

FW: FINAL PACKAGE: FOIPPA legislation materials

From: Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>
To: Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX
<George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX
<Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, s.22 - Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX
<Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX
<Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 18, 2021 4:50:13 PM PDT
Attachments: KMQA FOIPPA amendments - 18Oct2021 - FINAL.docx, MLA kit_FOIPPA
amendments_18Oct2021_Final to MLAs.docx, 2021CITZ0048-001990.pdf

From: "Williams, Susan GCPE:EX" <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>

Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 at 1:15 PM

To: GCPE Comm Directors <PABDirectors@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Comm Managers
<GCPECM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: "Harris, Megan GCPE:EX" <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, "Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX"
<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, "Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX" <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FINAL PACKAGE: FOIPPA legislation materials

Hi all,

Here's the package for the FOIPPA legislation, all embargoed until the legislation is introduced in the House today and the release is sent (likely around 2pm).

Attached you will find:

- Final news release with backgrounder
- KM/Q&A
- MLA kit

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks

Susan

Susan Williams (*she/her*)

Communications Manager | Citizens' Services

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Cell: (250) 812-8513

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2021CITZ0048-001990
Oct. 18, 2021

Ministry of Citizens' Services

Amendments strengthen access to information, protect people's privacy

VICTORIA – British Columbia is taking important steps to strengthen B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) to deliver better, more inclusive services to people, businesses and public-sector organizations.

"The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we live, work, connect with loved ones and access the services we need. Today, people can safely talk to their doctor via Zoom, learn online and do business faster," said Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services. "These amendments help people continue to access the services they need faster, while ensuring their privacy is protected. We're making changes today to keep pace with advancements in technology and provide the level of service that people expect in the digital era."

With input from thousands of people, businesses, Indigenous communities and public bodies, proposed changes to FOIPPA will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for thousands of people who request information each year.

Highlights of the proposed amendments include:

- updating FOIPPA's data-residency provisions so public bodies can use modern tools while continuing to protect personal information;
- enhancing public-sector privacy protections and increasing accountability by implementing mandatory privacy-breach reporting;
- introducing a modest application fee for non-personal freedom of information (FOI) requests; and
- demonstrating the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous Peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and removing non-inclusive language.

Data-residency requirement changes will bring B.C. in line with other jurisdictions by removing restrictions that prevent access to digital tools and technologies. These changes will increase access to technologies and streamline service delivery for public bodies. 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.

"This is a positive development from government that B.C.'s tech industry welcomes," said Jill Tipping, president and CEO, BC Tech Association. "The changes to B.C.'s data residency requirements will allow local companies to leverage cutting-edge technology to help B.C.'s public sector deliver the modern tools that citizens expect with the privacy protections they need."

"UBC welcomes these proposed amendments. They will substantially increase the privacy and

security of personal data with more robust and resilient services by allowing us to select the most secure and effective solutions,” said Jennifer Burns, associate vice-president, information technology and chief information officer, University of British Columbia. “We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with government on changes that will boost the competitiveness and efficiency of B.C. post-secondary institutions while helping protect our students, faculty and staff.”

B.C. is strengthening privacy protection through added privacy-protection controls to safeguard people’s information, while remaining transparent and accountable. Enhancements to mandatory breach reporting require privacy management programs and clarify requirements for public bodies’ privacy impact assessments, while proposed amendments will increase penalties for offences under the act and introduce new penalties, such as for knowingly accessing information without authorization.

“As an organization that values innovation in order to maintain the highest level of care to patients, Vancouver Coastal Health welcomes improvements made to the data residency requirements within the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act,” said Steven Tam, general counsel and chief privacy officer, Vancouver Coastal Health. “These changes not only provide more flexibility and opportunity to implement the best available technologies to improve health-care services, but they also enable us to access the most robust technology solutions to secure sensitive health-care data and protect patient privacy.”

Proposed amendments also reflect the Province’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous Peoples, adding cultural protections and removing non-inclusive language, which aligns with B.C.’s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. The act has also been reviewed through a critical, gender-based analysis plus (GBA+) lens to make the act more inclusive and equitable.

Quotes:

Jazz Pabla, information services director, City of Kelowna –

“Local governments are being asked to deliver services effectively and efficiently with the best citizen experience possible. With changes to the data residency policy, this will allow organizations to meet the need of our customers while still protecting our digital assets.”

Kelly Pollack, executive director, Focused Education Resources –

“Focused Education Resources recognizes the learning environment is moving more online each year. These changes to the data residency requirement will increase access to learning resources and give educators more ability to customize learning in their classroom for students, while still protecting students’ and educators’ personal information.”

Quick Facts:

- Introduced in 1993, FOIPPA applies to more than 2,900 public bodies in B.C. and keeps government accountable to the public and protects the privacy of British Columbians.
- Apart from minor amendments in 2019, FOIPPA has not substantially changed since 2011.
- The Province processes more than 10,000 FOI requests annually, with the volume of

requests increasing by more than 40% over a two-year period, reaching an all-time high of more than 13,000 requests in 2019-20 (13,055).

- The average cost to government for processing a single FOI request is \$3,000, though some large, complex requests can exceed this. Fees to produce records are collected in fewer than 2% of FOI requests.
- Approximately, 40% of requests are for personal records, which people are not charged for. The proposed amendments will not change this.

Learn More:

For more information on FOIPPA, including sections of the act in categories about freedom of information, protection of privacy and the powers of the information and privacy commissioner, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=349D4E81633F4E49AEAE121F1CC058DB>

A backgrounder follows.

Contact:

Ministry of Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public
Engagement
778 974-5825

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: news.gov.bc.ca/connect

BACKGROUND

For Immediate Release
2021CITZ0048-001990
Oct. 18, 2021

Ministry of Citizens' Services

Extensive consultation informs information access, privacy protection amendments

Thousands of people, businesses, Indigenous leaders and organizations, and the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) provided valuable input into proposed amendments to B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). The Province also received recommendations from two all-party special committees of the legislative assembly.

Consultations through 2017-19 helped identify and understand stakeholder concerns and priorities. Between April and August 2021, the Ministry of Citizens' Services engaged with stakeholder groups to confirm previous input and present proposed improvements based on their feedback, including gaining an understanding of how potential changes may affect their organizations. Participants included B.C. public-sector bodies, provincial government ministries, Indigenous groups, the B.C. tech sector, and the public. Feedback was also received through roundtable meetings and presentations in the broader public sector, such as post-secondary institutions, local governments and health authorities.

From June 15 to July 15, 2021, a govTogetherBC survey asked people how, or if, their thoughts on access to government information and the protection of privacy have changed with the pandemic's shift to more government services being delivered online. The questions focused on how individuals access information, data residency, the freedom of information process, reporting privacy breaches, and offences and penalties. More than 1,700 individuals responded.

Engagement with Indigenous leaders and communities to better understand how reconciliation efforts can be supported through improved access to information and privacy was a priority. This work continues and has included meetings with Indigenous organizations, discussions with Treaty First Nations representatives, and a 2021 questionnaire sent to more than 200 First Nations leaders in communities throughout the province. This builds on similar engagement with Indigenous community leaders and Treaty First Nations in winter 2018-19.

Proposed amendments were also informed through more than a dozen meetings with the OIPC between April and August 2021.

A summary of the 2021 engagement, including public surveys, is available online:
<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/impact/information-access-and-privacy-2021—results>

Contact:

Ministry of Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public
Engagement
778 974-5825

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: news.gov.bc.ca/connect

House Schedule - Tues Oct 19 - AM

From: Iliffe, Liam GCPE:EX <Liam.Iliffe@gov.bc.ca>
To: GCPE Comm Directors <PABDirectors@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Comm Managers <GCPECM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Faust, Marnie L GCPE:EX <Marnie.Faust@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Justin GCPE:EX <Justin.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 9:20:35 AM PDT
Attachments: image004.emz, image001.png

House Schedule
October 19, 2021, Tuesday
2nd Session, 42nd Parliament
Morning

Section B, Chamber of the Assembly

Routine Business

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Prayer/Reflection – Opposition

Introductions

2 Minute Statements

Opposition

Doug Routley Mel Schmidt Remembered

Opposition

Janet Routledge Take a Hike

Opposition

Adam Walker Streamkeepers

QP

Orders of the Day

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Second Reading, Private Member Bill PR 402 – United Church of Canada Amendment Act, MLA Kelli Paddon

Opposition

Cont'd Second Reading – Bill 22: Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, Attorney General, Hon. David Eby
Mike Bernier (15 minutes remaining)

Second Reading – Bill 22: FOIPPA Amendment Act, Hon. Lisa Beare

Opposition

Brenda Bailey

Megan Dykeman

Chair Schedule

10:00 – 11:00 Speaker Chouhan

11:00 – 12:00 Deputy Speaker Chandra Herbert

Question Period *Whipped*	Duty Shift #1 11:00am – 12:00pm
All Members in Chamber	Bob D'Eith Adrian Dix Mable Elmore George Heyman Bowinn Ma Selina Robinson Janet Routledge Niki Sharma

House adjourns at Noon.

Chair Schedule

10:00 – 11:00 Speaker Chouhan

11:00 – 12:00 Deputy Speaker Chandra Herbert

BiV: Freedom of Information and Privacy Association demands BC NDP withdraw legislation

From: tno@gov.bc.ca, Today's News Online GCPE:EX <TNO@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 22, 2021 11:04:16 AM PDT

BiV

Jeremy Hainsworth

2021-10-22 03:19

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Re: Media Request: FOIPPA - comments on screen shots

From: Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>
To: Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 7:49:04 PM PDT

If you need the full KM's and QA, let me know.

On Oct 22, 2021, at 7:29 PM, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks Kerry, yeah, I think the angle of the story is going to be challenging for us regardless.
Thanks for the info though!

Cheers,

T

On Oct 22, 2021, at 7:08 PM, Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX
<Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Incase helpful

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX" <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>
Date: October 22, 2021 at 7:06:26 PM PDT
To: "Williams, Susan GCPE:EX" <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX" <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>, "Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX" <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>, "Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX" <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>, "Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX" <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Media Request: FOIPPA - comments on screen shots

Hi Susan,

Response approved as edited:

Recommendation

- On December 15, 2017, an applicant requested screenshots of cellphones and/or computers used by ministers, ministerial assistants and senior staff across government from 2017.
- These are not records that government has ever created or kept. In order to comply with the request, two programs were created specifically to compile the data needed.
- These records were sent to the applicant on May 26, 2021, as ordered by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and will be posted on the Open Information website by October 26, 2021.

Kassandra Lawal

From: Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 2:51 PM
To: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>; Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Media Request: FOIPPA - comments on screen shots

For your review and approval... CTV media request regarding Premier's comments on requests for his screen.

Reporter

Jon Woodward, Reporter
CTV News (BC)
Jon.Woodward@bellmedia.ca
604-351-1831

Deadline ASAP

Request

Jon Woodward and Bhinder Sajan say they are confused by something that John Horgan said yesterday -- he mentioned that there were requests for his screen of his office or screenshots of his phone.

They can't find any disclosure relating to that on B.C.'s Open Government website and want copies of the requests that have been made for those items?

Recommendation

- On December 15, 2017, an applicant requested screenshots of cellphones and/or computers used by ministers, ministerial assistants and senior staff across government from 2017.
- In order to comply with the request, two programs were created specifically to compile the data needed.
- These records were sent to the applicant on May 26, 2021, as ordered by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and will be posted on the Open Information website by October 26, 2021.

