

From: [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
To: [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
Subject: Fwd: Response to BCGEU  
Date: Friday, December 1, 2017 12:12:55 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX" <[Karen.MacMillan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.MacMillan@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** November 30, 2017 at 4:43:32 PM PST  
**To:** "Squance, Leah SDPR:EX" <[Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Response to BCGEU

We have sent directly to her from the DM.  
Karen

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**From:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 4:42 PM  
**To:** MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Response to BCGEU

Thanks. Did this go to her or is it for me to send?

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2017, at 4:41 PM, MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
<[Karen.MacMillan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.MacMillan@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Judy Fox-McGuire  
Vice President  
Chairperson, Local 610  
Social, Information and Health Component (6)  
[Judy.Fox-McGuire@bcgeu.ca](mailto:Judy.Fox-McGuire@bcgeu.ca)

Dear Ms. Fox-McGuire:

Thank you for your email of November 17, 2017, addressed to Leah Squance, Senior Ministerial Assistant to the Honourable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, regarding the interview process for Employment and Assistant Workers (EAWs) and Client Service Workers (CSWs) in the ministry. As Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, I am pleased to respond.

For the last ten years, the ministry has effectively utilized the round robin interviewing process in centralized EAW and CSW competitions. The use of rotating panelists enhances transparency and consistency as more focus is placed on the scoring guide and training materials rather than other panelists when selecting a candidate. Additionally, this method reduces panel fatigue for the individual panel members.

Mandatory training, developed in partnership with the Public Service Agency, is provided to all panel members with scoring methods determined in advance and scoring sheets with detailed scoring guidelines provided to all panel members. Once the number of successful applicants who advance through to the interview portion is known, the number of Chairs for the panel is determined.

During the interview process, a panel Chair is assigned to each virtual room and remains with the applicant throughout the interview process. The Chair is responsible for note taking and ensuring there is consistency in scoring each question. A Hiring Manager is also available to panelists, throughout each day, to answer any questions and to provide an opportunity to debrief at the end of the day.

I understand this standard is used in other ministries, such as the Ministry of Children and Family Development, where the round robin process is the default interview model employed. To date, there have been no issues raised by the Office of the Merit Commissioner regarding the round robin approach to interviewing.

Thank you again for writing and for bringing your concerns to my attention. Any further concerns or clarification regarding the ministry's approach to interviewing can be brought forward for discussion to the ministry's Article 29 Joint Committee or directed to Kerry Taylor, Executive Director, Strategic Human Resources and Communications Branch.

Sincerely,

Sheila Taylor  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

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

From: Fox-McGuire, Judy [<mailto:Judy.Fox-McGuire@bcgeu.ca>]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 9:52 AM  
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
Cc: Middlemiss, Maria; Eso, Mike  
Subject: FW: December hiring schedule vs Union Observers

Ms. Squance and Minister Simpson:

I am following up from our meeting of last week when Maria Middlemiss raised the issue of the current interviewing process in SDPR.

I received this email from a member who is involved in the hiring panels but requested that their identifying information be removed from it.

Please let me know if you have any further questions, I am cc'ing Maria and Mike Eso in the conversation.

Judy Fox-McGuire

Vice President

Chairperson, Local 610

Social, Information and Health Component (6)

(250)793-0340

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I just wanted to confirm and clarify for you that the in service competition starts December 4th to the 15th Sometimes up to 6 rooms interviewing at once – 6 candidates at 8:30; 6 at 10:30, and 6 at 1:30 Which means 6 panel chairs and 6 panelist (each room having a partner room that they room that they trade places with at the end of the 2nd question)

How can this be a fair process with a union observer who cannot be in 6 rooms at once to ensure the process is fair? We are not able to monitor probing questions which would vary from room to room and chairperson to chairperson. There is no ability to monitor each room for marking – either at the

competency level – or up to and including the competency level.

