expenditure for servers and IT professionals to maintain them.

I understand that educators and students in this province want to continue some of the remote teaching practices that they became comfortable with during the early months of the pandemic. Implemented wisely, these practices can sometimes produce better learning outcomes and increase equity of access to learning as well. However, there is no need to hollow out British Columbians' data residency rights to make this possible. From where I stand, it appears that your government intends to undermine a key provision in FIPPA for no better reason than to save universities and school boards some money. This is shameful.

I hope that your government will do the right thing and withdraw Bill 22, for the sake of my my children and all British Columbians.

Sincerely,

s.22

So arrogant, so soon.

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: October 30, 2021 6:17:52 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Premier Horgan,
Without freedom of information, there is no accountability. Where do live, China? Hungary? Pesky journalists, pesky opposition, pesky public. The premier knows what's best. Here's looking forward to the next election. Can't come soon enough.

s.22

BILL 22 impacts students, via journalism on health/safety issues, et.al.

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: john.horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca, stromp <stromp@telus.net>, adrian.dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX, Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX
Sent: October 30, 2021 8:21:12 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Notes for the Premier, Health Minister

[1]

Editorial in The Ubyyssey, Oct. 22, 2021, student newspaper at UBC -
<https://www.ubyssey.ca/opinion/editorial-BC-FOI-fee/>

BC's proposed \$25 fee for FOI requests will hinder access to information at UBC

Copyright

RE: Your gov't should be ashamed of the FOI law changes you are considering

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 9:05:08 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

Thank you for getting in touch. As your email pertains to the Ministry of Citizen Services I have forwarded it to CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca . Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca .

Thank you,

Kate | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

P: 604-465-9299 | 104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

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From: s.22

Sent: October 30, 2021 12:03 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: Your gov't should be ashamed of the FOI law changes you are considering

Ms Beare, you should be ashamed. The NDP has lost its way.

s.22

----- Forwarded message -----

From: s.22

Date: Sat, 30 Oct 2021 at 11:06

Subject: Your gov't should be ashamed of the FOI law changes you are considering

To: <premier@gov.bc.ca>

Sir:

Why is your government considering neutering the FOI that was brought in by the NDP gov't in 1993. I guess your party no longer has the right stuff that your predecessors had.

s.22

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/british-columbia/article-the-bc-governments-proposed-freedom-of-information-changes-are-cynical/>

RE: Government's proposed FOI-law change is cynical and self-serving (The Globe and Mail (BC Edition)), Oct 30, 2021

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 9:09:04 AM PDT
Attachments: image001.png

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

Thank you for getting in touch. As your email pertains to the Ministry of Citizen Services I have forwarded it to CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca . Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca .

Thank you,

Kate | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

P: 604-465-9299 | 104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

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From: s.22

Sent: October 31, 2021 8:30 AM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: s.22

Subject: Government's proposed FOI-law change is cynical and self-serving (The Globe and Mail (BC Edition)), Oct 30, 2021

Ms Beare.

This is quite disturbing. This is not the NDP that I voted for.

This legislation weakens democracy.

I can understand modest cost recovery but anything beyond that should be stripped from the legislation.

s.22

Government's proposed FOI-law change is cynical and self-serving

GARY MASON OPINION

The Globe and Mail (BC Edition)

Oct 30, 2021

[read more.....](#)

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Sent from my iPad

RE: New submission from Contact Us

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 9:09:40 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

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Thank you,

Kate | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

P: 604-465-9299 | 104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

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From: s.22

Sent: October 30, 2021 10:58 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: New submission from Contact Us

Name
s.22
Email
s.22
Subject
FOI
Message
Should be FREEDOM OF IDIOT Congratulations on becoming a Horgan pawn and attempting to change the FOI Act . It will be your undoing as well as the unravelling of the NDP .

FW: For the Minister, on the harms of Bill 22

From: Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 11:59:49 AM PDT
Attachments: image003.jpg, image001.jpg

Re-directing to you, thank you!



Josipa Stojkovic (*she/her*)

Executive Assistant

To Hon. Mitzi Dean, Minister of Children and Family Development

Parliament Buildings, 501 Belleville St., Victoria BC V8V 2L8

C: 778-679-3125 | E: Josipa.Stojkovic@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge the Lekwungen peoples, Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations, on whose traditional territory I live and work.

From: Stomp <stomp@telus.net>

Sent: October 31, 2021 11:27 PM

To: Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: stomp <stomp@telus.net>; MCF Deputy Minister MCF:EX <MCF.DeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: For the Minister, on the harms of Bill 22

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

For the Honourable Mitzi Dean; and deputy minister:

I write here to plead that your government withdraw Bill 22, and to defer all FOI and privacy law reform until after the Legislative FOIPP Special Review Committee reports. Pressing ahead with this Bill's passage now would cause major harm to FOI journalism, and impair the public interest. (Indeed, have you met any members of the public who support Bill 22?)

To demonstrate the public value of the access law to governments, I produced an Excel database of 2,000 B.C. news stories produced by FOI requests since 1993. See <https://canadafoi.ca/bcstoryindex.xlsx> (Introduction at <https://canadafoi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/bcintro2020.pdf>) You can scroll down to Category [3] at line 332, where one can read many FOI stories on your issues.

If a \$25 application fee had been in place since 1993, I am certain that more than half of these stories could never have been produced. This would have resulted in a serious loss for the public interest (while some of the finest FOI stories may be the ones yet to be told). Other parts of Bill 22 are just as deleterious, such as expanding the powers to ignore requests deemed to be frivolous or repetitive, and limiting the obligation of government entities to create or disclose some electronic records.

Many FOI stories were done by smaller student, ethnic, and alternative media who can least afford fees, while it is well known that even the largest newsrooms are now severely cash-strapped. Other parts of Bill 22 are just as damaging, such as expanding the powers to ignore requests deemed to be frivolous or repetitive, and limiting the obligation of government entities to create or disclose some electronic records. The only course to prevent such harms and keep the flow of such valuable stories moving is to eliminate Bill 22, and to defer all FOI and privacy law reform until after the Legislative FOIPP Special Review Committee reports, and then consider its expert guidance. These decisions would be most welcomed by a grateful public.

Respectfully yours,

Stanley L. Tromp, journalist, Vancouver, 604-733-7595

B.C. FOI website - <https://canadafoi.ca/british-columbia-foi/>

Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act (a counter to Bill 22) - <https://canadafoi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/bccitizenfoi.pdf>

My FOI-COVID-19 webpage - <https://canadafoi.ca/covid-19-foi/>

The 24 groups (and growing) in FIPA's Stop Bill 22 Coalition - <https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/>

P.S. On costs, the government has blamed a backlog on the Opposition BC Liberals, as well as journalist Bob Mackin, whom the NDP says made 397 applications that year (which he denies). If the fee was intended to constrain Mackin, it is grossly unjust to penalize everyone else. Moreover, the Liberal caucus would simply pay FOI fees with public money, and so this would not stop it from applying. (It would also likely cost the B.C. government more than \$25 to process a \$25 cheque, much as the Ottawa FOI system costs \$55 to process its \$5 application fee.)

FOI costs could be greatly reduced by releasing records routinely. “Why does this government constantly tell me to file an FOI request for simple things, like names of contractors and values of contracts?” asks Mackin. “Why aren’t they proactively publishing contracts, reports, briefing notes and polling data?” If it did, Mackin estimates that he could make fewer FOI requests - “maybe as much as three-quarters fewer.” He adds: “I make no apologies for filing so many applications; the lion’s share are about the health and economic impacts of the COVID pandemic.” (From my Bill 22 editorial at <https://canadafoi.ca/bill-22-is-a-betrayal-of-the-public-interest/>)

Redirect from HLTH - FW: For the Health Minister, on Bill 22 harms

From: Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 4:13:28 PM PDT

Good afternoon. Staff within our GCPE have reviewed the email below and have indicated this issue would fall under the purview of the Ministry of Citizen's Services. Therefore, we are forwarding over to CITZ in order to forward onto your appropriate staff for their review and response, obo Ministry of Health. We will be filing our copy as FYI.

Thank you!

Julie Price
Corporate Operations
Ministry of Health

Warning: This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

 Please consider the environment before printing

From: May, Stephen GCPE:EX <Stephen.May@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 2:41 PM
To: Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>; Tyson, Jo HLTH:EX <Jo.Tyson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Redirect to GCPE - FW: For the Health Minister, on Bill 22 harms

Thanks Julie,

I do note that this is not a media request, but a personal concern from a journalist about Bill 22. It probably should be sent over to CITZ for their response.


From: Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 2:37 PM
To: May, Stephen GCPE:EX <Stephen.May@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>; Tyson, Jo HLTH:EX <Jo.Tyson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Redirect to GCPE - FW: For the Health Minister, on Bill 22 harms

Good afternoon, Stephen. As the email below is from a journalist, we are redirecting this over to GCPE for your necessary action. This email will not be entered into CLIFF.

Thank you!

Julie Price
Corporate Operations
Ministry of Health

Warning: This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

 Please consider the environment before printing

From: Stomp <stomp@telus.net>
Sent: October 31, 2021 10:10 PM
To: Minister, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: stomp <stomp@telus.net>; Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, MMHA MMHA:EX <MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; DMOFFICE, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.DMOFFICE@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: For the Health Minister, on Bill 22 harms

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

For the Honourable Adrian Dix, Health Minister, and deputy minister:

I write here to plead that your government withdraw Bill 22, and to defer all FOI and privacy law reform until after the Legislative FOIPP Special Review Committee reports. Pressing ahead with this Bill's passage now would cause grave harm to FOI journalism about B.C. Health issues, and impair the public interest.

(Indeed, have you met a single member of the public who supports Bill 22?)

To demonstrate the public value of the access law to governments, I produced an Excel database of 2,000 B.C. news stories produced via FOI requests since 1993. See <https://canadafoi.ca/bcstoryindex.xlsx>
(Introduction at <https://canadafoi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/bcintro2020.pdf>)

You can scroll down to Category [8], at line 727, where one can read 117 FOI stories on B.C. health care. (There are also stories on addictions at Category [9] at line 851.)

If a \$25 application fee had been in place since 1993, I am certain that more than half of these stories could never have been produced. This would have resulted in a grievous loss for the public interest (while some of the finest FOI stories may be the ones yet to be told).