CHAN: Mills/Campbell - FOI fees

From: tno@gov.bc.ca, Today's News Online GCPE:EX <TNO@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 25, 2021 12:51:47 PM PDT

CHAN (Global BC - Vancouver)

Global BC Morning News

2021-10-24 09:11

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Government House Business for Oct. 27

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
To: LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINAST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Ministerial Advisors <LPMAs@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Executive Assistants <LPEAS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Administrative Coordinators <LPACS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Support Staff <LPSUPPORT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Executive Office <LPPOEO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Premiers Vancouver Office <LPPVO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Deputy Minister <LPPODM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PREM Directors <LP PREM Directors <PREMDIR@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINADV@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 6:44:27 PM PDT
Attachments: image001.jpg

Hi all,

Today, two bills completed Second Reading debate – Bill 22 FOIPPA & Bill 23 Forestry – and are now ready for the next stage of legislative debate. Bill 25 Education will continue over into tomorrow. A great opportunity for our members to speak to an important piece of legislation.

Tomorrow we will also kick off Second Reading on Bill 24 and Bill 26. Once those finish, it's onto committee stage debate for Bill 22. The Election Act is set to be introduced in the morning.

Please see below for tomorrow's schedule and do reach out with any questions or concerns.

WEDNESDAY

MORNING

Cabinet

Private Member Meetings

AFTERNOON

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 27 – Election Amendment Act – MDE (AG)

SECOND READING

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

Bill 24 – Environmental Management Act – MGH (ENV)

Bill 26 – Municipal Statutes Amendment Act – MJO (MUNI)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 22 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (CITZ)

Will Maartman
Senior Ministerial Advisor to the Government House Leader
Office of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778-679-4952

WEDNESDAY

MORNING

Cabinet

Private Member Meetings

AFTERNOON

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 27 – Election Amendment Act – MDE (AG)

SECOND READING

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

Bill 24 – Environmental Management Act – MGH (ENV)

Bill 26 – Municipal Statutes Amendment Act – MJO (MUNI)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 22 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (CITZ)

November 9, 2021

Roly Russell

MLA for the Boundary, South Okanagan, and Similkameen

Via: Email roly.russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Re: Bill 22 Transparency. "If it can be destroyed by the truth, it deserves to be destroyed by the truth." — Carl Sagan

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. The NDP said they 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 NDP 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, a former 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 am 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 am asking you and your colleagues to reconsider these actions:

- Recommend that the NDP 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 (FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT) that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees.

Please help all BC Residents regain trust in public bodies by being more transparent instead of taking a step backwards.

Yours truly,

s.22

CC: Shirley Bond, John Horgan, Mike Farnsworth, Todd Stone, letters@castanet.net
tim@castanetkamloops.net Via E-Mail,

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

FOUNDING HEAD OFFICE
209 - 345 Chief Alex Thomas Way
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Tel: 250-828-9746
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Web: www.ubcic.bc.ca

November 23, 2021

The Honourable John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia
Via email only: premier@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Citizens' Services
Via email only: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

OPEN LETTER: Call for the Immediate Withdrawal of Bill 22, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021*

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Beare,

On October 18, 2021, your government introduced amendments to British Columbia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) through Bill 22. We have learned that Bill 22 is quickly proceeding through the legislature and is anticipated to receive Royal Assent before the end of the current legislative session on November 25th. However, the bill in its current form fails to uphold First Nations' unique rights of access to information as many of the proposed amendments will create new barriers for First Nations requiring access to provincial government records to substantiate their historical grievances against the Crown. Further, several proposed amendments disregard significant concerns we identified in formal submissions to the public engagement process, and introduce measures about which we were never informed, contravening Article 19 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration), and your government's legal obligations under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA).

We call on your government now to withdraw Bill 22 and establish a process of substantive engagement with Indigenous governing bodies affected by the FIPPA to ensure that transparency, openness, and fairness are enhanced and First Nations' rights under the UN Declaration are upheld.

The right to access information is a fundamental component of First Nations' efforts to resolve historical land-related grievances, such as specific claims. Because First Nations are required to produce a wide range of records to substantiate their land claims and historical land-related grievances against the Crown, Freedom of Information has direct impacts on the ability of First

Nations to achieve justice through government mechanisms of redress, a right articulated in Article 28 of the UN Declaration.

In April 2018, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs made a formal submission to the Ministry of Citizens' Services' engagement process in which we identified key barriers First Nations routinely experience when attempting to obtain provincial government records through Freedom of Information, including prohibitive fees and the denial of requests for fee waivers, prolonged delays, overly broad applications of exceptions to disclosure, widespread failures to create, retain, and transfer records, and the exclusion of subsidiaries from duties of disclosure. We emphasized that the barriers faced by First Nations seeking information access must be specifically and systematically targeted, such that rights to redress are advanced and protected.

The provisions in Bill 22 ignore our concerns and further entrench barriers to access. The introduction of an application fee for all Freedom of Information requests will disproportionately harm First Nations requesters since they experience higher levels of poverty and often lack resource capacity. Your characterization of the new fee as "modest" displays astounding ignorance and insensitivity since legal processes of redress for historical losses require First Nations to make multiple formal requests for records from various public bodies in order to obtain evidence. It is nonsensical that a government publicly committed to reconciliation, transparency, and accountability would impose further financial hardships on First Nations who require access to provincial government records to substantiate claims of government wrongdoing. The bill also prevents the Information and Privacy Commissioner from waiving the application fee if the request is in the public interest.

It is especially egregious that the introduction of an application fee was never discussed with First Nations or their representative organizations, and as such contravenes Article 19 of the UN Declaration which requires governments to consult and cooperate in good faith with Indigenous peoples to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them. The provincial government's selective application of Article 19 violates the DRIPA and betrays a colonial attitude toward its implementation.

Bill 22 introduces no penalties for public bodies who exceed legislated timelines for providing requested information, which will do nothing to address delays and the under-resourcing of the information management system which accounts for it. The bill continues to exclude subsidiaries from mandatory disclosure, compromising First Nations' abilities to obtain complete historical records required for their claims to succeed.

Alarmingly, the bill removes the Office of the Premier and Executive Council Operations from the list of public bodies covered by the FIPPA, and fails to create, enforce, or oversee a 'duty to document'. This amounts to willful obstruction and hampers First Nations seeking access to information. While specific claims are historical grievances that occurred at least fifteen years prior to the filing of a claim, this bill effectively absolves your office of any legal responsibility to disclose records related to the actions or decisions which may be subject to future claims. The same can be said about the bill's failure to make it mandatory for public bodies to create records of all actions and decisions, something the provincial NDP championed when it was in

opposition and about which it now, holding a majority in the legislature, seems to regard with disdain.

Advocates for government accountability and transparency, organizations committed to human rights, and the provincial Information and Privacy Commissioner are condemning this bill, calling it a highly unethical step backward. The amendments introduced through Bill 22 as discussed above will have concrete, negative impacts on First Nations' access to justice. This is a fundamental concern for the communities we represent.

We reiterate our call for you to withdraw Bill 22 and take immediate steps to make meaningful, direct dialogue with First Nations a priority. This work must be guided by transparency, due process, and full enactment of the government-to-government approaches articulated within the UN Declaration and outlined in DRIPA.

On behalf of the UNION OF BC INDIAN CHIEFS



Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
President



Chief Don Tom
Vice-President



Kukpi7 Judy Wilson
Secretary-Treasurer

CC: UBCIC Chiefs Council
BC Assembly of First Nations
First Nations Summit
Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Fwd: CBC request/Greens and Liberal criticism

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
To: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2021 6:31:10 PM PST

On Nov 23, 2021, at 6:24 PM, MEERA BAINS <meera.bains@cbc.ca> wrote:

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

Liberals say ramming thru of Foi bill, forestry bill, and greens say basically same thing and say bypassing democratic process.

On Tue, Nov 23, 2021 at 6:21 PM Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Meera! I hit send too soon. What bills specifically?

Tara Gostelow
GCPE Media Relations Director
250 893-7136
Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca

On Nov 23, 2021, at 6:17 PM, Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Meera! It's never a bother - let me check and I'll get back to you ASAP 👍

Tara Gostelow
GCPE Media Relations Director
250 893-7136
Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca

On Nov 23, 2021, at 6:02 PM, MEERA BAINS <meera.bains@cbc.ca> wrote:

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

Hi Tara,

Sorry to bother you. Who do I contact to get reaction or a statement on the BC liberals and Greens releases criticizing the BC gov for pushing through controversial bills.

Please let me know. I am doing a story for morning radio.

Thanks

--

Meera Bains
CBC Radio-Canada
Reporter/Editor
cell: s.22
twitter: @meerakati
meera.bains@cbc.ca<mailto:meera.bains@cbc.ca>

--

@Meerakati
Meera Bains
CBC News
Preferred pronouns:she/her

Re: CBC request/Greens and Liberal criticism

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
To: May, Ed LASS:EX <Ed.May@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Hannah, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Hannah@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2021 6:52:22 PM PST

I'm not sending anything! Thanks guys

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 23, 2021, at 6:49 PM, May, Ed <Ed.May@leg.bc.ca> wrote:

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

Don't send in, however... this is an initial draft for discussion.

From: May, Ed
Sent: November 23, 2021 6:48 PM
To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Hannah, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Hannah@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: CBC request/Greens and Liberal criticism
Perhaps something along the lines of...

s.13

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2021 6:40 PM
To: Hannah, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Hannah@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: May, Ed <Ed.May@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: CBC request/Greens and Liberal criticism
Gents, any suggestions on 1-2 bullets to send back to reporter?
W

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2021 6:38 PM
To: McAndrews, Caroline GCPE:EX <Caroline.McAndrews@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: CBC request/Greens and Liberal criticism
Hi both – are you able to address request below? Meera (Press Gallery) doing radio story tmrw.
PO suggested you folks since MMF is House Leader.
Thoughts?
TG

From: MEERA BAINS <meera.bains@cbc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2021 6:24 PM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: CBC request/Greens and Liberal criticism

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

On Nov 23, 2021, at 6:02 PM, MEERA BAINS <meera.bains@cbc.ca> wrote:

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

Hi Tara,

Sorry to bother you. Who do I contact to get reaction or a statement on the BC liberals and Greens releases criticizing the BC gov for pushing through controversial bills. Liberals say ramming thru of Foir bill, forestry bill, and greens say basically same thing and say bypassing democratic process.

Please let me know. I am doing a story for morning radio.

Thanks

--

Meera Bains
CBC Radio-Canada
Reporter/Editor
cell: s.22
twitter: @meerakati
meera.bains@cbc.ca<<mailto:meera.bains@cbc.ca>>

--

@Meerakati
Meera Bains
CBC News
Preferred pronouns:she/her



Nak'azdli Whut'en

PO Box 1329 Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0
Telephone: (250) 996-7171 Fax: (250) 996-8010

November 24, 2021

The Honourable John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia
Via email only: premier@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Citizens' Services
Via email only: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Beare,

Re: UBCIC OPEN LETTER: Call for the Immediate Withdrawal of Bill 22, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021*

Please be advised that Nak'azdli Whut'en fully endorses the Union of BC Indian Chiefs' open letter to Premier John Horgan and Minister Lisa Beare calling for the immediate withdrawal of Bill 22, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021*.