Hiring will continue each month well into the new year – at least the first 2.5 weeks of each month. (in November we interviewed 135 out of service candidates this way Nov 1 to 16th)

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Notifying Minister of response to BCPIAC open letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:07:16 PM  
**Attachments:** BCPIAC Response 2017.pdf

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FYI

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**From:** McNamara, Marilyn EAAT:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Notifying Minister of response to BCPIAC open letter

Leah,

Please use this version.

Marilyn McNamara  
B.Sc., M.A. Dispute Resolution, Graduate Diploma  
Justice System Administration, LL.M. (Osgoode)  
Chair, Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal

5th Floor, Ste 500-1675 Douglas Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 2G5  
Telephone: 250 356 6374

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**From:** McNamara, Marilyn EAAT:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:40 AM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Notifying Minister of response to BCIPAC open letter  
**Importance:** High

Hi Leah,

Attached please find my response to the Open Letter addressed to Minister Simpson which is posted to the BC PIAC website.

My response will be released by end of day and posted to the Tribunal's website.

Please let me know if there are any concerns prior to end of day.

Regards,

Marilyn McNamara  
B.Sc., M.A. Dispute Resolution, Graduate Diploma  
Justice System Administration, LL.M. (Osgoode)  
Chair, Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal

5th Floor, Ste 500-1675 Douglas Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 2G5  
Telephone: 250 356 6374

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: New Cross Government Request  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:16:49 PM

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Thanks.

I am doing pretty well, thanks. Catching up on things here.

s.22

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**From:** Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:16 PM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: New Cross Government Request

My Leg account. How are you? See you in a few days.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Squance, Leah SDPR:EX" <[Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** 2017-12-13 09:52 (GMT-10:00)  
**To:** "Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX" <[Shane.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shane.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: New Cross Government Request

Hi Shane

s.22

, can you  
please let me know which email addresses you used while we waited for our gov.bc.ca emails to be  
set up? They will be searching the meta-data for all emails used (not actual email content).

Thanks,  
Leah

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**From:** MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: New Cross Government Request

Need to discuss this request with you. It is a cross government request and all that FOI needs is the  
email address(es) that the Minister was using for ministerial business between July 18<sup>th</sup> and July 31. I  
spoke to Jayne but as she was not here at that time she couldn't say for sure what address was being  
used.

Karen MacMillan  
Manager, Executive Operations  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Social Development and  
Poverty Reduction  
778-698-7601

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**From:** Mino, Lise FIN:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2017 10:12 AM  
**To:** MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Di Castri, Adriana SDPR:EX; Smith, Denise Clair SDSI:EX  
**Subject:** New Cross Government Request

Good morning,

There is a new cross government request about to be opened for *"All records in the message tracking log files for which the record is messages sent from any email address associated with the Minister. Please include the following information: Date and time, source, event-ID, recipient address, message subject and sender address. Do not include emails forwarded by the Minister from [tno@gov.bc.ca](mailto:tno@gov.bc.ca)".*

Initially this request will be opened with CTZ who will generate the records and then transfer the request to each respective ministry.

In order to have accurate search parameters, please confirm ALL email addresses used by your Minister and Minister of State (if applicable).

**Warmly,**

**Lise Mino, CIAPP - C** | Freedom of Information Specialist | Information Access  
Operations |  
**Ph:** 250 356 0875 | **e:** [Lise.Mino@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lise.Mino@gov.bc.ca) |



**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Minutes from the December 4th Forum meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:38:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [Minister's Advisory Forum Minutes - Dec 4.docx](#)

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FYI

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**From:** Harrington, Molly SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX; Taylor, Sheila A SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Minutes from the December 4th Forum meeting for our discussion this afternoon

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**From:** Borowko, Whitney SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:34 PM  
**To:** Harrington, Molly SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Minutes

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Service Plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:15:42 PM

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FYI

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**From:** MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:15 PM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Service Plan

Here is the response I received from staff on the timing of feedback on the Service Plan

s.13

Karen MacMillan  
Manager, Executive Operations  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Social Development and  
Poverty Reduction  
778-698-7601

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX](#); Hold - 181102 - Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Social Purpose Proposal  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 8:59:26 AM  
**Attachments:** [UWLM-BC Social Purpose Proposal cover letter.pdf](#)  
[BC Proposal Social Purpose in Business.pdf](#)

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FYI. I believe we're still working on finding a date to meet with these folks and the Business Council together.