Many FOI stories were done by smaller student, ethnic, and alternative media who can least afford fees, while it is well known that even the largest newsrooms are now severely cash-strapped. For example, an editorial protesting the fee in the UBC student newspaper stated: "FOIs have allowed us to tell stories that otherwise would have never been told. In the last year alone, FOIs allowed us to dig into public health violations by the frats. We also were the first outlet to question the lack of COVID-19 data at UBC - reporting spurred by information found in documents we requested under FIPPA." (<https://www.ubyssey.ca/opinion/editorial-BC-FOI-fee/>)

Other parts of Bill 22 are just as deleterious, such as expanding the powers to ignore requests deemed to be frivolous or repetitive, and limiting the obligation of government entities to create or disclose some electronic records. One large factor that often arises regarding FOI and health in B.C. is COVID 19 - the most vital issue of our time, upon which transparency needs now to be enhanced, not reduced.

The only course to prevent such damage and keep the flow of such valuable stories moving is to eliminate Bill 22, and to defer all FOI and privacy law reform until after the Legislative FOIPP Special Review Committee reports, and then consider its expert guidance. These decisions would be most welcomed by a grateful public.

Respectfully yours,

Stanley L. Tromp, journalist, Vancouver, 604-733-7595

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Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act (a counter to Bill 22) - <https://canadafoi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/bccitizenfoi.pdf>

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The 24 groups (and growing) in FIPA's Stop Bill 22 Coalition - <https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/>

P.S. On costs, the government has blamed a backlog on the Opposition BC Liberals, as well as journalist Bob Mackin, whom the NDP says made 397 applications that year (which he denies). If the fee was intended to constrain Mackin, it is grossly unjust to penalize everyone else. Moreover, the Liberal caucus would simply pay FOI fees with public money, and so this would not stop it from applying. (It would also likely cost the B.C. government more than \$25 to process a \$25 cheque, much as the Ottawa FOI system costs \$55 to process its \$5 application fee.)

FOI costs could be greatly reduced by releasing records routinely. "Why does this government constantly tell me to file an FOI request for simple things, like names of contractors and values of contracts?" asks Mackin. "Why aren't they proactively publishing contracts, reports, briefing notes and polling data?" If it was, Mackin estimates that he could make fewer FOI requests - "maybe as much as three-quarters fewer." He adds: "I make no apologies for filing so many applications; the lion's share are about the health and economic impacts of the COVID pandemic." (From my Bill 22 editorial at <https://canadafoi.ca/bill-22-is-a-betrayal-of-the-public-interest/>)

SAMPLES of B.C. FOI Health Stories

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Page 218 of 320

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Copyright

215451 Tromp SDPR Response

From: SDPR Correspondence SDPR:EX <ExecutiveCorrespondenceServices@gov.bc.ca>
To: stromp@telus.net, 'stromp@telus.net'
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 2, 2021 10:25:22 AM PDT

Ref: 215451

Stanley Tromp

stromp@telus.net

Dear Mr. Tromp:

Thank you for your email of November 1, 2021, addressed to the Honourable Nicholas Simons, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, regarding proposed amendments to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Minister Simons has asked that we respond on his behalf, and we're pleased to do so.

The issue you've raised falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Citizens' Services. We've, therefore, taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the minister responsible, the Honourable Lisa Beare, for her review and consideration.

Should you wish to contact Minister Beare directly, you may reach her at:

Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Citizens' Services
PO Box 9068 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Email: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Correspondence Unit

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

cc: Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: November 1, 2021 12:24 AM

To: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX <SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>; Simons.MLA, Nicholas LASS:EX <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: For the Minister, on the harms of Bill 22

For the Honourable Nicholas Simons:

I write here to plead that your government withdraw Bill 22, and to defer all FOI and privacy law reform until after the Legislative FOIPP Special Review Committee reports. Pressing ahead with this Bill's passage now would cause major harm to FOI journalism, and impair the public interest. (Indeed, do you know of any members of the public who support Bill 22?)

To demonstrate the public value of the access law to governments, I created an Excel database of 2,000 B.C. news stories produced by FOI requests since 1993. See <https://canadafoi.ca/bcstoryindex.xlsx> (*Introduction at https://canadafoi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/bcintro2020.pdf*) You can scroll down to Category [16] at line 1348, where one can read FOI stories on your issues.

If a \$25 application fee had been in place since 1993, I am certain that more than half of these stories could never have been produced. This would have resulted in a serious loss for the public interest (while some of the finest FOI stories may be the ones yet to be told).

Many FOI stories were done by smaller student, ethnic, and alternative media who can least afford fees, while it is well known that even the largest newsrooms are now severely cash-strapped. Other parts of Bill 22 are just as deleterious, such as expanding the powers to ignore requests deemed to be frivolous or repetitive, and limiting the obligation of government entities to create or disclose some electronic records.

The only course to prevent such harms and keep the flow of such valuable stories moving is to eliminate Bill 22, and to defer all FOI and privacy law reform until after the Legislative FOIPP Special Review Committee reports, and then consider its expert guidance. These decisions would be most welcomed by a grateful public.

Respectfully yours,

Stanley L. Tromp, journalist, Vancouver, 604-733-7595

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P.S. On costs, the government has blamed a backlog on the Opposition BC Liberals, as well as journalist Bob Mackin, whom the NDP says made 397 applications that year (which he denies). If the fee was intended to constrain Mackin, it is grossly unjust to penalize everyone else. Moreover, the Liberal caucus would simply pay FOI fees with public money, and so this would not stop it from applying. (It would also likely cost the B.C. government more than \$25 to process a \$25 cheque, much as the Ottawa FOI system costs \$55 to process its \$5 application fee.)

FOI costs could be greatly reduced by releasing records routinely. "Why does this government constantly tell me to file an FOI request for simple things, like names of contractors and values of contracts?" asks Mackin. "Why aren't they proactively publishing contracts, reports, briefing notes and polling data?" If it did, Mackin estimates that he could make fewer FOI requests - "maybe as much as three-quarters fewer." He adds: "I make no apologies for filing so many applications; the lion's share are about the health and economic impacts of the COVID pandemic." (From my Bill 22 editorial at <https://canadafoi.ca/bill-22-is-a-betrayal-of-the-public-interest/>)

RE: Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 2, 2021 10:37:00 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,
Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7
P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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-----Original Message-----

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 6:45 PM

To: s.22 Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kang.MLA, Anne <Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ma.MLA, Bowinn <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ralston.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Whiteside.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Whiteside.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Osborne.MLA, Josie <Josie.Osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Popham.MLA, Lana <Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dean.MLA, Mitzi <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rankin.MLA, Murray <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Cullen.MLA, Nathan <Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Simons.MLA, Nicholas <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chouhan.MLA, Raj <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kahlon.MLA, Ravi <Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Fleming.MLA, Rob <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Robinson.MLA, Selina <Selina.Robinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Malcolmson.MLA, Sheila <Sheila.Malcolmson.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Aman <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Stewart.MLA, Ben <Ben.Stewart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; D'Eith.MLA, Bob <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bailey.MLA, Brenda <Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Anderson.MLA, Brittny <Brittny.Anderson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Banman.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Oakes.MLA, Coralee <Coralee.Oakes.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Coulter.MLA, Dan <Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan

<Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Davies.MLA, Dan <Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routley.MLA, Douglas <Douglas.Routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Clovechok.MLA, Doug <Doug.Clovechok.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ross.MLA, Ellis <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Donnelly.MLA, Fin <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chow.MLA, George <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lore.MLA, Grace <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kylo.MLA, Greg <Greg.Kylo.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bains.MLA, Harry <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sandhu.MLA, Harwinder <Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Paton.MLA, Ian <Ian.Paton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Brar.MLA, Jagrup <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rice.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sims.MLA, Jinny <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rustad.MLA, John <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sturdy.MLA, Jordan <Jordan.Sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kirkpatrick.MLA, Karin <Karin.Kirkpatrick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chen.MLA, Katrina <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Paddon.MLA, Kelli <Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Doerkson.MLA, Lorne <Lorne.Doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dykeman.MLA, Megan <Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lee.MLA, Michael <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Babchuk.MLA, Michele <Michele.Babchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Starchuk.MLA, Mike <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bernier.MLA, Mike <Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; de Jong.MLA, Mike <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Morris.MLA, Mike <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Letnick.MLA, Norm <Norm.Letnick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Alexis.MLA, Pam <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Milobar.MLA, Peter <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Rachna <Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; renee.merrifield.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Russell.MLA, Roly <Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae <Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie <Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wat.MLA, Teresa <Teresa.Wat.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Stone.MLA, Todd <Todd.Stone.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, AEST AEST:EX <AEST.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MSI TRAN:EX <Minister.SI@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EMLI M EMLI:EX <EMLI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; TAC.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, JERI E JERI:EX <JERI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Transportation, Minister TRAN:EX <Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, FIN FIN:EX <FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MMHA MMHA:EX <MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, TRD@gov.bc.ca; Minister, LBR LBR:EX <LBR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CC MCF:EX <CC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Chant.MLA, Susie <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

We have shared democratic values and I would like to think that we both believe in the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. You said you were going to make improvements as recently as 2017. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to meet those commitments or make things better.

I find it hard to believe that you are improving accountability or improving my access to information - especially when you see it more important to shield the Premier's office from scrutiny and put in place a transparency tax.

Colin Gabelmann, the original drafter of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, an MLA like yourself, sees this as a step backwards. The independent commissioner has serious concerns. A review by the Centre for Law and Democracy indicates the changes mean you are lowering the bar across Canada and moving BC toward mediocrity. A broad swath of civil society is united in opposition to these changes. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters. Don't you think that you are on the wrong side of this one?

I'm asking you to reconsider these actions:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent instead of taking a step backwards.

FOI Access

From: s.22
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: November 2, 2021 11:59:56 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Mr Horgan,

I'm happy to hear that you are recovering well from your operation, and wish you a speedy recovery.

I'm very disappointed that it took such a short time for the NDP to introduce a B.C. Liberal type FOI access restriction. This reinforces the impression that once a party

which professes to have high principles gets into power, it just becomes another unethical power hungry gang prepared to do anything to continue as government.

s.22

It would appear that a

minority government is best for the Province.

s.22

Bill 22 - My new posting today

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>, CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca, CITZ Deputy Minister, CITZ:EX
Sent: November 2, 2021 12:36:00 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

My new posting today - <https://canadafoi.ca/citizens-fine-usages-of-the-b-c-foipp-act/>

Citizens' fine usages of the B.C. FOIPP Act

November 2, 2021 by [Stan Tromp](#)
Copyright

FW: Bill 22 and the data residency requirement in FIPPA

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 2, 2021 1:04:46 PM PDT

Original incoming email from s.22 at the bottom of this email chan. Shay responded with the Batch response Nov 2, and s.22 then responded with the latest email below. Please advise next steps.