The amendments introduced through Bill 22 as discussed in UBCIC's letter will have concrete, negative impacts on First Nations' access to justice regarding the fair resolution of their historical claims against the Crown. We insist that you withdraw the bill and take immediate steps to make meaningful, direct dialogue with First Nations a priority such that First Nations' rights as articulated in the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and outlined in BC's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* are fully upheld.

Sincerely,

Aileen Prince
Chief, Nak'azdli Whut'en

CC: UBCIC Chiefs Council
BC Assembly of First Nations
First Nations Summit Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

We challenge the future.

RE: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
To: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2021 8:33:43 AM PST

Got it, thanks Bhinder.

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

From: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2021 8:33 AM
To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

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

Hi there

Hoping to speak to the Minister on FOI legislation.

Thanks

B

Bhinder Sajan
BC Legislature Reporter, CTV Vancouver
250.418.5207
@BhinderSajan

Re: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

From: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>
To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>, Bowness, Lianne GCPE:EX <Lianne.Bowness@gov.bc.ca>, Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>, Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>, Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>, Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2021 8:42:36 AM PST

Thanks I just saw the MA. My emails wonky today.

Lindsay Byers

Press Secretary

Deputy Communications Director

Office of the Premier | Government of BC

P: [778.678.5539](tel:778.678.5539)

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021 8:41:10 AM

To: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Bowness, Lianne GCPE:EX <Lianne.Bowness@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

There is an EMBC update at 1130, yes.

From: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: November 25, 2021 8:39 AM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Bowness, Lianne GCPE:EX <Lianne.Bowness@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

Are you doing an update today?

Lindsay Byers

Press Secretary

Deputy Communications Director

Office of the Premier | Government of BC

P: [778.678.5539](tel:778.678.5539)

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021 8:34:39 AM

To: Bowness, Lianne GCPE:EX <Lianne.Bowness@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

Morning folks - heads up on scrum request for MLB today.
Deadline to request scrums is 9am ish today.
I'll let you know if further requests, otherwise will ask to handle as 1x1.

TG

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

From: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>

Sent: November 25, 2021 8:33 AM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>;
Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

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

Hi there

Hoping to speak to the Minister on FOI legislation.

Thanks

B

Bhinder Sajan

BC Legislature Reporter, CTV Vancouver

250.418.5207

@BhinderSajan

RE: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
To: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>
Cc: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2021 9:45:23 AM PST

Lol copy, thanks B! We'll be in touch.

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

From: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2021 9:45 AM
To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

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

Yes please!

Bhinder Sajan
BC Legislature Reporter, CTV Vancouver
250.418.5207
@BhinderSajan

On Nov 25, 2021, at 9:43 AM, Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Lol we're in the same boat - does below make sense?

You want to chat about the legislation itself (scope, details) with MLB if it's passed by scrum time?

s.22

TG

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

From: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2021 9:41 AM
To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

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

I want to know details if it'll pass but MMF if we don't know yet. Does that make sense? s.22

Bhinder Sajan
BC Legislature Reporter, CTV Vancouver

250.418.5207
@BhinderSajan

On Nov 25, 2021, at 9:29 AM, Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Bhinder,

Clarifying - you want to talk about the legislation itself, right? Fees etc?

I ask bc we've had some requests about process/passing legislation that have gone to MMF.

Just want to make sure I'm in the right realm.

TG

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

From: Sajan, Bhinder <Bhinder.Sajan@bellmedia.ca>

Sent: November 25, 2021 8:33 AM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay

PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX

<George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Scrum request Nov 25 Beare

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

Hi there

Hoping to speak to the Minister on FOI legislation.

Thanks

B

Bhinder Sajan

BC Legislature Reporter, CTV Vancouver

250.418.5207

@BhinderSajan

-

----- External Email: Please use caution when opening links and attachments / Courriel externe: Soyez prudent avec les liens et documents joints

----- External Email: Please use caution when opening links and attachments / Courriel externe: Soyez prudent avec les liens et documents joints



November 24, 2021

The Honourable John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia
Via email only: premier@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Citizens' Services
Via email only: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Beare,

Re: UBCIC OPEN LETTER: Call for the Immediate Withdrawal of Bill 22, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021*

Please be advised that Skawahlook First Nation fully endorses the Union of BC Indian Chiefs' open letter to Premier John Horgan and Minister Lisa Beare calling for the immediate withdrawal of Bill 22, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021*.

The amendments introduced through Bill 22 as discussed in UBCIC's letter will have concrete, negative impacts on First Nations' access to justice regarding the fair resolution of their historical claims against the Crown. We insist that you withdraw the bill and take immediate steps to make meaningful, direct dialogue with First Nations a priority such that First Nations' rights as articulated in the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and outlined in BC's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* are fully upheld.

In Unity,


Chief Maureen J. Chapman

CC: UBCIC Chiefs Council
BC Assembly of First Nations
First Nations Summit Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

FW: OIC & LG Schedule - Nov 24

From: Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hannah, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Hannah@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 26, 2021 9:30:36 AM PST

Please see the second item. s.13

Sage (she/her)
778-678-0832

From: "Dubuc, Michelle PREM:EX" <Michelle.Dubuc@gov.bc.ca>

Date: Friday, November 26, 2021 at 9:19 AM

To: Sage <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, "Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX" <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: OIC & LG Schedule - Nov 24

Hello again – another update for you – since RA occurred yesterday, I've been instructed to move the below for same day release today. I'm told no comms on either – s.12; s.13 , so wanted to flag for you. If you have any concerns, can you please let me know no later than noon today?

s.12; s.14

Many thanks!
Michelle Dubuc
OIC Coordinator
Cabinet Operations
778 974 5080

she/her

From: Dubuc, Michelle PREM:EX

Sent: November 25, 2021 9:20 AM

To: Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: OIC & LG Schedule - Nov 24

Good morning – a couple more updates to timings for OICs approved yesterday:

s.12; s.14

Best,
Michelle Dubuc
OIC Coordinator
Cabinet Operations
778 974 5080
she/her

From: Dubuc, Michelle PREM:EX

Sent: November 23, 2021 1:32 PM

To: Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: OIC & LG Schedule - Nov 24

Good afternoon – as promised, below is the late addition to tomorrow's OICs. Also an update to last week's table – I've been advised the NR to extend the s.12 is now scheduled for 1pm Thursday Nov 25.

Item #	LegCo #	Description	Cabinet Approved	Special Timing Request	Proposed date (timing) for LG signing	Who Advised/ requested
--------	---------	-------------	------------------	------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------

From: Dubuc, Michelle PREM:EX

Sent: November 19, 2021 4:30 PM

To: Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Miller, Amy PREM:EX <Amy.Miller@gov.bc.ca>; Gervais, Monica PREM:EX <Monica.Gervais@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: OIC & LG Schedule - Nov 24

Hi Sage & Rick – please find attached the OIC disposition table for Nov 24 Cabinet. There are a few new holds and a couple of rushes – note that s.12 is still confirming timing.

Note we are also expecting a late agenda addition – I will confirm those details with you early next week.

There are also three holds from Nov 17 Cabinet indicated at the bottom of the document – two are to be released next week.

Lastly, just an update from Nov 17 Cabinet: s.12

was deferred

to a future meeting – I will include it again when it's rescheduled.

As always, don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions or requested updates to timing.

Hope you have a great weekend.

Best,

Michelle Dubuc

OIC Coordinator

Cabinet Operations

778 974 5080

she/her

OOP-2021-15447 – Records

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

From: s.22

Sent: November 7, 2021 9:27 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Bill 22

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

Premier John Horgan,

I am in agreement with Colin Gabelmann, Centre for Law and Democracy, BC Library Association and others and oppose the introduction of Bill 22.

Please withdraw this Bill and recognize the role of all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process.

For democracy to resist the rise of right-wing anti-democratic movements people need to believe their government supports an open and transparent attitude towards democratic decision making.

Regards,

s.22

From: s.22
Sent: November 8, 2021 11:06 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: updating BC privacy legislation

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

Please respond, as NO response received to date.
Thanks

s.22
(BC Taxpayer)
Looking forward to your response.

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

From:s.22
Date: Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 1:07 PM
Subject: updating BC privacy legislation
To: Premier <premier@gov.bc.ca>

Why is this Govt NOT listening to the BC Privacy Commissioner for amendments to BC Privacy legislation?

yes, the privacy legislation needs to be updated but NOT to benefit Govts and business and make it more difficult and costly for public to submit FOI requests.

Public is fed up with Govt and business attempting to hide information from public.
Thanks.

s.22
(BC Taxpayer)
Looking forward to your response.

From: s.22
Sent: November 9, 2021 11:58 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fw: Bill 22 Transparency Amendments

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

Subject: Bill 22 Transparency Amendments

"If it can be destroyed by the truth, it deserves to be destroyed by the truth." — Carl Sagan
This is the 6th time since I have emailed you Roly since March 15th you have yet to respond to any of my emails. I thought you represented the constituents in your area? Please see attached. I thank you in advance for the Auto-Reply.

**PDF document attached to email, see document labelled 'OOP-2021-15447
Attachment 1 - s.22 ' for copy.**

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: November 9, 2021 12:07 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Bill 22 Transparency Amendments

[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: November 9, 2021 11:41 AM
To: Russell, Roly FLNR:EX <Roly.Russell@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bond.MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Todd.Stone@mla.leg.bc.ca; letters@castanet.net; tim@castanetkamloops.net
Subject: Bill 22 Transparency Amendments

"If it can be destroyed by the truth, it deserves to be destroyed by the truth." — Carl Sagan
This is the 6th time since I have emailed you Roly since March 15th you have yet to respond to any of my emails. I thought you represented the constituents in your area? Please see attached. I thank you in advance for the Auto-Reply.

**PDF document attached to email, see document labelled 'OOP-2021-15447
Attachment 2 - s.22 ' for copy.**

NOTE - attachments #1 and #2 are identical but were attached to different emails

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: November 10, 2021 8:51 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: FOI & Transparency

[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: November 10, 2021 8:50 AM
To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Mercier.MLA, Andrew <Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI & Transparency

Hey we all supported a few draconian impositions on our freedoms during covid...it was fair game but you are overstepping now. This is a bit eerie, if you know what I mean.

A quote from the legislature/Sun columnist: Or as Opposition MLA Mike de Jong characterized the minister's argument: "We want you to grant us this power but I refuse to engage in a discussion about how we might use this power."

Suppressing the public's ability to hold government to account and obtain information is frightening.

s.22

From:s.22

Sent: November 10, 2021 11:51 AM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

[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 been a BC NDP supporter all of my adult life. 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.s.22

s.22

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.