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**From:** Michael McKnight (United Way) [mailto:michaelm@uwlm.ca]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Social Purpose Proposal

Please see the attached cover letter and proposal.

**Michael McKnight**  
President & CEO  
**United Way of the Lower Mainland**  
4543 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC V5G 4T4  
[michaelm@uwlm.ca](mailto:michaelm@uwlm.ca) | P 604.294.8929  
[uwlm.ca](http://uwlm.ca) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Youtube](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

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**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: eOICs: Duty Minister and Back Up - Dec 15 to Jan 2  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:03:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [Presiding Member overview Revised.pdf](#)  
[eOIC folder on Minister's iPad - NEW July 2017.pdf](#)

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I expect Val sent this to you before, but just in case...

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**From:** Prisiak, Lisa PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX; Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX; Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX; Reid, Heidi FIN:EX; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Henry, Molly FIN:EX; Gillezeau, Rob FIN:EX; Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX; Smith, George AG:EX; Godfrey, Sam AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Wakeman, Michelle PSSG:EX; Harrison, Veronica PSSG:EX; Lawson, Liam PSSG:EX; White, Christine MAH:EX; Djonlic, Matt MAH:EX; Gardea, Daniela MAH:EX; Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX; Jackson, Lindsey B TRAN:EX; Stone, Lynne TRAN:EX; Perry, Alisma, TRAN:EX; Harder, Derrick TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Plant, Byron JAG:EX; Dardengo, Doris JAG:EX  
**Subject:** eOICs: Duty Minister and Back Up - Dec 15 to Jan 2

Hello,

Thank you for confirming the Ministers on Duty for e-OIC signing for the next three weeks. Please ensure your Minister has his/her iPad with them during their week of responsibility. If an OIC is required between this Monday and Dec 31, you will be receiving requests from Byron Plant and Doris Dardengo in the OIC Administration Office. Expected OICs for the next three weeks:

**Dec 18 to 24** – at this time maybe one OIC

**Dec 25 to Dec 31** – no OICs expected at this time

**Jan 1 to Jan 7** – there will be approximately 4 staffing OIC for Tue Jan 2 morning

	Back-up
<b>Dec 18 to 24</b>	
	<b>Minister James</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• *Heidi Reid</li><li>• *Robyn Spilker</li><li>• Molly Henry</li><li>• Rob Gillezeau</li></ul>
<b>Dec 25 to Dec 31</b>	
	<b>Minister Trevena</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lindsey Jackson</li><li>• Lynne Stone</li><li>• *Alisma Perry</li><li>• Derrick Harder</li></ul>
<b>Jan1 to Jan 7</b>	
	<b>Minister Robinson</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• *Christine White</li><li>• Matt Djonlic</li><li>• *Daniela Gardea</li></ul>

\*Craig Ashbourne

\*Best point of contact

Thanks in advance for your assistance.

As always, PREM Tech is on standby to assist with iPad signing, and can be reached at 250-953-5151 or by email: [Prem.tech@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Prem.tech@gov.bc.ca).

Kind regards,

*Lisa Prisiak*  
OIC Coordinator  
Cabinet Operations

250-387-5503

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**From:** Prisiak, Lisa PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2017 11:59 AM  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX; Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX; Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX; Reid, Heidi FIN:EX; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Henry, Molly FIN:EX; Gillezeau, Rob FIN:EX; Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX; Smith, George AG:EX; Godfrey, Sam AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Wakeman, Michelle PSSG:EX; Harrison, Veronica PSSG:EX; Winstanley, Lori PSSG:EX; Lawson, Liam PSSG:EX; White, Christine MAH:EX; Djonlic, Matt MAH:EX; Gardea, Daniela MAH:EX; Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX; Jackson, Lindsey B TRAN:EX; Stone, Lynne TRAN:EX; Perry, Alisma, TRAN:EX; Harder, Derrick TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** eOICs: Duty Minister and Back Up - Dec 15 to Jan 2

Seasons Greeting.