Thank you
Shay

From: s.22
Sent: November 2, 2021 12:37 PM
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Bill 22 and the data residency requirement in FIPPA

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Beare,

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my message. I would be very much interested to read the relevant records of the consultation process in which the government was asked to limit or withdraw the data residency requirements in FIPPA. I did read the report on your web site, but it offers no detail on who requested this particular change.

Please consider this an official freedom of information request for all relevant documents pertaining to consultations that informed the changes to data residency in FIPPA.

Many thanks,
s.22

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 2, 2021 12:31:52 PM
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Subject: RE: Bill 22 and the data residency requirement in FIPPA

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 30, 2021 5:30 PM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Bill 22 and the data residency requirement in FIPPA

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Minister Beare,

As a parent and postsecondary educator in BC, I am deeply concerned about the provisions in Bill 22 that would permit public bodies such as schools and universities to continue using Internet services that are hosted outside Canada (such as Zoom) post-COVID, without the Ministerial orders that have permitted them to do so during the pandemic. I am in agreement with the privacy commissioner that this change would be in opposition to the spirit of FIPPA. I am a parent of two children who currently attend university in BC. s.22

s.22

s.22

This technical background has enabled me to closely follow the steadily-increasing threats to personal privacy online, and to inform my students about them. I always tell my students and my children that they are fortunate to live in a province that has some of the strongest privacy legislation in North America. In my view, we should be strengthening FIPPA so that it provides British Columbians with protections on par with those in the European Union, not weakening it.

During the pandemic I played a significant role in helping my fellow teacher educators s.22 to adapt their courses for remote delivery using technologies such as Zoom. I was not happy about s.22 use of Zoom, knowing that its creators' privacy and security practices had been criticized by others in the computing industry; but we were in a crisis, and we needed to continue to serve our students. There was no time to investigate and implement an alternative.

However, we no longer need to operate in crisis mode. There exist free and open-source competitors to Zoom, which could be hosted locally in BC or elsewhere in Canada. One such option is Jitsi Meet (<https://meet.jit.si/>). If hosted in Canada, this free Zoom alternative would be fully compliant with FIPPA as it stands. What is more, Canadian IT professionals would be able to inspect the software code themselves to ensure that user privacy is in fact protected -- which one cannot do with a closed-source solution such as Zoom. Of course, this would require some public expenditure for servers and IT professionals to maintain them.

I understand that educators and students in this province want to continue some of the remote teaching practices that they became comfortable with during the early months of the pandemic. Implemented wisely, these practices can sometimes produce better learning outcomes and increase equity of access to learning as well. However, there is no need to hollow out British Columbians' data residency rights to make this possible. From where I stand, it appears that your government intends to undermine a key provision in FIPPA for no better reason than to save universities and school boards some money. This is shameful.

I hope that your government will do the right thing and withdraw Bill 22, for the sake of my my children and all British Columbians.

Sincerely,

s.22

Comments and questions on Bill 22 - Please respond

From : s.22
To: Murray Rankin <murray.rankin.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX
Cc: Lisa Beare <citz.minister@gov.bc.ca>, Michael McEvoy <mmcevoy@oipc.bc.ca>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, McEvoy, Michael OIPC:EX
Sent: November 3, 2021 11:02:42 AM PDT

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s.22

November 2, 2021

Hon. Murray Rankin, MLA
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
murray.rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Murray Rankin

Re: Bill 22 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) amendments

I am contacting you as a constituent of Oak Bay-Gordon Head with comments and questions on Bill 22, the proposed amendments to FIPPA.

I am quite concerned about the process to date, and I am also concerned about some of the proposed amendments.

On process, I would like you to tell me why the FIPPA amendments in Bill 22 are being proposed in advance of any periodic review by the all-party special committee, a function designated by the Act?

Also, on process, are you able to assure me that the proposed amendments will not be passed until supporting draft regulations have been made public for discussion and consultation?

On the proposed amendments, I am particularly concerned about giving more opportunity for public bodies to disregard access requests, e.g. if the request is "excessively broad" or doesn't "relate to the business of the public body". This is troubling; perhaps draft regulations may help to define these and other terms further?

I am also troubled by the proposal to exclude the Office of the Premier as a public body under the Act. Could you please explain the reason for this exclusion? From what I understand, removing the Office creates doubt, public confusion, and potential legal issues. If the activities and records of the Office are still accessible via the Act after the removal of the Office as a public body, please explain how this is so?

I am appalled at the proposed amendment to introduce a fee for the initial information request under the Act. This is shameful from a government and a party that fundamentally believes in equity among all citizens. As your government well knows, poverty, inequality, and the high cost of living in BC are of substantial concern. Making it more difficult to obtain information from public bodies – the very bodies that are supported and funded by BC residents – does little to respect the citizen as your ultimate employer.

My concerns are genuine and substantial. I trust I will hear from you soon in response to my letter and my questions.

Regards,

s.22

Victoria, BC

cc Minister Lisa Beare, Ministry of Citizen's Services

Michael McEvoy, Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC

Bill 22- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act amendments

From: Teri@bctf.ca <teri@bctf.ca>
To: premier@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca, lcronk@bcfed.ca, mzuckerman@bcfed.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX, Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX
Sent: November 3, 2021 2:02:26 PM PDT
Attachments: image002.png, 2021-11-03 L to John Horgan.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,
Please see the attached letter.
Thank you.
Teri Mooring, President
BC Teachers' Federation
100-550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2
604-871-2283, 1-800-663-9163
email: Teri@bctf.ca



TM/jr:tfu



British Columbia Teachers' Federation A Union of Professionals
100-550 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2 bctf.ca
604-871-2283 1-800-663-9163 

Executive Office fax: 604-871-2290

By email: premier@gov.bc.ca

November 3, 2021

Honourable John Horgan
BC Premier
PO Box 9041
Station Provincial Government
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Horgan:

On behalf of the 47,000 members of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF), I am writing to express our strong opposition to Bill 22 and the proposed changes to the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act (FIPPA).

As stated by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Association (FIPA), who conducted a thorough review of the bill, "this Bill will undermine access to information and make public bodies less transparent. It is a step backwards for openness and accountability, and a missed opportunity to improve the information rights of British Columbians."¹

These concerns are echoed by BC's Information and Privacy Commissioner, who wrote Minister Lisa Beare to express concern that several of the proposed amendments to FIPPA are of "deep concern."²

Likewise, an analysis by the Center for Law and Democracy, using the global Right to Information (RTI) rating,³ found that these amendments "would significantly undermine the right of individuals to access information held by public authorities."⁴ Bill 22 is a step backward for our province and any aspiration to be a leader in privacy legislation.

We are particularly concerned about the proposed removal for data residency within Canada. As digital technologies are increasingly used within public education, substantial amounts of personal data are being collected. Parents, students, and teachers trust our public bodies to keep this information safe. However, as highlighted in a comprehensive report on privacy concerns in K-12 education,⁵ there has been a proliferation of cloud-based education services in BC, such as those provided by Google with servers based in the United States.

Data stored in a foreign jurisdiction is subject to the laws of that country. This poses significant privacy risks, and risks will be amplified as some jurisdictions lobby to get rid of the end-to-end encryption of

¹ [//fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/bill-22-a-call-to-action/](http://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/bill-22-a-call-to-action/)

² [//www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592](http://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592)

³ [//www.rti-rating.org/](http://www.rti-rating.org/)

⁴ Press release, Center for Law and Democracy, October 27, 2021

⁵ [//fipa.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2020_troubling_clouds_LMS_report.pdf](http://fipa.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2020_troubling_clouds_LMS_report.pdf)

Honourable John Horgan
November 3, 2021

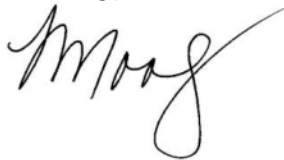
data. The end of data residency requirements also increases the ability of private technology companies to access and monetize educational data, extending the privatisation of public education.

The BCTF believes that privacy must be prioritized as a cornerstone of our public education system. Bill 22 will undermine the privacy rights of all British Columbians, as well as trust in the government to protect these rights.

We join the Freedom of Information and Privacy Association, and a growing number of unions, academics, and other civil society partners,⁶ in calling on your government to:

- Withdraw this bill.
- Recognize the role of the all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process.
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Sincerely,



Teri Mooring
President

cc: Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services
Honourable Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Education
W. Laird Cronk, President, BC Federation of Labour

TM:jrtfeu

⁶ [//fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/](https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/)

FW: Bill 22- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act amendments

From: Hampson, Ashley PREM:EX <Ashley.Hampson@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 4, 2021 1:50:01 PM PDT
Attachments: image002.png, 2021-11-03 L to John Horgan.pdf

Hi all,

Could CITZ provide a response please?

Thanks,

Ashley Hampson

Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier

P: 250-387-3539 E: ashley.hampson@gov.bc.ca

From: Teri@bctf.ca <teri@bctf.ca>

Sent: November 3, 2021 2:02 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>;
lcronk@bcfed.ca; mzuckerman@bcfed.ca

Subject: Bill 22- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act amendments

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

Please see the attached letter.

Thank you.

Teri Mooring, President

BC Teachers' Federation

100-550 West 6th Avenue

Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2

604-871-2283, 1-800-663-9163

email: Teri@bctf.ca



TM/jr:tfcu

RE: New high-water mark for NDP hypocrisy

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Walker, Adam LASS:EX
Sent: November 6, 2021 10:16:47 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thank you Lisa.

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:28 AM
To: s.22 OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Walker, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: New high-water mark for NDP hypocrisy
Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all. We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 2:02 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Walker, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: New high-water mark for NDP hypocrisy

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear John,

After years of preaching about the sanctity of freedom of information whenever the topic came up, your government is now going to start charging anyone who tries to exercise that right. Freedom-of-information requests for anything other than an applicant's own personal information will cost about \$25.

That is indeed an unprecedented level of hypocrisy from your government, and a new low in the level of government trust by the voters.

Please rescind this change. Thanks.

