

March 8, 2019

Mr. Michael de Jong, Q.C., MLA

Abbotsford West

E-mail: Luella.Barnetson@leg.bc.ca

Attention: Mr. Michael de Jong, Q.C.

Request for Cabinet Records Produced for former Executive Council

Further to my letter to you dated October 17, 2018, and the letter dated August 10, 2018 from the Attorney General to Opposition Leader Andrew Wilkinson, (copies of both attached). I am writing to request whether you have considered the request in my letter and to request a response.

Sincerely,

Richard J.M. Fyfe, QC Deputy Attorney General

Attachments



October 17, 2018

Mr. Michael de Jong, Q.C., MLA Abbotsford West

C/O: <u>Luella.Barnetson@leg.bc.ca</u>

Attention: Mr. Michael de Jong, Q.C.

Request for Cabinet Records Produced for former Executive Council

I am attaching correspondence which was sent by the Honourable David Eby, Attorney General, to Mr. Andrew Wilkinson on August 10, 2018. The attached letter details a request that the current government be provided with access to Cabinet records of the previous government related to actions to combat money laundering in casinos.

The attached correspondence which was issued directly by the Attorney General, is addressed to the leader of the Official Opposition, and was not issued pursuant to the protocol (the "Protocol") established by the previous government for the public service.

I have now received instructions to write to you pursuant to the Protocol to request previous Cabinet records as referred to in Minister Eby's attached letter. The Attorney General has asked me to seek your authorization to allow for the current Executive Council to review all documents related to money laundering that may be protected by Cabinet privilege, also known as public interest immunity.

The reason for this request is to allow government to aggressively pursue measures to counter money laundering in a manner that does not duplicate unsuccessful efforts from previous governments. The Attorney General has informed me that the current Executive Council agrees that the information protected by public interest immunity in these documents would be treated as confidential by the current Executive Council.

s.14

Michael de Jong, Q.C. Page 2

Thank you for your willingness to give full and fair consideration to this request and I look forward to your response in due course.

Sincerely,

Richard J.M. Fyfe, QC Deputy Attorney General

Attachment



August 10, 2018

Mr. Andrew Wilkinson, QC Leader of the Official Opposition Room 201, Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

As you know, Dr. Peter German released his independent review of anti-money laundering practices last month. Our government is acting quickly to implement Dr. German's recommendations.

As we proceed with the work of finding the best ways to implement the recommendations I am taking this opportunity to write to you with a specific request.

Former Minister Rich Coleman has recently said that the previous government did "everything we could" to crack down on money laundering. In that light, I am requesting that the Official Opposition support our efforts in fighting this criminal activity in British Columbia. It is our government's desire to continue to aggressively pursue measures to counter money laundering, but to do so in a manner that does not duplicate unsuccessful efforts from previous governments.

In order to do this work in a manner that makes the most effective use of limited public resources, I am writing directly to seek your support of this effort by obtaining agreement from the members of the previous government to waive cabinet privilege on all documents relating to money laundering.

The information found in these documents would contribute to our efforts in finding ways to comprehensively end such criminal practices in BC casinos and throughout BC's economy through avoiding failed measures already attempted by previous administrations. I can commit, on behalf of the government, that information from these documents would remain confidential.

If you are amenable to this proposal, please indicate your willingness to help and we will proceed with an official request to former Minister Mike De Jong, who is the designated representative of the previous government.

I look forward to your response.

Yours truly

David Eby, QC Attorney General