Though a life-long NDP supporter, 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

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: November 16, 2021 7:38 AM

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

Cc: GCIO Chief Information Officer CITZ:EX <LCTZ.ChiefInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Krista CITZ:EX <Krista.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Reed, Matt CITZ:EX <Matt.Reed@gov.bc.ca>; Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>; Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Ritchie, CJ CITZ:EX <CJ.Ritchie@gov.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>; CITZ Deputy Minister, CITZ:EX <CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Poll on Bill 22: Out of step with public opinion

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

News Release

Bill 22: Out of step with public opinion

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 68 of 97 to/à Page 72 of 97

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Copyright

From: s.22

Sent: November 19, 2021 7:21 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: re: Politicians Folly

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

Mr Whorgan, thank goodness the province doesn't have to rely on the "speedy decisive actions" taken by provincial and federal politicians. No state of emergency for days, 120 military here after 6 days, no relief yet for Lytton victims, still no payment for restaurants that supplied food for fire evacuees and now gasoline at 30 litres per fillup----just to name a few. Kudos to the first responders (SAR) and Agassiz Fire Dept for their response to the slides trapping people between Agassiz and Hope----we would have still been waiting for your government to respond. Your priorities of FOI legislation, a new forestry regime (or should one credit the Sierra Club), just one crap show after another reminding everyone of Don Quixote charging at windmills. No Opposition in sight just weak ministers pushing a preset Socialist agenda. We will be lucky if anything is left of this province when you are through but maybe the continuous screwups will prove to be your demise--one can only hope. Please continue to leave Farnworth out front as he is great example of your ineptitude. Proud of our s.22 people in this mess, regards s.22

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: November 22, 2021 9:08 PM
To: stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Subject: FOI fee threatens 'Indigenous Peoples

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

<https://indiginews.com/vancouver-island/proposed-foi-fee-threat-to-indigenous-peoples-families-and-communities>

OPINION: B.C.'s proposed FOI fee threatens 'Indigenous Peoples, families and communities'

Fees could make it harder for small outlets like IndigiNews to justify filing shot-in-the-dark info requests — like the one that led to our birth alerts investigation, writes reporter Anna McKenzie.

Anna McKenzie, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
Nov 18, 2021

Support this work. Tell a friend.

As an Indigenous mom, journalist and B.C. resident, I'm concerned about the bill recently tabled by the B.C. government, which would introduce an application fee for (general) freedom of information request (FOI).

From: s.22

Sent: November 23, 2021 10:18 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Stewart Phillip (President) <president@ubcic.bc.ca>; regionalchief@bcfn.ca; maureen.buchan <maureen.buchan@bcfn.ca>; cbraker@fns.bc.ca; Andrea Glickman <andrea@ubcic.bc.ca>; Judy Wilson <s.22

s.22

; Don Tom <s.22

; s.22

s.22

; Morgan Chapman <mchapman@thehavlikgroup.com>; Robyn Laba

s.22

; s.22

mabrampoint@outlook.com; ccasimer@fns.bc.ca; Lydia Hwitsum <lhwitsum@fns.bc.ca>;

rphillips@fns.bc.ca; Ellena Neel <eneel@ubcic.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX

<Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rustad.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>;

Chant, Susie LASS:EX <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX

<Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX

<Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX

<Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: OPEN LETTER: Call for the Immediate Withdrawal of Bill 22, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

Importance: High

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

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Beare,

On October 18, 2021, your government introduced amendments to British Columbia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) through Bill 22. We have learned that Bill 22 is quickly proceeding through the legislature and is anticipated to receive Royal Assent before the end of the current legislative session on November 25th. However, the bill in its current form fails to uphold First Nations' unique rights of access to information as many of the proposed amendments will create new barriers for First Nations requiring access to provincial government records to substantiate their historical grievances against the Crown. Further, several proposed amendments disregard significant concerns we identified in formal submissions to the public engagement process, and introduce measures about which we were never informed, contravening Article 19 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration), and your government's legal obligations under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA).

We call on your government now to withdraw Bill 22 and establish a process of substantive engagement with Indigenous governing bodies affected by the FIPPA to

ensure that transparency, openness, and fairness are enhanced and First Nations' rights under the UN Declaration are upheld.

The right to access information is a fundamental component of First Nations' efforts to resolve historical land-related grievances, such as specific claims. Because First Nations are required to produce a wide range of records to substantiate their land claims and historical land-related grievances against the Crown, Freedom of Information has direct impacts on the ability of First Nations to achieve justice through government mechanisms of redress, a right articulated in Article 28 of the UN Declaration.

In April 2018, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs made a formal submission to the Ministry of Citizens' Services' engagement process in which we identified key barriers First Nations routinely experience when attempting to obtain provincial government records through Freedom of Information, including prohibitive fees and the denial of requests for fee waivers, prolonged delays, overly broad applications of exceptions to disclosure, widespread failures to create, retain, and transfer records, and the exclusion of subsidiaries from duties of disclosure. We emphasized that the barriers faced by First Nations seeking information access must be specifically and systematically targeted, such that rights to redress are advanced and protected.

The provisions in Bill 22 ignore our concerns and further entrench barriers to access. The introduction of an application fee for all Freedom of Information requests will disproportionately harm First Nations requesters since they experience higher levels of poverty and often lack resource capacity. Your characterization of the new fee as "modest" displays astounding ignorance and insensitivity since legal processes of redress for historical losses require First Nations to make multiple formal requests for records from various public bodies in order to obtain evidence. It is nonsensical that a government publicly committed to reconciliation, transparency, and accountability would impose further financial hardships on First Nations who require access to provincial government records to substantiate claims of government wrongdoing. The bill also prevents the Information and Privacy Commissioner from waiving the application fee if the request is in the public interest.

It is especially egregious that the introduction of an application fee was never discussed with First Nations or their representative organizations, and as such contravenes Article 19 of the UN Declaration which requires governments to consult and cooperate in good faith with Indigenous peoples to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them. The provincial government's selective application of Article 19 violates the DRIPA and betrays a colonial attitude toward its implementation.

Bill 22 introduces no penalties for public bodies who exceed legislated timelines for providing requested information, which will do nothing to address delays and the under-

resourcing of the information management system which accounts for it. The bill continues to exclude subsidiaries from mandatory disclosure, compromising First Nations' abilities to obtain complete historical records required for their claims to succeed.

Alarming, the bill removes the Office of the Premier and Executive Council Operations from the list of public bodies covered by the FIPPA, and fails to create, enforce, or oversee a 'duty to document'. This amounts to willful obstruction and hampers First Nations seeking access to information. While specific claims are historical grievances that occurred at least fifteen years prior to the filing of a claim, this bill effectively absolves your office of any legal responsibility to disclose records related to the actions or decisions which may be subject to future claims. The same can be said about the bill's failure to make it mandatory for public bodies to create records of all actions and decisions, something the provincial NDP championed when it was in opposition and about which it now, holding a majority in the legislature, seems to regard with disdain.

Advocates for government accountability and transparency, organizations committed to human rights, and the provincial Information and Privacy Commissioner are condemning this bill, calling it a highly unethical step backward. The amendments introduced through Bill 22 as discussed above will have concrete, negative impacts on First Nations' access to justice. This is a fundamental concern for the communities we represent.

We reiterate our call for you to withdraw Bill 22 and take immediate steps to make meaningful, direct dialogue with First Nations a priority. This work must be guided by transparency, due process, and full enactment of the government-to-government approaches articulated within the UN Declaration and outlined in DRIPA.

On behalf of the UNION OF BC INDIAN CHIEFS

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
President

Chief Don Tom
Vice-President

Kukpi7 Judy Wilson
Secretary-Treasurer

CC: UBCIC Chiefs Council
BC Assembly of First Nations
First Nations Summit
Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

PDF of letter attached to email. See document labelled 'OOP-2021-15447 Attachment 3 - UBCIC' for copy.

From: Aileen Prince s.22
Sent: November 24, 2021 1:22 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Rustad.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chant, Susie LASS:EX <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; s.22 allison@ubcic.bc.ca
Subject: Endorsement - UBCIC OPEN LETTER: Call for the Immediate Withdrawal of Bill 22, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

[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,

Please find our letter of support for the withdrawal of Bill 22.
We MUST have consultation in any bill that directly our Nation, as per DRIPA and UNDRIP.
Thank you.

Aileen Prince
Chief, Nak'azdli Whut'en
Cell: s.22
Office: 250-996-7171, #230

When we talk about land we say we belong to this territory. This land holds us and we are nurtured from it. Our connection to the land provides life and our spiritual connection to the universe.

This message and any attachments are solely for the use of intended recipients and must not be copied or forwarded to anyone without the express written permission of the sender.. If you are not an intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you received this email in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this email and any attachment is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please contact the sender and delete the message and any attachment from your system. Thank you.

PDF letter attached to email. See document labelled 'OOP-2021-15447 Attachment 4 – Prince' for copy.

From: s.22

Sent: November 25, 2021 2:20 PM

To: contact@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Minister, EMLI EMLI:EX <EMLI.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Current NDP policies

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

Dear Premier Horgan, Ministers Farnsworth, Heyman, Ralston, Conroy, Rankin, Members of the New Democratic Party,

Let me start by saying I voted for the NDP in 2017 and in 2020. Now, I can't begin to express how absolutely disappointed I am in the New Democratic Party and the government.

Let me give you a partial list of my reasons:

1. **Forestry practices.** The government continues to permit clearcutting, especially in old growth forests – witness Fairy Creek. The damage that clearcutting does is well documented and is especially concerning during storms such as we have seen this November.
2. **Oil and gas development.** We are facing an existential threat to humanity and yet the government continues to support and promote oil and gas development in British Columbia, including a new LNG industry for export..
3. **The recent CleanBC Roadmap.** This does not commit to eliminating fossil fuels in the time necessary to address climate change. Natural gas produces large amounts of methane which is significantly more dangerous to our planet in the short term. Our goal must be to eliminate fossil fuels, not to increase their extraction and sale.
4. **Substantial benefits to fossil fuel industry.** The province is not ending the substantial benefits provided to the fossil fuel industry. These include direct subsidies, unreasonably low royalty rates, extremely low charges for water use, little to no oversight over polluted water generated by the gas industry, lack of corporate accountability regarding abandoned wells.
5. **Review of royalties.** While a review of royalties is underway, the forum and time for public comment is designed to discourage public feedback. The form requires a level of expertise that the average person is unable to provide which weights the responses in favour of industry. The consultation period is far too short. The public is not being given fulsome disclosure about which companies are receiving subsidies and what those subsidies are. Or information about royalties being paid

by specific companies. Or what royalties are being paid for natural gas versus the other gas liquids such as condensate.

6. **Coal Production.** Continued coal production in BC and the transportation of US coal through BC ports.
7. **RCMP violence.** The RCMP violence against peaceful protesters including Indigenous people at Fairy Creek and in the Wet'suwet'en Territory in connection with the Coastal GasLink pipeline is akin to that of a police state. The government has failed to monitor and control RCMP behaviour. Despite what the BC government says, it does have jurisdiction over the RCMP actions in BC and it is dishonest to claim otherwise.
8. **Indigenous Consultation.** The lack of meaningful involvement with Indigenous people in resource extraction of all kinds.
9. **Bill 22. Freedom of Information Act and Protection of Privacy Act.** Premier Horgan stated that "when I was in Opposition, we used the Freedom of Information Act effectively to understand why governments were making decisions. He and the BC government is now striving to prevent members of the public from understanding why his government is making various decision. This legislation will stifle access to information, a concern expressed by the Information and Privacy Commissioner. It is being touted as a means to "deliver better, more inclusive services to people, businesses and public-sector organizations." This is false. The proposed search fee of \$25 will reduce accessibility, not enhance it.

The worst government is the one you elect because you think they share your values and then they betray your trust.