Cheers, s.22

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 7, 2021 5:08:38 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

FW: Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 8, 2021 9:07:45 AM PST

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-----Original Message-----

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>

Sent: November 7, 2021 3:40 PM

To: s.22 Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kang.MLA, Anne <Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ma.MLA, Bowinn <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ralston.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Whiteside.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Whiteside.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Osborne.MLA, Josie <Josie.Osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Popham.MLA, Lana <Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dean.MLA, Mitzi <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rankin.MLA, Murray <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Cullen.MLA, Nathan <Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Simons.MLA, Nicholas <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chouhan.MLA, Raj <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kahlon.MLA, Ravi <Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Fleming.MLA, Rob <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Robinson.MLA, Selina <Selina.Robinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Malcolmson.MLA, Sheila <Sheila.Malcolmson.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Aman <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Stewart.MLA, Ben <Ben.Stewart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; D'Eith.MLA, Bob <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bailey.MLA, Brenda <Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Anderson.MLA, Brittny <Brittny.Anderson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Banman.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Oakes.MLA, Coralee <Coralee.Oakes.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Coulter.MLA, Dan <Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Davies.MLA, Dan <Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routley.MLA, Douglas <Douglas.Routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Clovechok.MLA, Doug <Doug.Clovechok.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ross.MLA, Ellis <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Donnelly.MLA, Fin <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chow.MLA, George <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lore.MLA, Grace <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kylo.MLA, Greg <Greg.Kylo.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bains.MLA, Harry <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sandhu.MLA, Harwinder <Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Paton.MLA, Ian <Ian.Paton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Brar.MLA, Jagrup <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rice.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sims.MLA, Jinny <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rustad.MLA, John <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sturdy.MLA, Jordan <Jordan.Sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Kirkpatrick.MLA, Karin <Karin.Kirkpatrick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chen.MLA, Katrina <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Paddon.MLA, Kelli <Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Doerkson.MLA, Lorne <Lorne.Doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dykeman.MLA, Megan <Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lee.MLA, Michael <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Babchuk.MLA, Michele <Michele.Babchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Starchuk.MLA, Mike <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bernier.MLA, Mike <Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; de Jong.MLA, Mike <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Morris.MLA, Mike <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Letnick.MLA, Norm <Norm.Letnick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Alexis.MLA, Pam <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Milobar.MLA, Peter <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Rachna <Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; renee.merrifield.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Russell.MLA, Roly <Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae <Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chandra

Herbert.MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie <Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wat.MLA, Teresa <Teresa.Wat.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Stone.MLA, Todd <Todd.Stone.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, AEST AEST:EX <AEST.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MSI TRAN:EX <Minister.SI@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EMLI M EMLI:EX <EMLI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; TAC.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, JERI E JERI:EX <JERI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Transportation, Minister TRAN:EX <Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, FIN FIN:EX <FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MMHA MMHA:EX <MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, TRD@gov.bc.ca; Minister, LBR LBR:EX <LBR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CC MCF:EX <CC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Chant.MLA, Susie <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

We have shared democratic values and I would like to think that we both believe in the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. You said you were going to make improvements as recently as 2017. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to meet those commitments or make things better.

I find it hard to believe that you are improving accountability or improving my access to information - especially when you see it more important to shield the Premier's office from scrutiny and put in place a transparency tax.

Colin Gabelmann, the original drafter of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, an MLA like yourself, sees this as a step backwards. The independent commissioner has serious concerns. A review by the Centre for Law and Democracy indicates the changes mean you are lowering the bar across Canada and moving BC toward mediocrity. A broad swath of civil society is united in opposition to these changes. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters. Don't you think that you are on the wrong side of this one?

I'm asking you to reconsider these actions:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent instead of taking a step backwards.

FW: Bill 22/FOI fee

From: Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 8, 2021 1:01:22 PM PST
Attachments: image001.png

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Shared with consent – feedback regarding Bill 22.

Warm regards,
Office of MLA George Heyman

From: s.22

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:45 PM

To: Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Bill 22/FOI fee

Hi Nicholas,

Thank you for asking to share, yes of course you may share this; hopefully facilitating critical discourse and decision making in the best interests of British Columbian's.

s.22

Sent from my iPhone/on the go. Please excuse any typos.

On Nov 8, 2021, at 11:47 AM, Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca> wrote:

Thank you s.22 I appreciate the follow up and feedback on this Bill. Is it possible to have your consent to share this with staff in the Ministry of Citizen Services?

Warm regards,

Nicolas

Nicolas Bragg

Constituency Assistant | George Heyman, MLA Vancouver-Fairview

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From: s.22

Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:33 PM

To: Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: info@oipc.bc.ca

Subject: Re: Bill 22/FOI fee

Hi Nicolas,

Thank you for taking the time to respond, I do appreciate it. In the spirit of transparency and creating space for dialogue, I have copied the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia, which I should have done initially, my apologies.

I just wanted to point out that you did not address my concern in your response.

The NDP, in my opinion, are NOT being transparent with data related to the pandemic and with the proposed Bill 22 changes access to data/information will only become more problematic - less transparency, more redacted docs, less access to data, less accessible to the public. I'm sure you are fully aware of the dialogue around this; the BC NDP are willfully ignoring these requests for data/discourse in any public forum - BC has been singled out for this by well respected Canadian and international researchers, physicians, epidemiologists, etc. The health of BC is suffering as a result of withholding data and also the timely access to data.

I respectfully disagree that FIOPPA is not working for people, it's actually the way BC NDP are handling data that is not working. Bringing in a fee, is going to prevent release of data in addition to delaying any requests for data that may be granted. What is not currently working is the withholding of critical data that would allow citizens to be informed and facilitate appropriate and safe decision making. As it stands now, the public been promised transparent access to data related to the ongoing pandemic yet it has not been provided. My personal favourite is around covid data and schools - parents have a right to know where risks exists, and how much risk there is, so we can make the determination of safety. The fact that this decision making resides with the government because we don't have transparent sharing of data (schools, hospitals, community spread, etc.) is appalling.

People are waiting too long under the 'old system' in place now because the current BC NDP government is NOT making information public that should be in a democratic society.

There is no need to respond. I would hope the MLAs, the premier, the PHO, etc. are keenly aware of the issue around the provision of data in this province and I would hope that this is rectified immediately, as was promised to the public of BC when Penny Daflos brought this issue somewhat mainstream.

Bill 22 should NOT pass as is - it is NOT in the best interests of British Columbians, as outlined in OIPC Commissioner Michael McEvoy's letter, Oct 20, 2021 (<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>), and I strongly agree that:

1. "We are living in a time when people are seeking more answers, and greater accountability, from public bodies and their governments, amplifying the significant role that freedom of information plays in allowing people to get information about what their governments are doing, and the decisions that affect them. To add another barrier of access at a time when transparency is critical is deeply troubling. Further, I am troubled that there would be no ability for my office to waive an application fee if it is in the public interest."

Thank you,

s.22

On Oct 22, 2021, at 2:08 PM, Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello s.22

I hope this note finds you well. Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act. Your message was redirected to our constituency office as you are in Vancouver Fairview.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need. Government's proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

We are committed to open and transparent access to information. In fact, this government was the one who saw the need for greater transparency and accountability for British Columbians when we enacted the FOIPPA legislation nearly three decades ago to hold current, and future, governments accountable to the people who trust them to make decisions on their behalf and to act with integrity. And today, we continue this

tradition in culture and in practice in many ways including the addition of 40% more proactive disclosures of information that the public can access for free. We added five more proactive disclosure directives last year alone and earlier this month we released each Minister's estimates binder which are arguably the most crucial document to government's priorities and decision-making.

The proposed updates to FOIPPA will continue this commitment to transparency through changes such as:

- Adding ministerial power to add subsidiary entities as new public bodies;
- Requiring mandatory breach reporting to the potentially harmed individual and the Privacy Commissioner;
- Adding requirements for privacy management programs; and
- Adding a new offence for wilfully evading FOI.

We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more Freedom of Information (FOI) requests annually than the three western provinces combined. We are adding a fee to non-personal FOI requests, which is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. And those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

These amendments will respond to feedback we heard through extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses to reinforce the Act's original spirit and intent and improve B.C.'s high-quality freedom of information services to respond to people's requests faster. In addition to the improvements we are making by amending FOIPPA, we have committed \$5.3M to modernize and improve the process to manage the over 13,000 FOI requests the Province receives each year.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Nicolas

Nicolas Bragg
Constituency Assistant | George Heyman, MLA Vancouver-Fairview
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-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: October 22, 2021 9:45 AM
To: Minister, ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Bill 22/FOI fee

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello Minister Heyman,

As a Vancouver-Fairview constituent, I am writing to you to express my deep concern on the proposal of the amendment to Bill 22.

Transparency and timely release of data during this pandemic in particular is a well documented issue with the NDP. I cannot understand why the BC NDP cannot see this, as many across the globe, not just Canada, have been critical of this aspect of the pandemic handling, among many other critical issues as well.

Imposing a fee to further delay timely release of data, making data less accessible, in no way instills trust in this government. Introducing an amendment that appears self serving is not democratic nor in the best interests of the greater good, the people the government serve.

Honestly, s.22 what I see and experience on a day to day basis due to the lack of good policy (eg. airborne acceptance) is disheartening. The more data is made available the better decision making will be and the better able the public is at understanding the decisions made.

Currently, data is being hidden, and this has driven the erosion of public trust, the public has become divided. I'm at a loss with this proposed amendment around data accessibility - NDP need to be MORE transparent with reliance on GOOD data that the public can see and understand.

I am respectfully requesting, actually pleading, that this bill amendment be voted against.

Thank you,

s.22

Sent from my iPhone/on the go. Please excuse any typos.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 8, 2021 9:54:25 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 8, 2021 11:30:05 PM PST

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 8, 2021 11:54:02 PM PST

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 5:13:58 AM PST

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 6:03:54 AM PST

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 6:37:07 AM PST

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Emails received at CO

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 9, 2021 8:29:35 AM PST
Attachments: Transparency Matters to Me. Stop Bill 22., Transparency Matters to Me. Stop Bill 22., Transparency Matters to Me. Stop Bill 22., Transparency Matters to Me. Stop Bill 22.

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Hi,

We received 4 copies of the same email at the CO. They ended up in our junk filter but they are Ministry. Not sure if you received the same emails.