Cabinet Operations will be shut down as of the end of day **Dec 15 returning January 2** but OICs will continue to move along. Byron Plant and Doris Dardengo in the OIC office will be posting orders and coordinating signatures while staff are away in Cabinet Operations. I will have a better idea of how many OICs are expected closer to Dec 15<sup>th</sup>.

-

Below is the reminder for Primary Minister and back-up Minister on duty for e-OIC signing for the three week period. If there is conflict for the week, it is the Minister office's responsibility to find an alternate.

-

Please advise if the staff listed below are the best contacts for the holidays. At least one Ministerial Assistant contact is required. Also, I will require the cell numbers of each Minister should an emergency arise.

-

*Lisa Prisiak*  
OIC Coordinator  
Cabinet Operations

250-387-5503

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Information Note - Welfare in Canada  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:04:08 AM  
**Attachments:** 193700 - IN - Caledon Report - Welfare in Canada 2016.doc  
193700 - Appendix A - Welfare in Canada 2016.pdf

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FYI

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**From:** Quigley, Shanna SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX; MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Information Note - Welfare in Canada

Good afternoon,

Please find attached an information note the Minister regarding Welfare in Canada 2016.

Thank you,

*Shanna Quigley*

A/ Senior Executive Assistant  
To Deputy Minister Sheila Taylor  
Ministry of Social Development and  
Poverty Reduction  
778-698-7600

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX](#); [Quigley, Shanna SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: AED-2017-73388 Consultation Due December 28, 2017  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:12:52 AM

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I have no concerns.

Val?

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**From:** MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 3:35 PM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX; Quigley, Shanna SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: AED-2017-73388 Consultation Due December 28, 2017

Can you please have a look at the attached and advise if you have any issues with these documents being released? Thank you

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**From:** Boyd, Melissa CITZ:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Quigley, Shanna SDPR:EX; Di Castri, Adriana SDPR:EX; Smith, Denise Clair SDSI:EX  
**Subject:** AED-2017-73388 Consultation Due December 28, 2017

Hello,

The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training received the following FOI request from a Researcher:

*All email, text messages, blackberry message, slack message, whatsapp messages, excluding attachments, sent or received by Cindy Flesh. Limit email search to inbox and sent folders. (Date Range for Record Search: From 10/01/2017 To 10/18/2017)*

They identified the attached documents as responsive records and wish to get your views on disclosure. If you need help determining harms, please see the attached harms assessment or contact me directly. Please note that email attachments are not part of this request.

Your program area's response is due **December 28, 2017**.

Please advise if executive sign off is required.

If you are not able to respond by this date, we are required to continue processing this file without your recommendations.

---

**1. Ministry Program Harms Assessment:**

*Please indicate which applies:*

1. *There are no harms in these records. They can be released in full.*

2. *There are harms in releasing all of these records. They should be withheld in their entirety.*
3. *There are harms in portions of the records. Please give details so that IAO can apply the appropriate sections of FOIPPA. Please feel free to write directly on the attached records and send back to IAO. If you are unsure of why it is harmful please call the IAO to discuss the appropriate severing.*

Program Area Approval Authority:

*Name, Title, Program*

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## **2. IAO's review of harms assessment and recommendations on release**

Comments/Recommendations:

*IAO will assess the program area's harms and recommend full release, withhold in its entirety or partial release.*

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## **3. Ministry Executive approval for release**

Comments/Recommendations:

*Please indicate which applies:*

1. *Approved for release with no changes.*
2. *Approved for release with the following changes... (insert changes).*
3. *Not approved for release and why.*

Ministry Executive (Delegated Signoff):

*Name, Title*

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Note that all general FOI request records that are released to an applicant should be published on the Open Information website unless the exemption criteria apply. The exemption criteria can be found on page 11 of the [Open Information and Open Data Policy](#). Consultations from outside provincial public bodies are not published on the Open Information website.