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: November 25, 2021 1:56 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Rustad.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chant, Susie LASS:EX <Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Yao.MLA, Henry LASS:EX <Henry.Yao.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: s.22 allison@ubcic.bc.ca; Chief Maureen Chapman <maureen@skawahlook.com>

Subject: Endorsement - UBCIC OPEN LETTER: Call for the Immediate Withdrawal of Bill 22, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

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

Good afternoon.

Please see the attached letter from Chief Maureen Chapman of Sq'ewá:lxw (Skawahlook) First Nation.

Kind regards,

DIANNA UMPHERVILLE | EXECUTIVE/COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

Let your smile change the world but don't let the world change your smile.

T: (604) 796-9129

PDF letter attached to email. See document labelled 'OOP-2021-15447 Attachment 5 - Chapman' for copy.

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

From: s.22

Sent: November 26, 2021 7:54 AM

To: Campbell, Jennifer L LASS:EX <Jennifer.Campbell@leg.bc.ca>; Sims.MLA, Jinny LASS:EX <Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Chen.MLA, Katrina LASS:EX <Katrina.Chen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI Bill

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

Hello Jinny

What has happened to the BC NDP? What happened to transparency builds trust?

Your party, s.22 is
unrecognizable. I watched as party members cheered the move to push through this bill
without debate, denying British Columbians the right to information.

Unbelievable.

Your constituent (for now)
s.22

From: s.22

Sent: November 26, 2021 9:05 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Farnworth.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Farnworth.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>

Subject: FOI

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

Messieurs Horgan, Eby, Farnworth and Heyman,

I used the wrong acronym so sending again. It is really a horrible thing you have done to become less transparent when more is actually needed! I don't know the name of the person tasked with being the face of the changes and charges to the Freedom of Information Act but I consider those of you named as being the force behind the changes.

It is dishonourable that you passed this bill while parts of BC are in very difficult circumstances. The fact that some of the changes protect the Premier is unconscionable.

It is certainly not a democratic decision since most in BC are against your actions.

Regards,

s.22

From: Stanley Tromp <stanleytromp@gmail.com>
Sent: November 27, 2021 2:03 PM
To: stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Subject: Lawyer Vincent Gogolek on Bill 22

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

<https://thetyee.ca/Opinion/2021/11/26/Bill-22-BC-Democratic-Backslide-Freedom-Information-Privacy-Law/>

Bill 22 Is a Sign of Democratic Backsliding in BC

Its passage changes our freedom of information and privacy law, undermining the public's right to know.

Democratic backsliding: It's a term that political scientists have coined to describe how democratically elected governments act to undermine the system under which they were put in power.

That term is most often used to describe the actions of leaders like Hungary's Viktor Orban, or former American president Donald Trump in dismantling of institutional restraints on the power of the leader.

Vincent Gogolek Yesterday | TheTye.ca

Vincent Gogolek is a retired lawyer and the former executive director of the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association.

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

From: s.22

Sent: November 27, 2021 9:12 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: F.O.I.

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

Freedom of information now dead in BC. You've taken the free out of it. If you weren't such a dishonest piece of sh*t we wouldn't need a FOI act.

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: November 28, 2021 2:16 PM
To: stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Subject: Over 60 per cent of B.C. opposes FOI fee

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

<https://vancouversun.com/news/politics/as-requests-increase-govt-blocks-access-to-info>

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**Online petition/form letter campaign. Received 211 identical emails from Nov. 6-28.
Only variation was email address of sender included in the 'To' field.**

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

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association

<transparencymatters@fipa.bc.ca>

Sent: November 7, 2021 5:09 PM

To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>;

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

Subject: Transparency Matters to Me. Stop Bill 22.

[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.

Responses from Minister Beare that PO was cc'd on

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

Sent: November 8, 2021 10:21 AM

To: s.22

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information

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 27, 2021 10:36 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 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 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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 8, 2021 10:22 AM
To: 's.22
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: So arrogant, so soon.

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.

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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 30, 2021 6:18 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: So arrogant, so soon.

[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

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

Sent: November 10, 2021 3:08 PM

To: 's.22

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: 116168 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

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 11:51 AM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 116168 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021

[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 been a BC NDP supporter all of my adult life. 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. s.22

s.22

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.

Though a 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

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

Sent: November 25, 2021 3:12 PM

To: s.22

Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: I have major problems with the new fee for freedom of information requests

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 1, 2021 12:02 AM

To: Sharma, Niki LASS:EX <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office
PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: I have major problems with the new fee for freedom of information requests

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

Dear Ms. Sharma and Mr. Horgan -- I appreciate that criticism is hard to take when people have been farming FOI requests to back up that criticism. This information is otherwise not forthcoming. It is what the act is for. The fee effectively hides from the press any negative information on the government. It will only make your supporters distrust you.

This proposed fee has all the moral feel of Christie Clarke's triple deleted emails. This fee eliminates any moral high ground the NDP might have got from that

I am otherwise pleased with the performance of the NDP since they took power, especially on their handling of COVID. s.22

s.22

My other friend who also volunteers a lot has moved to the Green Party. I hope my lack of freedom of information does not call into question whether an BC NDP problem exists or not. It would be very hard to defend at the door. In my neighbourhood it would be hard to defend against the both the Liberals and the Greens. I might even question my own loyalties.

Mr. Horgan always impresses me for his toughness. A tough person would face his problems head on not try to hide them as the BC Liberals did. Everyone makes mistakes. So far, what has separated the BC-NDP from the BC Liberals is that we don't go to great efforts to hide ours. I think the province of BC prefers honesty and integrity over perfection. The people of BC saw through the Liberals lack of honesty. They will see through anyone's lack of honesty.

from:

s.22

is:
s.22

House Schedule - Tues Oct 19 - AM

From: Iliffe, Liam GCPE:EX <Liam.Iliffe@gov.bc.ca>
To: GCPE Comm Directors <PABDirectors@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Comm Managers <GCPECM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Faust, Marnie L GCPE:EX <Marnie.Faust@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Justin GCPE:EX <Justin.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 9:20:35 AM PDT
Attachments: image004.emz, image001.png

House Schedule
October 19, 2021, Tuesday
2nd Session, 42nd Parliament
Morning

Section B, Chamber of the Assembly

Routine Business

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Prayer/Reflection – Opposition

Introductions

2 Minute Statements

Opposition

Doug Routley Mel Schmidt Remembered

Opposition

Janet Routledge Take a Hike

Opposition

Adam Walker Streamkeepers

QP

Orders of the Day

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Second Reading, Private Member Bill PR 402 – United Church of Canada Amendment Act, MLA Kelli Paddon

Opposition

Cont'd Second Reading – Bill 22: Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, Attorney General, Hon. David Eby
Mike Bernier (15 minutes remaining)

Second Reading – Bill 22: FOIPPA Amendment Act, Hon. Lisa Beare

Opposition

Brenda Bailey

Megan Dykeman

Chair Schedule

10:00 – 11:00 Speaker Chouhan

11:00 – 12:00 Deputy Speaker Chandra Herbert

Question Period *Whipped*	Duty Shift #1 11:00am – 12:00pm
All Members in Chamber	Bob D'Eith Adrian Dix Mable Elmore George Heyman Bowinn Ma Selina Robinson Janet Routledge Niki Sharma

House adjourns at Noon.

Chair Schedule

10:00 – 11:00 Speaker Chouhan

11:00 – 12:00 Deputy Speaker Chandra Herbert

RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>
To: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>, Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>, Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>, Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>, Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 9:58:58 AM PDT

Copy that, thanks Chris!
TG

From: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 9:49 AM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

Thanks – he wants to speak with him about Bill 22 as one of the main “architects” of B.C.’s FOI system.

Here’s an op ed MMR wrote supportive of data staying in Canada from May 2020.

<https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/may-2020/like-us-our-personal-health-information-is-safest-at-home/>

We have the CITZ KMs that we’ve shared with him and will go over the interview questions beforehand. Please let us know if there is any further specific direction we should be aware of.

Cheers, Chris

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 9:20 AM

To: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Minister Rankin - one on one

Morning all,

A lone scrum request for Minister Rankin today – haven’t heard back on topic yet.

Can I leave you to arrange with Andrew MacLeod as a one-on-one? Likely over the phone.

Andrew MacLeod amacleod@thetyee.ca

250-885-7662

Many thanks,

Tara Gostelow (she/her)

Director, Media Relations

Government Communications and Public Engagement

E: Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca

P: 250.893.7136

I would like to acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen people, including the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations, whose land I am grateful to live, work and play on.

RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

From: Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
To: Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>, Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>, Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>, Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>, Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>, Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>, Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 1:35:22 PM PDT

KY, can you make sure you folks have some KMs on Andrew MacLeod's tweet in terms of justifying the "split the difference and landing at \$25" before taking the interview?

Cheers,
T

From: Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:34 PM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

Sure can.

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:28 PM

To: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

Thanks Chris!

CITZ can you confirm you will take this one on?

TG

From: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:07 PM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

As discussed, we will decline and suggest Andrew follow up with MLB.

Kirsten/Susan – MMR was asking if CITZ has details about changes to the US Freedom and Cloud Act and Patriot Act that may have taken place since this op ed was written? He'd love to have this info if possible please.

From: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX

Sent: October 19, 2021 9:49 AM

To: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

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Subject: RE: Minister Rankin - one on one

Thanks – he wants to speak with him about Bill 22 as one of the main “architects” of B.C.’s FOI system.

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We have the CITZ KMs that we’ve shared with him and will go over the interview questions beforehand.

Please let us know if there is any further specific direction we should be aware of.

Cheers, Chris

From: Gostelow, Tara GCPE:EX <Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 9:20 AM

To: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Harbord@gov.bc.ca>; Pocock, Sharon GCPE:EX <Sharon.Pocock@gov.bc.ca>;

Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>;

McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Minister Rankin - one on one

Morning all,

A lone scrum request for Minister Rankin today – haven’t heard back on topic yet.

Can I leave you to arrange with Andrew MacLeod as a one-on-one? Likely over the phone.

Andrew MacLeod amacleod@thetyee.ca

250-885-7662

Many thanks,

Tara Gostelow (she/her)

Director, Media Relations

Government Communications and Public Engagement

E: Tara.Gostelow@gov.bc.ca

P: 250.893.7136

I would like to acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen people, including the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations, whose land I am grateful to live, work and play on.

Re: Q about bill 22

From: Rob Shaw <rshaw@cheknews.ca>, XT:Shaw, Rob GCPE:IN <rshaw@cheknews.ca>
To: Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 5:09:38 PM PDT

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

Ok that makes sense, thanks for clarifying and looking it up!

On Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 4:45 PM Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks for your patience with us Rob – wanted to get the technical aspect that you needed right.

Essentially, this change 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.

For 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)).
- 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".

Cheers,

Kirsten

From: Rob Shaw <rshaw@cheknews.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2021 1:40 PM
To: Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Q about bill 22

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

would be good to get it by 4pm if possible please thanks!

On Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 1:39 PM Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello Rob, happy to get that for you.

When do you need it by?

From: Rob Shaw <rshaw@cheknews.ca>

Sent: October 19, 2021 1:37 PM

To: Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Q about bill 22

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

Hi Kirsten,

Have a Q about section 50 of the new Bill 22 on FOI.