Regards,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant |

Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

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Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>

To:

s.22

Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kang.MLA, Anne <Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ma.MLA, Bowinn <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ralston.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Whiteside.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Whiteside.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Osborne.MLA, Josie <Josie.Osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Popham.MLA, Lana <Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Dean.MLA, Mitzi <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rankin.MLA, Murray <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Cullen.MLA, Nathan <Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Simons.MLA, Nicholas <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chouhan.MLA, Raj <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kahlon.MLA, Ravi <Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Fleming.MLA, Rob <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Robinson.MLA, Selina <Selina.Robinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Malcolmson.MLA, Sheila <Sheila.Malcolmson.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Singh.MLA, Aman <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Stewart.MLA, Ben <Ben.Stewart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, D'Eith.MLA, Bob <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bailey.MLA, Brenda <Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Anderson.MLA, Brittney <Brittney.Anderson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Banman.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Oakes.MLA, Coralee <Coralee.Oakes.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Coulter.MLA, Dan <Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ashton.MLA, Dan <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Davies.MLA, Dan <Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Routley.MLA, Douglas <Douglas.Routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Clovechok.MLA, Doug <Doug.Clovechok.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ross.MLA, Ellis <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Donnelly.MLA, Fin <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chow.MLA, George <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Lore.MLA, Grace <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kylo.MLA, Greg <Greg.Kylo.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bains.MLA, Harry <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sandhu.MLA, Harwinder <Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Paton.MLA, Ian <Ian.Paton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Brar.MLA, Jagrup <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rice.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sims.MLA, Jinny <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rustad.MLA, John <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sturdy.MLA, Jordan <Jordan.Sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kirkpatrick.MLA, Karin <Karin.Kirkpatrick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chen.MLA, Katrina <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Paddon.MLA, Kelli <Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Doerkson.MLA, Lorne <Lorne.Doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Dykeman.MLA, Megan <Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Lee.MLA, Michael <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Babchuk.MLA, Michele <Michele.Babchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Starchuk.MLA, Mike <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bernier.MLA, Mike <Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, de Jong.MLA, Mike <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Morris.MLA, Mike <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Letnick.MLA, Norm <Norm.Letnick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Alexis.MLA, Pam <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Milobar.MLA, Peter <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Singh.MLA, Rachna <Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, renee.merrifield.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Russell.MLA, Roly <Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae <Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie <Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Wat.MLA, Teresa <Teresa.Wat.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Stone.MLA, Todd <Todd.Stone.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Minister, AEST AEST:EX <AEST.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, MSI TRAN:EX <Minister.SI@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, EMLI M EMLI:EX <EMLI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca, TAC.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, JERI E JERI:EX <JERI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Transportation, Minister TRAN:EX <Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, FIN FIN:EX <FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, MMHA MMHA:EX <MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, TRD@leg.bc.ca, Minister, LBR LBR:EX

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 <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Yao.MLA, Henry <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>,
 Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX, Kang.MLA, Anne LASS:EX, Ma.MLA, Bowinn LASS:EX,
 Ralston.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX, Eby.MLA, David LASS:EX, Heyman.MLA, George
 LASS:EX, Whiteside, Jennifer LASS:EX, Osborne, Josie LASS:EX, Conroy.MLA, Katrine
 LASS:EX, Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX, Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX, Farnworth.MLA,
 Mike LASS:EX, Dean.MLA, Mitzi LASS:EX, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX, Cullen, Nathan
 LASS:EX, Simons.MLA, Nicholas LASS:EX, Chouhan.MLA, Raj LASS:EX, Kahlon.MLA,
 Ravi LASS:EX, Fleming.MLA, Rob LASS:EX, Robinson.MLA, Selina LASS:EX,
 Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX, Walker, Adam LASS:EX, Singh, Aman LASS:EX, Mercier,
 Andrew LASS:EX, Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew LASS:EX, Stewart.MLA, Ben LASS:EX,
 D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX, Bailey, Brenda LASS:EX, Anderson, Brittany LASS:EX,
 Banman.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX, Oakes.MLA, Coralee LASS:EX, Coulter, Dan LASS:EX,
 Ashton.MLA, Dan LASS:EX, Davies.MLA, Dan LASS:EX, Routley.MLA, Douglas G
 LASS:EX, Clovechok.MLA, Doug LASS:EX, Ross.MLA, Ellis LASS:EX, Donnelly, Fin
 LASS:EX, Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX, Chow.MLA, George LASS:EX, Lore, Grace
 LASS:EX, Kylo.MLA, Greg LASS:EX, Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX, Sandhu, Harwinder
 LASS:EX, Paton.MLA, Ian LASS:EX, Tegar.MLA, Jackie LASS:EX, Brar.MLA, Jagrup
 LASS:EX, Rice.MLA, Jennifer LASS:EX, Sims.MLA, Jinny LASS:EX, Horgan.MLA, John
 LASS:EX, Rustad.MLA, John LASS:EX, Sturdy.MLA, Jordan LASS:EX, Kirkpatrick.MLA,
 Karin LASS:EX, Chen.MLA, Katrina LASS:EX, Paddon, Kelli LASS:EX, Greene, Kelly
 LASS:EX, Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX, Doerkson.MLA, Lorne LASS:EX, Elmore.MLA,
 Mable LASS:EX, Dykeman, Megan LASS:EX, Lee.MLA, Michael LASS:EX, Babchuk,
 Michele LASS:EX, Starchuk, Mike LASS:EX, Bernier.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, de Jong.MLA,
 Mike LASS:EX, Morris.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, Sharma, Niki LASS:EX, Letnick.MLA, Norm
 LASS:EX, Alexis, Pam LASS:EX, Milobar.MLA, Peter LASS:EX, Singh.MLA, Rachna
 LASS:EX, Russell, Roly LASS:EX, Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae LASS:EX, Bond.MLA,
 Shirley LASS:EX, Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer
 LASS:EX, Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie LASS:EX, Wat.MLA, Teresa LASS:EX, Stone.MLA,
 Todd LASS:EX, Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX, Minister, EMLI EMLI:EX, Minister, MUNI
 MUNI:EX, Minister, AFF AFF:EX, Minister, TACS TACS:EX, Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX,
 Minister, JERI JERI:EX, Minister, TRD JERI:EX, CC Minister MCF:EX, Chant, Susie
 LASS:EX, Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX, Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX

Sent: November 9, 2021 7:33:28 AM PST

We have shared democratic values and I would like to think that we both believe in the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. You said you were going to make improvements as recently as 2017. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to meet those commitments or make things better.

I find it hard to believe that you are improving accountability or improving my access to information - especially when you see it more important to shield the Premier's office from scrutiny and put in place a transparency tax.

Colin Gabelmann, the original drafter of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, an MLA like yourself, sees this as a step backwards. The independent commissioner has serious concerns. A review by the Centre for Law and Democracy indicates the changes mean you are lowering the bar across Canada and moving BC toward mediocrity. A broad swath of civil society is united in opposition to these changes. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters. Don't you think that you are on the wrong side of this one?

I'm asking you to reconsider these actions:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent instead of taking a step backwards.

Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>

To:

s.22

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 Teresa LASS:EX, Stone.MLA, Todd LASS:EX, Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX, Minister,
 EMLI EMLI:EX, Minister, MUNI MUNI:EX, Minister, AFF AFF:EX, Minister, TACS
 TACS:EX, Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX, Minister, JERI JERI:EX, Minister, TRD JERI:EX, CC
 Minister MCF:EX, Chant, Susie LASS:EX, Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX, Yao.MLA,
 Henry LASS:EX

Sent: November 8, 2021 10:19:34 PM PST

We have shared democratic values and I would like to think that we both believe in the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. You said you were going to make improvements as recently as 2017. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to meet those commitments or make things better.

I find it hard to believe that you are improving accountability or improving my access to information - especially when you see it more important to shield the Premier's office from scrutiny and put in place a transparency tax.

Colin Gabelmann, the original drafter of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, an MLA like yourself, sees this as a step backwards. The independent commissioner has serious concerns. A review by the Centre for Law and Democracy indicates the changes mean you are lowering the bar across Canada and moving BC toward mediocrity. A broad swath of civil society is united in opposition to these changes. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters. Don't you think that you are on the wrong side of this one?

I'm asking you to reconsider these actions:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent instead of taking a step backwards.

Transparency Matters to Me.Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>

To:

s.22

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Sent: November 8, 2021 6:22:26 PM PST

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To:

s.22

Dix.MLA, Adrian <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kang.MLA, Anne <Anne.Kang.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ma.MLA, Bowinn <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ralston.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Eby.MLA, David <David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Heyman.MLA, George <George.Heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Whiteside.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Whiteside.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Osborne.MLA, Josie <Josie.Osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Popham.MLA, Lana <Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Dean.MLA, Mitzi <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rankin.MLA, Murray <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Cullen.MLA, Nathan <Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Simons.MLA, Nicholas <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chouhan.MLA, Raj <Raj.Chouhan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kahlon.MLA, Ravi <Ravi.Kahlon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Fleming.MLA, Rob <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Robinson.MLA, Selina <Selina.Robinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Malcolmson.MLA, Sheila <Sheila.Malcolmson.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Olsen.MLA, Adam <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Walker.MLA, Adam <Adam.Walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Singh.MLA, Aman <Aman.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Stewart.MLA, Ben <Ben.Stewart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, D'Eith.MLA, Bob <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bailey.MLA, Brenda <Brenda.Bailey.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Anderson.MLA, Brittney <Brittney.Anderson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Banman.MLA, Bruce <Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Oakes.MLA, Coralee <Coralee.Oakes.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Coulter.MLA, Dan <Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ashton.MLA, Dan <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Davies.MLA, Dan <Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Routley.MLA, Douglas <Douglas.Routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Clovechok.MLA, Doug <Doug.Clovechok.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Ross.MLA, Ellis <Ellis.Ross.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Donnelly.MLA, Fin <Fin.Donnelly.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chow.MLA, George <George.Chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Lore.MLA, Grace <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kylo.MLA, Greg <Greg.Kylo.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bains.MLA, Harry <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sandhu.MLA, Harwinder <Harwinder.Sandhu.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Paton.MLA, Ian <Ian.Paton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Brar.MLA, Jagrup <Jagrup.Brar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rice.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sims.MLA, Jinny <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Rustad.MLA, John <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sturdy.MLA, Jordan <Jordan.Sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Kirkpatrick.MLA, Karin <Karin.Kirkpatrick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chen.MLA, Katrina <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Paddon.MLA, Kelli <Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Greene.MLA, Kelly <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Doerkson.MLA, Lorne <Lorne.Doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Elmore.MLA, Mable <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Dykeman.MLA, Megan <Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Lee.MLA, Michael <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Babchuk.MLA, Michele <Michele.Babchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Starchuk.MLA, Mike <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bernier.MLA, Mike <Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, de Jong.MLA, Mike <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Morris.MLA, Mike <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Letnick.MLA, Norm <Norm.Letnick.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Alexis.MLA, Pam <Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Milobar.MLA, Peter <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Singh.MLA, Rachna <Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, renee.merrifield.MLA, Russell.MLA, Roly <Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae <Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Furstenau.MLA, Sonia <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie <Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Wat.MLA, Teresa <Teresa.Wat.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Stone.MLA, Todd <Todd.Stone.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Minister, AEST AEST:EX <AEST.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, MSI TRAN:EX <Minister.SI@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, EMLI M EMLI:EX <EMLI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca, TAC.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, JERI E JERI:EX <JERI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Transportation, Minister TRAN:EX <Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, FIN FIN:EX <FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, MMHA MMHA:EX <MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, TRD@leg.bc.ca, Minister, LBR LBR:EX

<MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister.TRD@gov.bc.ca, Minister, LBR LBR:EX
 <LBR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>,
 Minister, CC MCF:EX <CC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Chant.MLA, Susie
 <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, Routledge.MLA, Janet
 <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>, Yao.MLA, Henry <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>,
 Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX, Kang.MLA, Anne LASS:EX, Ma.MLA, Bowinn LASS:EX,
 Ralston.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX, Eby.MLA, David LASS:EX, Heyman.MLA, George
 LASS:EX, Whiteside, Jennifer LASS:EX, Osborne, Josie LASS:EX, Conroy.MLA, Katrine
 LASS:EX, Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX, Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX, Farnworth.MLA,
 Mike LASS:EX, Dean.MLA, Mitzi LASS:EX, Rankin, Murray LASS:EX, Cullen, Nathan
 LASS:EX, Simons.MLA, Nicholas LASS:EX, Chouhan.MLA, Raj LASS:EX, Kahlon.MLA,
 Ravi LASS:EX, Fleming.MLA, Rob LASS:EX, Robinson.MLA, Selina LASS:EX,
 Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX, Walker, Adam LASS:EX, Singh, Aman LASS:EX, Mercier,
 Andrew LASS:EX, Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew LASS:EX, Stewart.MLA, Ben LASS:EX,
 D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX, Bailey, Brenda LASS:EX, Anderson, Brittany LASS:EX,
 Banman.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX, Oakes.MLA, Coralee LASS:EX, Coulter, Dan LASS:EX,
 Ashton.MLA, Dan LASS:EX, Davies.MLA, Dan LASS:EX, Routley.MLA, Douglas G
 LASS:EX, Clovechok.MLA, Doug LASS:EX, Ross.MLA, Ellis LASS:EX, Donnelly, Fin
 LASS:EX, Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX, Chow.MLA, George LASS:EX, Lore, Grace
 LASS:EX, Kylo.MLA, Greg LASS:EX, Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX, Sandhu, Harwinder
 LASS:EX, Paton.MLA, Ian LASS:EX, Tegart.MLA, Jackie LASS:EX, Brar.MLA, Jagrup
 LASS:EX, Rice.MLA, Jennifer LASS:EX, Sims.MLA, Jinny LASS:EX, Horgan.MLA, John
 LASS:EX, Rustad.MLA, John LASS:EX, Sturdy.MLA, Jordan LASS:EX, Kirkpatrick.MLA,
 Karin LASS:EX, Chen.MLA, Katrina LASS:EX, Paddon, Kelli LASS:EX, Greene, Kelly
 LASS:EX, Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX, Doerkson.MLA, Lorne LASS:EX, Elmore.MLA,
 Mable LASS:EX, Dykeman, Megan LASS:EX, Lee.MLA, Michael LASS:EX, Babchuk,
 Michele LASS:EX, Starchuk, Mike LASS:EX, Bernier.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, de Jong.MLA,
 Mike LASS:EX, Morris.MLA, Mike LASS:EX, Sharma, Niki LASS:EX, Letnick.MLA, Norm
 LASS:EX, Alexis, Pam LASS:EX, Milobar.MLA, Peter LASS:EX, Singh.MLA, Rachna
 LASS:EX, Russell, Roly LASS:EX, Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae LASS:EX, Bond.MLA,
 Shirley LASS:EX, Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX, Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer
 LASS:EX, Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie LASS:EX, Wat.MLA, Teresa LASS:EX, Stone.MLA,
 Todd LASS:EX, Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX, Minister, EMLI EMLI:EX, Minister, MUNI
 MUNI:EX, Minister, AFF AFF:EX, Minister, TACS TACS:EX, Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX,
 Minister, JERI JERI:EX, Minister, TRD JERI:EX, CC Minister MCF:EX, Chant, Susie
 LASS:EX, Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX, Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX

Sent: November 9, 2021 4:45:21 AM PST

We have shared democratic values and I would like to think that we both believe in the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. You said you were going to make improvements as recently as 2017. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to meet those commitments or make things better.

I find it hard to believe that you are improving accountability or improving my access to information - especially when you see it more important to shield the Premier's office from scrutiny and put in place a transparency tax.

Colin Gabelmann, the original drafter of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, an MLA like yourself, sees this as a step backwards. The independent commissioner has serious concerns. A review by the Centre for Law and Democracy indicates the changes mean you are lowering the bar across Canada and moving BC toward mediocrity. A broad swath of civil society is united in opposition to these changes. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters. Don't you think that you are on the wrong side of this one?

I'm asking you to reconsider these actions:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent instead of taking a step backwards.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 1:03:59 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 1:27:20 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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I'm asking you to:

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 2:49:17 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 9, 2021 5:28:12 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 7:58:16 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency increases trust even if I do not agree with something I respect honesty and transparency. Without transparency it makes me question and disbelieve what I hear.

Thank you for your time.

FW: FOI Legislation

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 10, 2021 8:32:02 AM PST

Incoming email from s.22 below.

s.22 did receive the "Batch FOIPPA response" on 10/26/2021.

Thanks

Shay

From: s.22

Sent: November 10, 2021 8:18 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: re: FOI Legislation

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Ms Beare, it looks like Vaughn Palmer's column entitled "NDP Dodges Questions On Information Access" leaves you holding the bag. Unable to provide answers to pertinent questions makes you and your fellow Comrades look like dictators. Oh well what is new, we are used to the regimes in Russia and China acting this way. The public gradually will wake up and figure out that the Socialist agendas eventually get shoved down our throats and then there is pushback. Interesting that a junior minister is left in charge just in case the pushback is loud and then that minister can just be jettisoned. It would be wise for you to get a crash helmet as this controversy might not go away anytime soon or without some casualties, regards s.22

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 10:34:14 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 10:34:54 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 10:45:12 AM PST

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To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 10:58:44 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citiz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office
PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 10:58:59 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 11:12:17 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 11:17:08 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

From: s.22
To: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Cc: PREMIER@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 11:50:37 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Beare:

s.22

I have been very proud to say so recently, in light of the current government's performance both in minority and majority, especially with respect to BC's response to COVID-19.

Proud that is until now. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021, is, on balance, retrograde legislation. It should be withdrawn and re-written.

I have read the Privacy Commissioner's letter of October 20, 2021 and generally agree with his comments. Some of Bill 22's provisions are welcome but overall the bill is not a worthy effort.

I know how challenging the Act can be for government. I provided legal advice to the City of Vancouver on access and privacy issues while employed there. However, weakening public access to information is ultimately corrosive to democracy and should be resisted.

Fees for access are misguided. They will penalize the wrong people. To the media, they will merely be a business expense, perhaps even tax deductible. To ordinary citizens looking for government (i.e. our) information, they will be one more reason to just not bother. At first blush, that may seem like a benefit but is "trust us to govern well" really your motto? What about when its the other guys turn again?

The discretion left to future regulations is also troubling. Consider what that might lead to in the wrong hands.

I am also concerned about the data residency provisions; the Canadian public is not well informed about the sweeping powers the US government has over data stored in that country.

s.22

I have occasionally abstained from voting in general elections, notably when the government seemed bedeviled by hubris. Glen Clark comes to mind.

I urge you to withdraw the bill.

Sincerely,

s.22

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 1:00:09 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 1:05:41 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

RE: Changes to information & privacy law

From: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 10, 2021 1:06:52 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day,

Thank you for your email.

As your email pertains to MLA Beare's role as the Minister of Citizen Services I have copied the Ministry at CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca for their information and follow up. Please direct future correspondence relating to the Ministry of Citizen Services to that email. However, constituency related emails should still be sent to Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Thyra

Thyra Gillese | Constituency Assistant | Lisa Beare, MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

104-20130 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2P7

P: 604-465-9299 | F: 604-465-9294

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The above message contains confidential information intended for a specified individual and purpose. The information is private and protected by law. Any copying or disclosure of this transmission by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately and delete this message and any attachments from your system. Thank you.

From: s.22

Sent: November 10, 2021 12:06 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Changes to information & privacy law

Madam Minister,

Proposed changes to the information & privacy law in BC are hard to justify, given the deleterious effect they will have on the public's access to information — especially if an access fee is implemented.

The move to introduce an access fee smacks of authoritarianism — not a good look for a progressive "people's" government such as the one the NDP aims to be.

Whatever changes are made, access fees should **not** be part of them.

Sincerely,

s.22

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 5:50:37 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 6:12:59 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 8:20:47 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 8:51:24 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to build a better BC. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 10, 2021 9:58:02 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 7:27:46 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 9:28:49 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 10:36:54 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 1:52:52 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 2:01:50 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 4:20:05 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 4:48:49 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 11, 2021 5:59:01 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 12, 2021 7:31:34 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 12, 2021 8:59:25 AM PST

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Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Re: Changes to information & privacy law

From: s.22
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 12, 2021 12:58:14 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister,

I have read the motivations for the reforms being introduced itemized below.

None of them, however, requires an access fee in order to be accomplished.

Indeed the volume of requests received argues for the importance that BC citizens attach to freedom-of-information legislation.

No access fee is justified and I urge you not to include the possibility of introducing one in your legislation.

Sincerely,

s.22

On Nov 10, 2021, at 3:09 PM, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear s.22

Thank you for your message regarding the government's recently announced *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act*.

B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need.

Our proposed changes will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

By updating data-residency provisions, public bodies will be able to use modern tools to provide services while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us. Data residency doesn't protect information – effective privacy controls do, and with these proposed amendments, we are making sure those are in place.