### **Exercise of Discretion:**

The *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA) contains both mandatory and discretionary exceptions to disclosure. Sections 13 to 20 are the discretionary exceptions. Where Information Access Operations (IAO) has advised the head that a discretionary exception may apply, it is important that the head consider the possibility of releasing the information despite the fact that an exception may apply.

**Factors relevant to the exercise of discretion include:**



- the general purposes of the legislation: public bodies should make information available to the public; individuals should have access to personal information about themselves;
- the wording of the discretionary exception and the interests which the section attempts to balance;
- whether the individual's request could be satisfied by severing the record and by providing the applicant
- with as much information as is reasonably practicable;
- the historical practice of the public body with respect to the release of similar types of documents;
- the nature of the record and the extent to which the document is significant and/or sensitive to the public body;
- whether the disclosure of the information will increase public confidence in the operation of the public body;
- the age of the record;
- whether there is a sympathetic or compelling need to release materials;
- whether previous orders of the Commissioner have ruled that similar types of records or information should or should not be subject to disclosure; and
- when the policy advice exception is claimed, whether the decision to which the advice or recommendations relates has already been made.

Thank you,

Melissa Boyd, FOI Analyst  
Health/Education Team  
Information Access Operations

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Social Enterprise Strategy for BC  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:17:40 AM  
**Attachments:** SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BRIEF Minister SIMPSON FINAL DEC 14.pdf

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FYI

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**From:** Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX; Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Social Enterprise Strategy for BC

Meeting request in PDF.

---

**From:** Marika Albert [<mailto:marika@communitycouncil.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** [kfmader@scalecollaborative.ca](mailto:kfmader@scalecollaborative.ca); David LePage ([david@asiccc.ca](mailto:david@asiccc.ca))  
**Subject:** Social Enterprise Strategy for BC

Dear Honourable Shane Simpson,

It is exciting to see movement and intention for an inclusive economy that benefits all British Columbians, and the leadership that the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction is taking to make this happen. We believe that social enterprise and social impact ventures provide a key solution in enabling an innovative and inclusive economy. I have attached a letter which shares our ideas about how social enterprise and social impact ventures can support Ministry priorities.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Marika Albert

**Marika Albert, ext. 107**

Executive Director,

**Community Social Planning Council**

**Research - Insights - Solutions**

#216-852 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1H8

Tel: (250) 383-6166 ext. 107 | Fax: (250) 479-9411

**\*\* Please note: The Community Social Planning Council office will be closed from December 23 and will reopen on Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>. We hope you have a wonderful holiday season! \*\***

From: [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
To: [Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX](#)  
Cc: [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
Subject: Re: Special Olympics meeting request  
Date: Monday, December 18, 2017 10:38:28 AM

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Yes that's the one. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 18, 2017, at 10:36 AM, Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX <[Brenda.Tombs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brenda.Tombs@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Would this be it?

---

**From:** Rennert-May, Leya SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:36 AM  
**To:** Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Special Olympics meeting request

Hi Brenda,

I've attached the only meeting request I can find that references the Special Olympics. Is this the one you were looking for? If not, I'll continue digging a bit deeper...

**Leya Rennert-May**

A/Senior Correspondence Analyst | Executive Correspondence Services  
Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction  
Victoria, British Columbia  
**Phone: 778 698-7586**

---

**From:** Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** Rennert-May, Leya SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Special Olympics meeting request

Hi Leya,

Would you have the recent request from the folks at the Special Olympics by chance? We don't have the original request and s.22 . I was hoping you might have it filed somewhere? Let me know. Thanks!

Brenda

<mime-attachment>

**From:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX; Van Wensem, Casey SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Information Note - Welfare in Canada  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 4:04:36 PM

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Yes pls

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**From:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 4:02 PM  
**To:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Van Wensem, Casey SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Information Note - Welfare in Canada

Does this need to go onto MSS iPad?

Thanks,  
Val

---

**From:** Quigley, Shanna SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX; MacMillan, Karen SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Information Note - Welfare in Canada

Good afternoon,

Please find attached an information note the Minister regarding Welfare in Canada 2016.