It would appear to strike out "Office of the Premier and Executive Council Operations" from schedule 2 of the FOI act, which lists the public bodies that have to comply with FOI.

I briefly ran this by George in the PO and he said it's not what it appears, and there's a more technical explanation. Wondering if someone in the ministry could dig that up for me.

Trying to sort of boil it down to - does the change mean that if someone asked for records from a PO staffer or the premier in the future the PO would not have to respond?

But realize it first requires a more technical explanation of how it works now and the change, etc.

Thanks,

Rob

Rob Shaw | Political Correspondent | CHEK News
Press Gallery, BC Legislature

Victoria, BC V8T 5A2
Cell: 250-893-0841



BiV: Freedom of Information and Privacy Association demands BC NDP withdraw legislation

From: tno@gov.bc.ca, Today's News Online GCPE:EX <TNO@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 22, 2021 11:04:16 AM PDT

BiV

Jeremy Hainsworth

2021-10-22 03:19

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Page 009 of 254

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Re: Media Request: FOIPPA - comments on screen shots

From: Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>
To: Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 7:49:04 PM PDT

If you need the full KM's and QA, let me know.

On Oct 22, 2021, at 7:29 PM, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks Kerry, yeah, I think the angle of the story is going to be challenging for us regardless.
Thanks for the info though!

Cheers,

T

On Oct 22, 2021, at 7:08 PM, Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX
<Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Incase helpful

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX" <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>
Date: October 22, 2021 at 7:06:26 PM PDT
To: "Williams, Susan GCPE:EX" <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX" <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>, "Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX" <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>, "Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX" <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>, "Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX" <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Media Request: FOIPPA - comments on screen shots

Hi Susan,

Response approved as edited:

Recommendation

- On December 15, 2017, an applicant requested screenshots of cellphones and/or computers used by ministers, ministerial assistants and senior staff across government from 2017.
- These are not records that government has ever created or kept. In order to comply with the request, two programs were created specifically to compile the data needed.
- These records were sent to the applicant on May 26, 2021, as ordered by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and will be posted on the Open Information website by October 26, 2021.

Kassandra Lawal

From: Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 2:51 PM
To: Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Samantha CITZ:EX <Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>; Pridmore, Kerry CITZ:EX <Kerry.Pridmore@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Media Request: FOIPPA - comments on screen shots

For your review and approval... CTV media request regarding Premier's comments on requests for his screen.

Reporter

Jon Woodward, Reporter
CTV News (BC)
Jon.Woodward@bellmedia.ca
604-351-1831

Deadline ASAP

Request

Jon Woodward and Bhinder Sajan say they are confused by something that John Horgan said yesterday -- he mentioned that there were requests for his screen of his office or screenshots of his phone.

They can't find any disclosure relating to that on B.C.'s Open Government website and want copies of the requests that have been made for those items?

Recommendation

- On December 15, 2017, an applicant requested screenshots of cellphones and/or computers used by ministers, ministerial assistants and senior staff across government from 2017.
- In order to comply with the request, two programs were created specifically to compile the data needed.
- These records were sent to the applicant on May 26, 2021, as ordered by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and will be posted on the Open Information website by October 26, 2021.

October 22, 2021

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

Premier Horgan,

The Powell River Chapter of the Council of Canadian 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

Council of Canadians, Powell River

* 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

CHAN: Mills/Campbell - FOI fees

From: tno@gov.bc.ca, Today's News Online GCPE:EX <TNO@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 25, 2021 12:51:47 PM PDT

CHAN (Global BC - Vancouver)

Global BC Morning News

2021-10-24 09:11

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Page 015 of 254 to/à Page 016 of 254

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Check in meeting follow up re: Bill 22

From: Truong, Lele PREM:EX <Lele.Truong@gov.bc.ca>
To: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy
PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 1:48:33 PM PDT
Attachments: Chinese media scan_Vanpeople.com article on Bill 22. 2021.10.25.docx

FYI – one of the Chinese media websites picked up MLA Wat's WeChat post.

Here is a link to the article in Chinese. <https://info.vanpeople.com/1268748.html>

of views so far - 11,728.

Attached is the Google translation with highlights. I made a few edits for clarity purpose.

Lele

Teresa Wat criticized the BC provincial government for trampling on democracy and regressing government transparency!

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Page 019 of 254 to/à Page 020 of 254

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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 022 of 254 to/à Page 031 of 254

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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.



Your Data
Your Rights

FIPA Bill 22 Coalition Letter
Sent October 26, 2021

Page | 1 of 4

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:

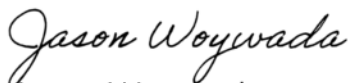
- Withdraw this Bill
- Recognize the role of the all-party special committee and allow it to complete its work, including an open consultation process
- Commit, on record, to introduce comprehensive amendments to FIPPA that reflect the recommendations of past and current special committees

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](#)

Government House Business for Oct. 27

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
To: LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINAST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Ministerial Advisors <LPMAs@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Executive Assistants <LPEAS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Administrative Coordinators <LPACS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Support Staff <LPSUPPORT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Executive Office <LPPOEO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Premiers Vancouver Office <LPPVO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Deputy Minister <LPPODM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PREM Directors <LP PREM Directors <PREMDIR@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINADV@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 6:44:27 PM PDT
Attachments: image001.jpg

Hi all,

Today, two bills completed Second Reading debate – Bill 22 FOIPPA & Bill 23 Forestry – and are now ready for the next stage of legislative debate. Bill 25 Education will continue over into tomorrow. A great opportunity for our members to speak to an important piece of legislation.

Tomorrow we will also kick off Second Reading on Bill 24 and Bill 26. Once those finish, it's onto committee stage debate for Bill 22. The Election Act is set to be introduced in the morning.

Please see below for tomorrow's schedule and do reach out with any questions or concerns.

WEDNESDAY

MORNING

Cabinet

Private Member Meetings

AFTERNOON

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 27 – Election Amendment Act – MDE (AG)

SECOND READING

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

Bill 24 – Environmental Management Act – MGH (ENV)

Bill 26 – Municipal Statutes Amendment Act – MJO (MUNI)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 22 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (CITZ)

Will Maartman
Senior Ministerial Advisor to the Government House Leader
Office of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778-679-4952

WEDNESDAY

MORNING

Cabinet

Private Member Meetings

AFTERNOON

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 27 – Election Amendment Act – MDE (AG)

SECOND READING

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

Bill 24 – Environmental Management Act – MGH (ENV)

Bill 26 – Municipal Statutes Amendment Act – MJO (MUNI)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 22 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (CITZ)

Government House Business for Nov. 2

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
To: LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINAST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Ministerial Advisors <LPMAs@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Executive Assistants <LPEAS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Administrative Coordinators <LPACS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Support Staff <LPSUPPORT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Executive Office <LPPOEO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Premiers Vancouver Office <LPPVO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Deputy Minister <LPPODM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, LP PREM Directors <LP PREM Directors <PREMDIR@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINADV@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 6:24:34 PM PDT
Attachments: image002.jpg

Hi all,

Only bill 22 was up for debate today – Minister Beare was on her feet all afternoon guiding its way through committee stage.

Tomorrow (and Wednesday) we will take a slight break from debate on 22 and move to the other bills still on the order paper. Please review the schedule below – and reach out with any questions or concerns.

TUESDAY

MORNING

TABLING OF REPORTS

Guarantees Indemnities Report for Consolidated Revenue Fund – (FIN)

Overview on the Province's borrowing activity in fiscal 2020/21 – (FIN)

SECOND READING

Bill 27 – Election Amendment Act (AG)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

AFTERNOON

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act (EDUC)

Bill 26 – Municipal Statutes Amendment Act (MUNI)

MORNING

TABLING OF REPORTS

Guarantees Indemnities Report for Consolidated Revenue Fund – (FIN)

Overview on the Province's borrowing activity in fiscal 2020/21 – (FIN)

SECOND READING

Bill 27 – Election Amendment Act (AG)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

AFTERNOON

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act – MJW (EDUC)

Bill 25 – Education Statutes Amendment Act (EDUC)

Bill 26 – Municipal Statutes Amendment Act (MUNI)

FW: Letter

From: Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>
To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 2, 2021 6:01:15 PM PDT
Attachments: AO_Letter to MinRankin_FOIPPA Nov 2.pdf
FYI

From: May, Hailey <Hailey.May@leg.bc.ca>

Sent: November 2, 2021 2:05 PM

To: Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>; Black, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Black@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Olsen, Adam <s.17...>; Maguire, Maeve LASS:EX <Maeve.Maguire@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau, Sonia <s.17...>

Subject: Letter to Minister Rankin from MLA Olsen

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

Good afternoon,

On behalf of MLA Adam Olsen, please find attached a letter to Minister Rankin regarding his involvement in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act* debate process.

All the best,

Hailey May (she/her) | **Policy Analyst**

B.C. Green Caucus

Room 101 Parliament Buildings

Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

www.bcgreencaucus.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that I work, live, and play on the traditional territories of the Lkwungen (Lekwungen), Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC peoples.

Honourable Murray Rankin
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC

November 2, 2021

To Minister Rankin,

I am writing today to express my dismay that you did not stand at any of the opportunities during the debate on Bill 22, the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021*, (FOIPPA) and offer your expertise on the matter to the House.

As you clearly pointed out in the House of Commons on September 22, 2017 when you were the Member of Parliament for Victoria, you not only did your graduate work on the subject while attending Harvard, but you also assisted the Province of British Columbia in drafting the original FOIPPA in the 1990s. You also received an award of merit from a Conservative Member of Parliament for your work on freedom of information. You are one of the more informed Members in our House on this matter.

With the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner writing Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens Services, a seven-page letter outlining substantive concerns on the proposed amendments, including the decision to sidestep the Special Committee that has been appointed to undertake a statutory obligation to thoroughly review this legislation and engage the public, stakeholder and expert opinions on potential changes to the *Act*, it surprises me that you did not use your expertise to lend credibility to the changes and the process undertaken. It is surprising that you chose to remain silent on this important matter when your colleague was so deeply criticized by the Privacy Commissioner.

Your silence itself tells a story. As an expert in the field of freedom of information, why are you unwilling to stand in defense of the proposed amendments to the *Act*? Is it because they are not credible, and the process was flawed? The criticisms you raised in respect to the Liberal Government's *Access to Information Act*, were valid in 2017 and are valid with this process in the British Columbia Legislative Assembly in 2021.

I need not remind you of the specific points you made as the Member of Parliament for Victoria; however, they are entirely inconsistent with you standing and voting to allow Bill 22 to proceed. As you have provided no arguments defending Bill 22, you have not used your expertise to show where the Privacy Commissioner, opposition members, media and other subject matter experts have erred in their assessment of the impact of the proposed changes in Bill 22, I am only left to speculate that you are remaining silent because the Bill is indefensible. Why else would a subject-matter expert leave their colleague with so little support?

B.C. Green Caucus

Room 101 Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4
T 250-387-8347
greencaucus@leg.bc.ca

As a member of our legislature, I expect our debates to be as informed as possible. That is why I expect Ministers to respect the Special Committee process, and why I am further concerned when a subject-matter expert in a field does not offer their expertise to ensure that all members of our House have all the information in front of them when they vote on a serious matter, such as amendments to the FOIPPA.

I am faced with another challenge. There is a puzzling inconsistency between your words and your actions. This deeply troubles me because you are the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.