As a government, we are committed to open and transparent access to information. We also believe people are waiting too long under the old legislation for the information they deserve. Right now, B.C. receives more FOI requests annually than the three western provinces combined. The addition of a fee to non-personal FOI requests is in line with other jurisdictions in Canada. Those asking for personal information will continue to not pay a fee at all.

We are also demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language FOIPPA is not working for people anymore, and we're making these changes based on what we've heard from extensive consultation with thousands of people, organizations and businesses.

Thank you for your interest in this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,
Lisa Beare
Minister

From: s.22

Sent: November 10, 2021 12:06 PM

To: Beare.MLA, Lisa <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Changes to information & privacy law

Madam Minister,

Proposed changes to the information & privacy law in BC are hard to justify, given the deleterious effect they will have on the public's access to information — especially if an access fee is implemented. The move to introduce an access fee smacks of authoritarianism — not a good look for a progressive “people’s” government such as the one the NDP aims to be.

Whatever changes are made, access fees should not be part of them.

Sincerely,

s.22

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 13, 2021 8:26:28 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 13, 2021 3:15:53 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 14, 2021 8:26:39 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 14, 2021 1:03:19 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. I'm asking you to: make amendments to the bill so that regulations cannot shield the Premier's office from access to information requests.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 14, 2021 2:04:37 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. What are you trying to cover ?

You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 15, 2021 8:23:55 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

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From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 16, 2021 6:49:03 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

whats it feel like to sell your soul?< like a captain of a ship is responsible for the soul on board, YOU TOO are responsible for souls you are captain of; your soul is being set by your action and inactions, your willing to follow the narrative of someone controlling you. God recognizes a good man...aswell as those who do harm..."there will be nashing of teeth and screams" for those of you who've sold your soul for a bit of power and prestige. there is no excuse...repent now or beware of the consequences, not just for bill 22, but all the immoral and treasonous crimes against canadians . you have ben warned-~~s.22~~

We have shared democraticvalues and the fundamental needto increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriersand improving access to information.Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. Yousaid you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Poll on Bill 22: Out of step with public opinion

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca, Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca, Matt.Reed@gov.bc.ca, Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca, Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca, CJ.Ritchie@gov.bc.ca, stromp <stromp@telus.net>, CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca, GCIO Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX, Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX, Reed, Matt CITZ:EX, Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX, Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX, Ritchie, CJ CITZ:EX, CITZ Deputy Minister, CITZ:EX
Sent: November 16, 2021 7:37:40 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

News Release

Victoria, November 16, 2021 – Polling results released today indicate that several proposed changes introduced in Bill 22 are not supported by British Columbians.

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Page 304 of 320 to/à Page 306 of 320

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 16, 2021 7:53:25 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

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- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca,
OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 16, 2021 11:37:46 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this. You said you were going to do something better. I'm starting to doubt whether you are putting people first and question whether I can trust you and your mandate letters.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Transparency Matters to Me.??????Stop Bill 22.

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>
To: s.22 Premier@gov.bc.ca, citz.Minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier,
Office PREM:EX, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
Sent: November 16, 2021 3:17:12 PM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

We have shared democratic values and the fundamental need to increase the transparency of public bodies by reducing barriers and improving access to information. Your proposed amendments in Bill 22 fail to do this.

You said you were going to do something better. This is not better.

I'm asking you to:

- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help me regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent.

Re: UPDATED -- FOR APPROVAL -- FW: Media request: Glacier media – FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 29 3:30 (Glacier)

From: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX
Sent: October 31, 2021 1:18:57 PM PDT

Approved

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From: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX <Cassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 11:56:54 AM

To: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: UPDATED -- FOR APPROVAL -- FW: Media request: Glacier media – FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 29 3:30 (Glacier)

Hi Minister

Below is an updated media response, s.13

– for review and approval.

Recommendation: statement attributable to the ministry -- UPDATED

- During consultation we heard from thousands of people, Indigenous communities, businesses, organizations, subject-matter experts across government, the privacy commissioner and past Special Committees of the Legislative Assembly through extensive consultation over several years.
- The last two Special Committees made several recommendations that were not enacted by the previous government, in fact, the Act has not been substantially updated since 2011.
- The tabled legislation includes many of the recommendations of the past two Special Committees, such as:
 - Making the destruction of documents to evade access an offense; and
 - Making it mandatory to notify individuals and the commissioner of privacy breaches.
 - We've also already acted on other key recommendations to create a duty to document and expand proactive disclosures.
- The mandated role of the Special Committee is to review existing legislation.
- We anticipate that the new Special Committee would, if we waited to amend the Act, repeat many of these previous recommendations.
- The bill is before members of the legislature and we will await the outcome of their debate and vote.

Kassandra Lawal

Office 778-974-6009 | Cell 778-678-3776

kassandra.lawal@gov.bc.ca

From: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX

Sent: October 30, 2021 12:45 PM

To: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOR APPROVAL -- FW: Media request: Glacier media – FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 29 3:30 (Glacier)

Hi Minister

Media response with my edits below for your approval. Comms spoke to the reporter yesterday and they are happy to receive a response today.

Recommendation: statement attributable to the ministry

- During consultation we ~~have~~ heard from thousands of people, Indigenous communities, businesses, organizations, subject-matter experts across government, the privacy commissioner and past Special Committees of the Legislative Assembly.
- The proposed amendments reflect what we've heard through these many engagements and consultations, including meaningful consultation that has occurred with the Commissioner in our 20 meetings with him and his office and some of the recommendations from past Special Committees.
- We have included many items in this package and revised others that respond directly to the Commissioner's recommendations and feedback.
- The last two Special Committees made several recommendations that were not enacted by the previous government, in fact, the Act has not been substantially updated since 2011.

- The tabled legislation includes many of the recommendations of the past two Special Committees, such as:
 - Making the destruction of documents to evade access an offense; and
 - Making it mandatory to notify individuals and the commissioner of privacy breaches.
 - We've also already acted on other key recommendations to create a duty to document and expand proactive disclosures.
- The mandated role of the Special Committee is to review existing legislation.
- We anticipate that the new Special Committee would, if we waited to amend the Act, repeat many of these previous recommendations.
- The bill is before members of the legislature and we will await the outcome of their debate and vote.

Kassandra Lawal

Office 778-974-6009 | Cell 778-678-3776

kassandra.lawal@gov.bc.ca

Reporter

Jeremy Hainsworth, Reporter

Glacier Media Digital

jhainsworth@glaciermedia.ca

604-608-5189 c: 778-835-4303

Deadline Friday, October 29, 2021 3:30 PM

Request

I'm doing an article about opposition voiced this week to Bill 22 from the Canadian Association of Journalists and the Freedom of Information and Privacy Association.

Links are here

<https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/>

https://caj.ca/blog/A_thumb_in_the_eye_of_transparency_CAJ_denounces_B.C._s_proposed_FOI_amendments

How does the government/ministry respond to the chorus of voices opposing this legislation?

Is the government going to withdraw the bill and return with something else?

Or, will the bill proceed to committee for work?

Or, will it go to the special committee as the Liberals have called for?

Doing story for Friday.

Recommendation: statement attributable to the ministry

- We have heard from thousands of people, Indigenous communities, businesses, organizations, subject-matter experts across government, the privacy commissioner and past Special Committees of the Legislative Assembly.
- The proposed amendments reflect what we've heard through these many engagements and consultations, including meaningful consultation that has occurred with the Commissioner in our 20 meetings with him and his office and some of the recommendations from past special committees.
- We have included many items in this package and revised others that respond directly to the Commissioner's recommendations and feedback.
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 - Making the destruction of documents to evade access an offense; and
 - Making it mandatory to notify individuals and the commissioner of privacy breaches.

- We've also already acted on other key recommendations to create a duty to document and expand proactive disclosures.
- We anticipate that the new Special Committee would, if we waited to amend the Act, repeat many of these previous recommendations.
- The bill is before members of the legislature and we will await the outcome of their debate and vote.

Re: FOR APPROVAL -- Media Request: Lawyers's Daily - Bill 22 - FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 27 4 pm

From: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX
Sent: October 27, 2021 1:54:45 PM PDT

Approved

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From: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX <Cassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:53:41 PM

To: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOR APPROVAL -- Media Request: Lawyers's Daily - Bill 22 - FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 27 4 pm

Hi Minister

Media response below for your approval.

Cheers

Kass

Kassandra Lawal

Office 778-974-6009 | Cell 778-678-3776

kassandra.lawal@gov.bc.ca

Reporter

Ian Burns, Reporter

The Lawyer's Daily

Ian.Burns@lexisnexis.ca

905-415-5906 c: 647-456-6915

Deadline Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:00 PM

Request

My name is Ian Burns and I am a reporter with the Lawyer's Daily at LexisNexis.

The reason I am getting in touch today is that I am writing an article on Bill 22, the update B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA).

I just wanted to ask if a) the ministry was aware of the concerns which have been raised by the office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (<https://www.oipc.bc.ca/public-comments/3592>) and other groups like the BCCLA and FIPA (<https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/>), and b) whether it was considering amending the bill to address these concerns.

If you could help me that would be great. If it would be possible to have a response by end of day tomorrow that would be appreciated.

Recommendation: attributable to ministry

- We value the meaningful consultation that has occurred with the Commissioner in our 20 meetings with him and his office.
- We have included many items in this package and revised others that respond directly to the Commissioner's recommendations and feedback.
- The bill is now before members of the legislature and we will await the outcome of their debate and vote.

Fwd: Bill 22 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Amendments

From: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX, Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX
Sent: October 20, 2021 11:52:02 AM PDT
Attachments: image008.png, image009.png, 2021-10-20 Letter to Minister Lisa Beare.pdf, image007.jpg

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From: Keira Morgan <KMorgan@oipc.bc.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:49 AM

To: 'Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca'

Cc: s.17 'Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca';

Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca

Subject: Bill 22 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Amendments

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon Minister Lisa Beare,

I write with respect to the above-referenced matter and on behalf of Commissioner Michael McEvoy. Attached please find a letter to you from the Commissioner dated October 20, 2021.

If you have any difficulty opening or viewing the attached PDF, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Kind regards,



Keira Morgan
Executive Coordinator
She/Her/Hers
Phone: 250-387-0777
www.oipc.bc.ca



We acknowledge the
homelands of the
Indigenous Peoples of
this place we now call
British Columbia, and
honour the many

territorial keepers of the Lands on which we work.