Thank you,

*Shanna Quigley*

A/ Senior Executive Assistant  
To Deputy Minister Sheila Taylor  
Ministry of Social Development and  
Poverty Reduction  
778-698-7600

**From:** [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting Request: Poverty Reduction  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 4:13:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [image58cd56.PNG](#)  
[imagea372f4.PNG](#)  
[imagef62b4e.PNG](#)  
[image320a9d.PNG](#)  
[imageebf1b9.PNG](#)  
[LettertoRobinson\\_Dec182017.pdf](#)

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And another one.

---

**From:** Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 1:26 PM  
**To:** McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX  
**Cc:** Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX; Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting Request: Poverty Reduction

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**From:** info bcpovertyreduction [<mailto:info@bcpovertyreduction.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 1:23 PM  
**To:** Minister, MAH MAH:EX  
**Cc:** Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX  
**Subject:** Meeting Request: Poverty Reduction

December 18, 2017

Honourable Selina Robinson  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Government of British Columbia  
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Robinson,

I am writing on behalf of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, a broad-based network of over 400 organizations throughout British Columbia that have come together in the call for a strong and comprehensive poverty reduction plan with legislated targets and timelines. We are hoping that our concerns outlined here will be taken into consideration during your current budget deliberations and that you are available in January or February to meet with some of our representatives.

**First, we are thrilled to congratulate the government for your commitment to implement a poverty reduction plan for BC.** After almost a decade of calling for action to address the root causes of BC's high poverty rates, it is good to see a government paying attention to the evidence. When the cost of poverty -- \$8-9 billion per year -- is double that of a comprehensive poverty reduction plan, it is smart policy to invest in eliminating and preventing poverty. Strong poverty reduction policies have the potential to be both social and economic investments, saving lives and money in British Columbia.

As you know, a successful poverty reduction strategy requires a robust cross-ministerial approach. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will play a key role in determining the success of British Columbia's strategy. Given the current housing crisis throughout the province (reflected once again in the Budget Consultation report) and the long period since public housing efforts have been given prominence, we need to invest in building at least 10,000 units of low income affordable social housing per year. We also need to preserve and re-invest in existing affordable housing.

We are pleased to see the commitment in your mandate letter to "begin to

build 114,000 units of affordable market rental, non-profit, co-op, supported social housing and owner-purchase housing” and the previous budget’s investment in 1,700 affordable rental units over 4 years and 2,000 modular units for the homeless including supports. I understand that you are also working with Minister Simpson on a province-wide homelessness count and developing a homelessness action plan. These are critical elements of a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy and we look forward to seeing the data translate into more substantial investment in long-term social housing in the upcoming budget.

As your government has recognized, it is also vital to “amend the Residential Tenancy Act to provide stronger protections for renters, and provide additional resources to the Residential Tenancy Branch.” These measures need to include effective rent control by the rental unit. Furthermore, it is welcome to see your mandate to work with the Minister of Finance to tackle speculation within the housing market, a significant measure to address the high levels of inequality in BC.

Poverty is the result of a confluence of many issues, one of the most significant being lack of affordable housing. That is why all the pillars of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition’s proposed strategy must be implemented together. Access to an enriching education is severely harmed by a lack of stable housing. A raise in welfare rates without rent control will end up in the pockets of landlords. A universal childcare program is not of benefit to a parent whose children have been taken into care due to insufficient housing.

Our province cannot afford poverty and inequality. We need urgent action and funding to address it.

**Please let us know when you would be able to meet with a small delegation from our group in Vancouver or Victoria in January or February to discuss these issues and the way forward.** Or, if you would prefer, you are welcome to attend one of our upcoming steering committee meetings. Considering the diversity and expertise of our Coalition’s membership, we feel that we could be a valuable resource in the development of policy to fulfill your mandate “to tackle poverty and inequality, create good-paying jobs in every corner of the province, and ensure people from every background have the opportunity to reach their full potential.”