Indigenous leaders have a long and well-documented history of government officials who say one thing and do another. In my many conversations with Indigenous leaders this is an issue that comes up repeatedly. I fear that your decision to remain silent on Bill 22 continues a generational trend for Indigenous leaders that the word and the actions of the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation cannot be trusted.

As the first government to fully embrace the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Province of British Columbia has chosen a road of reconciliation. This process begins with relationships built on trust. As the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation you are the provincial governments representative in this work and our success in this journey of reconciliation relies on the consistency between the promises you make on our behalf, and our actions.

I hope you can provide me with some assurance that my concerns are unfounded and that there are other reasons you have decided to remain silent on an area that is so clearly within your expertise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Olsen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Olsen
MLA for Saanich North and the Islands



BCTF

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

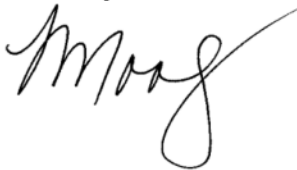
data. The end of data residency requirements also increases the ability of private technology companies to access and monetize educational data, extending the privatisation of public education.

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:jr:tfu

⁶ [//fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/](https://fipa.bc.ca/transparency-matters/our-bill-22-coalition/)

Re: question in committee stage

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
To: Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 4, 2021 9:52:19 AM PDT

Or maybe seems like a drafting oversight possibly? Language should be consistent
I'll find the LRC note and share it over.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2021, at 9:50 AM, Yeung, Lucinda IRR:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good morning Don, Will –

Yesterday in committee MLA Ellis Ross asked MLB about the definition of “Indigenous governing entity” in Bill 22, compared to the language in DRIPA (“Indigenous governing body”).

s.13

Thank you,
Lucinda

Stakeholder Correspondence - November 4

From: Wolansky, Allegra PREM:EX <Allegra.Wolansky@gov.bc.ca>
To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Bernard, Tabitha PREM:EX <Tabitha.Bernard@gov.bc.ca>, Brandt, Alissa GCPE:EX <Alissa.Brandt@gov.bc.ca>, Brewer, Lia PREM:EX <Lia.Brewer@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Evan LBR:EX <Evan.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Farmer, Susan PREM:EX <Susan.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>, Girn, Naveen PREM:EX <Naveen.Girn@gov.bc.ca>, Hagglund, Jarrett PREM:EX <Jarrett.Hagglund@gov.bc.ca>, Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Joshi, Shruti PREM:EX <Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca>, Kot, Jill PREM:EX <Jill.Kot@gov.bc.ca>, Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>, Madoc-Jones, Sian PREM:EX <Sian.MadocJones@gov.bc.ca>, Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>, McConnell, Sheena PREM:EX <Sheena.McConnell@gov.bc.ca>, McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>, Nash, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Nash@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Truong, Lele PREM:EX <Lele.Truong@gov.bc.ca>, Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>, Zacharuk, Christina PREM:EX <Christina.Zacharuk@gov.bc.ca>, s.22 -s.22 - Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Hampson, Ashley PREM:EX <Ashley.Hampson@gov.bc.ca>, Phillips, Conor PREM:EX <Conor.Phillips@gov.bc.ca>, Wolansky, Allegra PREM:EX <Allegra.Wolansky@gov.bc.ca>, Watson, Amanda PREM:EX <Amanda.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 4, 2021 10:20:32 AM PDT
Attachments: Bill 22- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act amendments, Our best, BCGEU.pdf, Mayor Tait.pdf, Letter to Premier Horgan.pdf, Letter from Chief Corrina Leween - Cheslatta Carrier Nation, Royal Canadian Legion.pdf, FW: Open Letter to Lori Wanamaker-Stop the Mandate, Concerns re: Old Growth Deferrals, Letter from Yekooche First Nation, re: Commercial Assessment Subclass for Arts and Culture

Hi All – here is today's report! Just an FYI that I'll be grouping all of the stakeholder well wishes for PJH at the bottom of the report going forward rather than including an explanatory note for each one. Thanks!

Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance – CC of a letter to Minister Osbourne requesting a commercial property tax subclass for arts and culture organizations to prevent major rent increases. We will leave with MUNI for handling and file.

BC Teachers' Federation – A letter to PJH expressing opposition to Bill 22 and proposed changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. We will request CITZ respond and acknowledge.

s.16

BC Public Service Employees for Freedom – CC of an open letter to DM Wanamaker from a group of approximately 1400 public service employees who are against the mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy. We received this letter via FLNRO and from our conversation with the DM's office it wasn't

clear if they'd received directly. Susan has shared a copy with Yvette and we plan to leave with the DM's office for handling unless advised otherwise.

FYI – Canfor emails - We've started to receive emails from Canfor employees (approx. 10 so far) expressing opposition to recent old growth deferral announcement and concerns about impact on forest industry and workers. This seems to be part of a write-in campaign and so far none appear to be from Canfor leadership. I've attached one example for reference. We'll share these with FLNRO for consideration.

Well wishes for PJH – we will acknowledge the well wishes received by email and ensure all emails and cards are printed and prepped to go over for PJH when needed/requested.

William F. White International Inc.

Chief Corrina Leween (Cheslatta Carrier Nation)

Royal Canadian Legion (BC/Yukon Command)

Mayor Tait (Sooke)

Ambassador of China to Canada

Allegra Wolansky

Correspondence Coordinator | Office of the Premier
(778) 698-5465 | pronouns: she/her/hers

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
<Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca, EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca, lcronk@bcfed.ca,
mzuckerman@bcfed.ca, Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX
<EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>, Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX
<CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
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



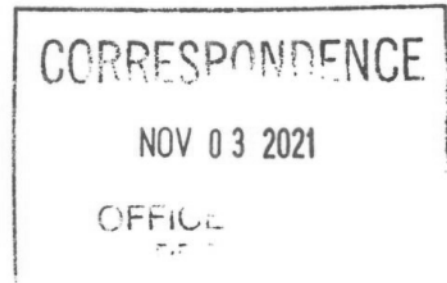
TM/jr:tfu

CITY OF SURREY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 28, 2021

The Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Citizens' Services
PO Box 9440 Stn Prov. Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9V3



Dear Minister Beare:

Re: Bill 22 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2021 Section 75 - Application Fee

As Mayor of the City of Surrey, I support the rights of the public to access non-personal information through the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). Unfortunately, in recent years Surrey has experienced an increasingly high volume of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, many of which are, in my opinion, frivolous in nature.

These requests bog down the system, slow overall FOI response times and negatively impact staff resources. For example, full-time staff dedicated to processing Freedom of Information requests at the City of Surrey has grown from two staff to five staff over the last five years.

For these reasons, I support the Bill 22 Section 75 amendment which would enable the head of a public body to charge an application fee for FOI requests.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Doug McCallum
Mayor
City of Surrey



SURREY
CITY OF PARKS

P 604 591 4126 MAYOR@SURREY.CA

13450-104 AVENUE SURREY BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA V3T 1V8

WWW.SURREY.CA

Government House Business for November 15

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
To: LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINAST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Ministerial Advisors <LPMAs@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Executive Assistants <LPEAS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Administrative Coordinators <LPACS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Support Staff <LPSUPPORT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Executive Office <LPPOEO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Premiers Vancouver Office <LPPVO@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP PO Deputy Minister <LPPODM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Strategic Issues Team <STRATIST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Chu, Timothy PREM:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, LP PREM Directors <PREMDIR@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Senior Ministerial Advisors <SRMINADV@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 12, 2021 3:55:30 PM PST
Attachments: image007.jpg, image009.jpg, image008.jpg

Hi all,

As I'm sure you have anticipated, we will be very busy over the next two weeks. See below for a rundown on where we are at, what is left, and the schedule for next week.

REMAINING LEGISLATION AT COMMITTEE STAGE:

- Bill 22 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Bill 23 – Forests Statutes Amendment Act
- Bill 24 – Environmental Management Amendment Act

BILLS FOR INTRODUCTION NEXT WEEK:

Monday

- Bill 20 – Access Zone Act (Bubble Zones)
- Bill 28 – Forest Amendment Act
- Bill 30 – AG Statutes Amendment Act

Wednesday

- Bill 18 – Human Rights Code Act
- Bill 29 – Interpretation Act

SUMMARY:

We will look to clear most of our “minor” bills by the end of the week leaving the larger pieces of legislation for the final week. Importantly, there is the possibility the “Little House” will be opening midweek to help facilitate efficient bill debate over the remaining eight days. Once that approach is decided by the House Leader scheduling information will come out from the Whip's office.

Please review the schedules below and don't hesitate to follow up with any questions or concerns.

Responses from Minister Beare that PO was cc'd on

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 3:29 PM
To: 's.22
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: New fee for Freedom of Information Request

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 19, 2021 2:30 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; CITZ Deputy Minister, CITZ:EX <CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: 115995 - New fee for Freedom of Information Request

[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

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.

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

Sent: October 25, 2021 12:52 PM

To: s.22

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>;

Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>;

Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX

<John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: FOI fees

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 2:48 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX

<Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX

<Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: 115995 - FOI fees

[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

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

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

Sent: October 25, 2021 12:56 PM

To: s.22

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Proposed makeover of FIPPA

Dear s.22

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

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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

-----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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 10:19 AM
To: s.22
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Fee for FOI requests

Dear s.22

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

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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 20, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Fee for FOI requests

[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

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

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

Sent: October 26, 2021 10:23 AM

To: s.22 >; 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: RE: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act - amendment/changes

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

-----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, to confirm my political loyalty, I have voted for the NDP for a few decades. 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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:10 AM
To: s.22 ; Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX
<s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Fees for Freedom of Information Requests

Dear s.22

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

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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 19, 2021 9:27 AM
To: Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fees for Freedom of Information Requests

[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,

p.22

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:11 AM

To: 's.22'; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: \$25 for Freedom of Information Access!?!? Seriously?!?!?

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 10:44 AM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

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

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:12 AM

To: s.22

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: RE: Making BC's government more secretive

Dear s.22

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

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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

-----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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:13 AM

To: 's.22

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

<Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: RE: FOI

Dear s.22

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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 19, 2021 6:29 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI

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

So here we go,,redacted information charging for freedom of information requested, ,,starting to sound just like the Lieberals,,,won't be long now and it'll be by by to you idiots,,,better get them numbered bank accounts topped up in the next 3 years eh...my god nothing changes in the long run eh
s.22

--

Sent from EmailForOutlook for mobile

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:13 AM
To: 's.22 : OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE:

Dear s.22

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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 19, 2021 6:25 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject:

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:14 AM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
<Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: john.horgan@leg.bc.ca; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Freedom of information charges - charges already hidden in applications

Dears.22

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

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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 19, 2021 6:29 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: john.horgan@leg.bc.ca
Subject: Freedom of information charges - charges already hidden in applications
Importance: High

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:15 AM
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 changes - Mandate Queary

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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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 19, 2021 6:38 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Freedom of information changes - Mandate Queary

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

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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:16 AM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: \$25.00 Fee

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 19, 2021 7:46 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: \$25.00 Fee

[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

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:16 AM

To: s.22 ; susie.chant@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
<Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: RE: FOI

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:42 AM

To: susie.chant@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI

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

Hello,

I heard on the radio this morning with dismay this new legislation regarding the \$25 FOI fee. This is outrageous! Faith in our democracy is at an all time low as well as trust in government and you think this is a good idea? Even the privacy commissioner has said its wrong, to which you've ignored his advice I could go on with many reasons as to why this is a bad idea but I'll keep it short. Please take a step back and give give this a second sober thought.