This email and any attachments are only for the use of the intended recipient and must not be distributed, disclosed, used or copied by or to anyone else. If you receive this in error please contact the sender by return email and delete all copies of this email and any attachments.

Re: FOR APPROVAL -- FW: CITZ Follow-up Media Request: BC Today – FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 29 4pm

From: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX
Sent: October 30, 2021 6:59:12 PM PDT
Attachments: image002.png, image002.png

approved

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From: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX <Cassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:45:37 PM

To: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOR APPROVAL -- FW: CITZ Follow-up Media Request: BC Today – FOIPPA amendments: DL Oct. 29 4pm

Hi Minister

Another media response below for your approval – this reporter was also happy to wait for response until today. (or tomorrow – no hurry) This is a follow-up to their questions from 26 October.

My edits in red – confirmed there is no enabling of fees for consultation or complaints in the proposed amendments.

Cheers

Kass

Kassandra Lawal

Office 778-974-6009 | Cell 778-678-3776

kassandra.lawal@gov.bc.ca

Reporter

Shannon Waters, Reporter

BC Today

s.waters@britishcolumbiatoday.ca

236-882-7149

Deadline Friday, October 29, 2021 4:00 PM

Request

Looking at the additional section 18.1 (screenshot below), it reads to me like it will be the head of a public body who determines what kinds of disclosures could "reasonably be expected" to be harmful "with respect to Indigenous people" - rather than, say, the Indigenous people themselves. Am I interpreting that correctly?

- Disclosing information that could be considered harmful under the new proposed clause 18.1 will be modelled on existing sections 21 and 22, which, similarly, have the following requirements.
 - The public body will be required to provide an Indigenous third party written notice if there is intention to give access to a record that contains potentially harmful information under clause 18.1.
(https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96165_02#section21)
 - Additionally, there will be a requirement to provide the third party with the opportunity to provide feedback on whether the disclosure of the record would be indeed be harmful and the significance of the harm.

What will the process be for Indigenous peoples seeking information that public bodies determine would be harmful to disclose if the Indigenous peoples disagree with that conclusion? Will it be a more expedited or direct process than the current complaint model? Will there be fees attached, either to any complaint process or to information requests from Indigenous peoples generally?

- The process will flow through the existing requirements found in section 23 and 24 in the Act.
- The current and proposed amended fees structure does not include fees associated with consultation or complaints.
- Should these amendments receive Royal Assent, more information on processes and procedures related to these new provisions will be available in the period following.
- All applicants have the right to submit a complaint or request a review to the OIPC should they disagree with a public body's determination.

Also, are you able to provide more detailed information on which First Nations and Indigenous organizations participated in consultation on this bill? There doesn't seem to be any information in the consultation report. How many organizations and what kind of consultation was undertaken (meetings with ministry officials, online survey, written submissions, etc.).

- The Ministry of Citizens' Services has had meaningful discussions with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, First Nations Summit, First Nations Leadership Council, the BC Assembly of First Nations.
- The Ministry also engaged with Treaty First Nations including meetings with representatives from the five Maa-nulth nations, Tsawwassen First Nation and the Nisga'a Lisims Government.
- To gain the perspective of Indigenous Peoples on access to information and privacy, we have twice invited leaders of over 200 B.C. First Nations to provide input, most recently, through an online questionnaire.
 - In response to this invitation, representatives from the Stk'emlupsemc Te Secwepemc Nation requested a meeting with Ministry staff, which was held in early September 2021.
- In alignment with B.C.'s Declaration Act, we will continue to work in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples as we move forward with this work.

And did the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation play any role in the consultation or provide advice to the ministry on aspects of the bill relating to disclosure of information to First Nations?

- The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation provided a great deal of advice and guidance around consultation and on the provisions relating to disclosure of information to First Nations.

I recognize this request is fairly detailed but I'd appreciate as much of a response as possible by 4PM Friday. Any information you're able to provide today before 4PM would also be appreciated.

Screenshot:

9 The following section is added:

Disclosure harmful to interests of an Indigenous people

18.1 (1) The head of a public body must refuse to disclose information if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the rights of an Indigenous people to maintain, control, protect or develop any of the following with respect to the Indigenous people:

- (a) cultural heritage;
- (b) traditional knowledge;
- (c) traditional cultural expressions;
- (d) manifestations of sciences, technologies or cultures.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the Indigenous people has consented in writing to the disclosure.

Recommendation: provide information on background *(suggested answers follow the Qs above)*

Background

This is a follow-up to a media request from October 26, 2021.

REQUEST:

I'm looking at a couple of things on the bill:

- Still interested in the fee structure and especially what, if any, consideration of other jurisdictions went into the decision to likely implement one
- Also curious about the info-sharing with First Nations

If you can organize some time with the minister before the afternoon sitting starts tomorrow, I can work with that as well.

RESPONSE:

Scheduled Interview

Reporter scrummed the Minister at 3:30 p.m.

- The bill is now before members of the legislature and we will await the outcome of their debate and vote.

Q. Still interested in the fee structure and especially what, if any, consideration of other jurisdictions went into the decision to likely implement one

- B.C.'s fee is not yet set. A fee that aligns with other jurisdictions will be determined through regulation soon.

Other jurisdictions:

- o Alberta: \$25 for first request – \$50 per continuing request
- o Saskatchewan: \$20 per requests to local governments
- o Ontario: \$5 per request
- o Nova Scotia: \$5 per request
- o Prince Edward Island: \$5 per request
- o Nunavut: \$25 per request
- o Canada: \$5 per request.
- o Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon and Northwest Territories have no fees.

Q. Also curious about the info-sharing with First Nations

- Information sharing with First Nations was something we heard a lot about through our government's extensive consultation.
- Through the legislation, we are:
 - o Removing outdated language in reference to Indigenous partners.
 - o Creating new powers that increase public bodies' ability to share information with Indigenous governments and governing entities.
 - o Adding new protections to Indigenous peoples' sensitive cultural information by requiring public bodies to seek consent from Indigenous governing entities before disclosing information through FOI.
 - o And removing the 15-year limit on the existing protections where information may harm an Indigenous government, so that we can protect that information indefinitely.
- We must work together to remove barriers and we will continue to work in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples as we move forward with this work.

9 The following section is added:

Disclosure harmful to interests of an Indigenous people

18.1 (1) The head of a public body must refuse to disclose information if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the rights of an Indigenous people to maintain, control, protect or develop any of the following with respect to the Indigenous people:

- (a) cultural heritage;
- (b) traditional knowledge;
- (c) traditional cultural expressions;
- (d) manifestations of sciences, technologies or cultures.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the Indigenous people has consented in writing to the disclosure.

Re: For Approval: CITZ Media Request: FOIPPA

From: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>
To: Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX
Sent: November 13, 2021 12:19:36 PM PST

Approved

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From: Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Saturday, November 13, 2021 10:33:19 AM

To: Beare, Lisa CITZ:EX <Lisa.Beare@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: For Approval: CITZ Media Request: FOIPPA

Media request for your approval. Approved by PA, Shauna and Michael.

Cheers,

Samantha Scott | Ministerial Advisor to the Honourable Minister Beare
Ministry of Citizens' Services
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Gov, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E2 | 778-679-4889

Reporter

Nathan Griffiths, Reporter
Vancouver Sun
ngriffiths@postmedia.com
604-605-2172 c: 604-704-4281

Deadline Saturday, November 13, 2021 5:00 PM

Request

I would like to speak with Minister Beare regarding the proposed amendments to access to information legislation in Bill 22 for a story I'm working on for this weekend. Can you please let me know a time that would be convenient for the Minister today? I wouldn't imagine needing more than 15-20 min.

I've listed questions below so the Minister can prepare as needed, please let me know if anything needs clarification.

Thanks very much,
Nathan

- The access to information legislation is currently under review by a committee, why couldn't the introduction of amendments have waited until the committee had finished it's review? What is the rush?
- The proposed \$25 fee for filing an access to information request jumps B.C. from the cheapest province to file an FOI to the most expensive. Concerns have been raised that this fee introduces inequity into British Columbian's right to access information – lower income individuals and non-profits or other groups with limited budgets will face a significantly higher barrier to entry than more well-funded individuals or groups
 - o What is the justification for introducing this kind of inequity into the legislation?
 - o How will the government plan to address or mitigate this new inequality in the public's access to information?
- What is the justification for the removal of the Office of the Premier from Schedule 2? Is this connected in any way to the increase in FOIs filed to the Premier's office by political parties since the NDP came into power?

Recommendation: provide on background

Hello Nathan and thank you for your request. Given the legislation is currently before the House and in debate, we are unable to answer aspects of your questions at this time until the fee is set in regulation. I will point out that the recommended fee was not \$25 – this # was used by media given it is in the \$5-\$50 range of other jurisdictions.

During consultation we heard from thousands of people, Indigenous communities, businesses, organizations, subject-matter experts across government, the privacy commissioner and past Special Committees of the Legislative Assembly through extensive consultation over several years. The last two Special Committees made several recommendations that were not enacted by the previous government. In fact, the Act has not been substantially updated since 2011.

The tabled legislation includes many of the recommendations of the past two Special Committees, such as:

- o Making the destruction of documents to evade access an offense; and
- o Making it mandatory to notify individuals and the commissioner of privacy breaches.
- o We've also already acted on other key recommendations to create a duty to document and expand proactive disclosures.

The mandated role of the Special Committee is to review existing legislation. We anticipate that the new Special Committee would, if we waited to amend the Act, repeat many of these previous recommendations.

To answer your questions related to section 5 regarding the Premier's Office, this is a clarification of legal language. The Premier's Office was under the list of public bodies that are not ministries and therefore officially subject to different rules under the legislation. However, they've always been treated as a ministry, and this change reinforces that. We have also tabled amending language on this point. We added the Premier's office to the definition of ministry to remove any doubt.

For further background:

- The Premier is considered the First Minister, and the Office of the Premier the ministry of the first minister.
- It is treated as such under BC's Constitution Act and elsewhere.
- Removing the Office of the Premier from Schedule 2 will clarify that they are subject to requirements under the Act that reference "ministries" and not those that reference "a public body that is not a ministry" – the former being the higher standard (e.g. for doing privacy impact assessments under 69(5) AND FOR PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE DIRECTIVES)
- The Office of the Premier has always been treated as a ministry.
- Applicants may direct access requests to the Office of the Premier, and using the online form will still be able to select "Office of the Premier".

The bill is before members of the legislature and we will await the outcome of their debate and vote.