Thank you for your time and commitment to reducing poverty and eliminating homelessness in our beautiful province. We look forward to working together for a poverty free BC.

I wish you a happy and restful holiday season with your family and friends.

Sincerely,

Trish Garner  
Community Organizer  
BC Poverty Reduction Coalition

Cc’ed Shane Simpson

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From: [Squance, Leah SDPR:EX](#)  
To: [Dan Baxter](#)  
Cc: [Hold - 181102 - Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX](#); [Tombs, Brenda SDPR:EX](#)  
Subject: RE: Follow up- Social Development & Poverty Reduction  
Date: Thursday, December 21, 2017 2:05:00 PM

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Hi Dan,

Thanks for taking the time for a quick chat. As discussed, here's the link to the info about community meetings. Please feel free to share widely with your networks and encourage participation.  
<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/bcpovertyreduction/community-meetings/>

Also on that site, we have a portal for online engagement. We'd love to receive feedback from the business community on best ideas for poverty reduction.

For your info, Minister Simpson will be attending the community meetings in Prince Rupert, Terrace, and Smithers on January 11, 12 and 13. If you have any suggestions about setting up meetings with local Chambers while we're there, we'd love to hear them. I've copied my colleagues Jayne and Brenda for their info here as well.

s.22 but it would be great to connect with you in early January for a bit of a longer chat or meeting to talk about next steps.

Thanks again & happy holidays to you!

Leah

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

From: Dan Baxter [<mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org>]  
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 1:51 PM  
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX  
Subject: RE: Follow up- Social Development & Poverty Reduction

Hi Leah,

Sorry I missed your call this morning. I got your voicemail. I have a conference call from 2pm to 2:30pm, but I'm free after that. Hope that works for you.

Cheers,  
Dan

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

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX [<mailto:Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca>]  
Sent: December-19-17 12:44 PM  
To: Dan Baxter <[dbaxter@bcchamber.org](mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org)>  
Subject: Re: Follow up- Social Development & Poverty Reduction

Great, thanks so much.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 19, 2017, at 11:33 AM, Dan Baxter <[dbaxter@bcchamber.org](mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org)> wrote:  
>  
> Hi Leah,

>

> My Thursday is still fairly wide open. I believe I only have a 12pm conference call, but that's it. You should have both my direct line and cell number on my business card, so just give me a call when it works for you.

>

> Cheers,

> Dan

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX [<mailto:Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca>]

> Sent: December-19-17 11:07 AM

> To: Dan Baxter <[dbaxter@bcchamber.org](mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org)>

> Subject: Re: Follow up- Social Development & Poverty Reduction

>

> Thanks Dan, I am in planning meetings most of Weds and Thursday but hope to reach you Thursday if you are flexible about timing.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

> On Dec 18, 2017, at 2:33 PM, Dan Baxter <[dbaxter@bcchamber.org](mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org)<<mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org>>> wrote:

>

> Hi Leah,

>

> Sorry for the late reply. **s.22** and just getting caught up on email today. I'm free Wednesday (morning), Thursday (all day) or Friday (morning), if still want to chat.

>

> Cheers,

> Dan

>

> From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX [<mailto:Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca>]

> Sent: December-14-17 5:04 PM

> To: Dan Baxter <[dbaxter@bcchamber.org](mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org)<<mailto:dbaxter@bcchamber.org>>>

> Subject: Follow up- Social Development & Poverty Reduction

>

> Hi Dan,

>

> I wanted to do a bit of follow up with you after our October meeting and subsequent letter we sent Val last month. I'm hoping you and I could have a chat by phone in the next couple of days, would you have any time available? Please let me know what would work for you and I'll try to work around your schedule. I only have a couple of commitments tomorrow and Monday is wide open.

>

> Thanks very much & hope to chat soon.

>

> Cheers,

> Leah

>

> Leah Squance

> Senior Ministerial Assistant to Hon. Shane Simpson Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction

> C: 250-882-1445 W: 250-387-1428

> E: [leah.squance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:leah.squance@gov.bc.ca)<<mailto:leah.squance@gov.bc.ca>>

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