A little about myself, I was a long time Liberal supporter but have switched sides for the past two elections. I feel you've done an excellent job (thus far) and encourage you to reconsider this plan.

Regards,

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

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.

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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 8:21 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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:18 AM
To: 's.22' <[REDACTED]>; 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: Freedom of information

Dear s.22

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

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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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:23 AM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOI

Dear s.22

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

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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 20, 2021 9:15 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI

[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

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:25 AM

To: s.22 ; info@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
<Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: RE: FOI FEE needs to be readdressed for fragile demographics

Dear s.22

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

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 9:56 AM

To: info@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI FEE needs to be readdressed for fragile demographics

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:26 AM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Open and transparent government: \$25 please

Dear s.22

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

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From:s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 12:00 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: Open and transparent government: \$25 please

Importance: High

[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 s.22. 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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:27 AM
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

Dear s.22

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 12:27 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Freedom of information

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

I am writing to let you know I am appalled with your party position on access to information, this is not a communist country. Requests for information about what any level of government has or is doing should be free and unrestricted. Accountability is what democracy deserves and demands. AT ALL TIMES. I supported you during the last election but rest assured that will NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

s.22

Sent from my Galaxy

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

Dears.22

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

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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

s.22

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:31 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:

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

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

From: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Sent: October 22, 2021 8:31 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW:

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

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 21, 2021 5:03 PM

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

Subject:

Good afternoon Premier,

Recently your Government made an announcement that people who request background information through Freedom of Information will be charged \$25, which I think is a small price to pay for demanding a lot of Staff time to respond to these requests.

I think that it would be prudent to have the Ministry explain why the \$25 is reasonable and also that the Government receives repeated requests from a few people who from my experience are trying to tie up Government operations, and based on your record nothing untoward is found.

Keep up the good work John.

Your friend from s.22

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:33 AM

To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

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

Dears.22

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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

-----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%7Cpremier%40gov.bc.ca%7C8884b489633d43fefbec08d99577496f%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637705161825594234%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=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

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:34 AM

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.

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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

-----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,

I supported you in the last 2 elections but my support is not guaranteed.

I am a ~~s.22~~ 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.

I'm a ~~s.22~~ , , , and not at all pleased with how little information is being made public on Site C (~~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~~

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:34 AM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: fees for information?

Dears.22

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

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 22, 2021 1:15 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: fees for information?

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:35 AM
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

Dears.22

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

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From:s.22
Sent: October 22, 2021 3:50 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Freedom of Information

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

I am writing to express my displeasure with the proposed changes to the Freedom of Information legislation, including the thinly veiled proposal to begin charging a fee for information requests. As a long time NDP supporter I find the increasing arrogance of your office and government distressing enough that I do not plan to support your party in the future.

Freedom of information should be a cornerstone of democracy and government should make information freely available as much as possible. The simple fact that citizens need to file a request for information illustrates that information is not freely available. Your government should be proactively making more information freely available rather than implementing barriers to access such as fees or exempting the Office of the Premier from FOI requests.

As a s.22 I know that electronic systems can be put in place to provide access to all information. That is what your government should be doing – making all information available and then restrict access based on well defined privacy criteria. Government is not a business and should not be run as business. Hence in principle there should be no “business” reasons to restrict access to information. The only plausible restriction is one of individual privacy, not one of political expediency or the fact that certain parties may file volumes of requests. One sure method to reduce the number of requests is to make more information freely available!

Thanks,

s.22

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:36 AM
To: 's.22'; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
<Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOI amendments

Dears.22

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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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:38 AM
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 and Protection of Privacy legislation

Dear s.22

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

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 24, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca
Subject: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 10:38 AM
To: 's.22'; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOI proposed fees

Dears.22

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 24, 2021 6:09 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI proposed fees

[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. s.22 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

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

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

Sent: October 27, 2021 3:27 PM

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 Request Changes

Dears.22

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

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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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 3:30 PM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOIPPA fee

Dear s.22

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

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Sincerely,

Lisa Beare

Minister

From: s.22
Sent: October 25, 2021 10:39 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; info@oipc.bc.ca
Subject: FOIPPA fee

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 3:36 PM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lore, Grace LASS:EX <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: New approach to FOI requests

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 25, 2021 1:14 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lore, Grace LASS:EX <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: New approach to FOI requests

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 10:59 AM
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 - Proposed Changes

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 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

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

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

Sent: October 28, 2021 11:17 AM

To: 's.22

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

<Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: RE: FOI Bill changes

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

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 1:32 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: FOI Bill changes

[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

>

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

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

Sent: October 28, 2021 11:18 AM

To: s.22

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: RE: Bill 22 Freedom of Information charges

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 3:04 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Milobar.MLA, Peter LASS:EX <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Bill 22 Freedom of Information charges

[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

From: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 2:40 PM
To: s.22 ; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: For shame gentlemen

Dear s.22

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

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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 22, 2021 9:01 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: For shame gentlemen

[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.

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

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

Sent: November 2, 2021 2:29 PM

To: 's.22

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Freedom of information

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

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 6:20 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 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 Premier John Horgan

It must be tedious to constantly answer foi requests from the Liberals.

But it has always been a route bc citizens can take to get answers to questions and without charge. s.22

s.22 worked hard to create Access to information with the

Liberal govt. Please keep the free rules so not so wealthy citizens can write to the govt and not worry about the cost.

Yours truly

s.22

Sent from my iPad

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

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

Sent: November 3, 2021 12:10 PM

To: s.22

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: FOI Access

Dear s.22

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

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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

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

From:s.22

Sent: November 2, 2021 12:00 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI Access

[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.

Even though I'm not an NDP member, until now, I have always voted for the NDP provincially. It would appear that a minority government is best for the Province.

s.22

OOP-2021-14967 – Records

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 18, 2021 8:07 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Please reverse FOI fee plan

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

Dear Premier,

I created and posted a database of 2,000+ fine news stories produced via the B.C. FOI law. See <https://canadafoi.ca/british-columbia-foi/> If a \$25 fee had been in force since 1993, over half of those stories could never have been done. (On health, safety, financial waste, etc.)

And this river would run almost dry today, with cash-starved newsrooms and journalists, with grave harm to the public interest. Surely this cannot be what you intend.

The \$25 fee plan is truly a disaster, which needs to be reversed, fast.

- Thank you, Stanley Tromp

s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 8:03 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: F.O.I. Requests

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

\$25 per request? I guess journalism students can forget about making requests now. Just how much is there that you have to hide John. Our fees are right up there with Alberta. Are you and Mikey planning on getting BC back in the money laundering business?

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 9:27 AM

To: Chandra Herbert.MLA, Spencer LASS:EX <s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca>;

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fees for Freedom of Information Requests

[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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 10:44 AM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: \$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.

Email that was attached to above email from s.22 :

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 10:44 AM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

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

-----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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 2:16 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX ; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX

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 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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 2:19 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX ; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX ; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX

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

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Premier, s.22

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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

From:s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 2:30 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

Subject: New fee for Freedom of Information Request

[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.

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 6:29 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI

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

So here we go,,redacted information charging for freedom of information requested,
,,starting to sound just like the Lieberals,,,won't be long now and it'll be by by to you
idiots,,,better get them numbered bank accounts topped up in the next 3 years eh...my
god nothing changes in the long run eh

s.22

--

Sent from EmailForOutlook for mobile

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 6:25 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject:

[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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 6:29 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: john.horgan@leg.bc.ca

Subject: Freedom of information charges - charges already hidden in applications

Importance: High

[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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 6:38 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of information changes - Mandate Queary

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 19, 2021 7:46 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: \$25.00 Fee

[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

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 20, 2021 1:30 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Subject: 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 Premier Horgan,

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 wrong. 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

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

[1]

“School's seismic safety rattles parents.” Victoria Times Colonist. Apr. 8, 2003

Nobody knows for sure just how 109-year-old South Park elementary would fare if Greater Victoria experienced a major earthquake. But two engineering reports 12 years apart raising concerns about the safety of the popular James Bay school were enough for Alexander Galitzine to pull his two daughters from the school. The 2002 report results were obtained by the South Park parent advisory council safety committee through the Freedom of Information Act. It showed indications of a collapse hazard in even a moderate quake “with the probable complete loss of South Park elementary school.” The Galitzines are one of four South Park families who had their children leave the school.

[2]

“Removal of hospital beds opposed by own experts.” The Province (Vancouver). Jan. 18, 2004

The Fraser Health Authority removed all but a handful of acute-care beds from Delta Hospital despite being warned by its own experts about such a move. FHA documents show the two medical committees it set up to look into the controversial downgrading of Delta Hospital to a sub-acute facility advised last February that it would either be difficult or impossible to find room as planned for Delta patients at already-crowded Richmond and Surrey hospitals. The waits for beds could potentially put acutely ill patients at risk. This revelation comes after the people of Delta filed a FOI request to examine their health authority's plans. The 14 months' worth of documents are as thick as a phone book, but according to Delta's mayor, fail to answer the big questions.

[3]

“Losing track; Schools not taking ownership when struggling students leave traditional system early.” Vancouver Sun. Apr. 5, 2010.

A woman who was duped by a now-defunct company on contract with the College of the Rockies to recruit and help train nursing students has won a \$25,000 judgment in small claims court after a two-year battle with the public institution. The college, located in southeast B.C., has also settled out of court with two other students who said they were cheated by the company, PTI Online, between 2002 and 2007. The college cut ties with the company in October 2007 after discovering it had falsified documents for students seeking entry to the college's access to practical nursing program. Unable to afford a lawyer, students used FOI to gather evidence and took their case to “the poor people's court,” said a friend.

[4]

“Woman launches class action suit after eardrum surgery.” Vancouver Sun. Apr. 25, 2006

A Vancouver woman who was shocked to learn she may have received infected donor tissue during reconstructive eardrum surgery in 1994 has launched what she hopes will be a class-action lawsuit against St. Paul's Hospital, the B.C. Ear Bank and a number of other defendants. Her lawyer David Klein, who is asking the court to certify the case as a class action, said 70 pages of documents he obtained from the provincial government through FOI processes, showed that when Health Canada conducted a review of the facility in late 2002, there were numerous health and safety concerns about the way materials like bones, membranes, and cartilage were being collected, stored and distributed.

[5]

“Lyme disease recognized.” Salmon Arm Observer. Aug. 6, 2013

Sheri and Rory Mahood know well the hell that can follow a tick bite. Both are suffering the debilitating effects of Lyme disease from tick bites they received on their own Sunnybrae property in the fall of 2009. The couple has formed the Lyme Disease Association of B.C. Through a FOI request, the Mahoods got a copy of a 2010 report, Chronic Lyme Disease in British Columbia - a Review of Strategic and Policy Issues , commissioned by the Provincial Health Services Authority and clearly marked, "Not for distribution." Prepared by Brian T. Schmidt, retired senior vice-president of the provincial health authority, the report laid out the nature of the disease and offered several recommendations.

[6]

"New windows in B.C. Housing apartments. Change not directly related to suicide of tenant three years ago." Burnaby Now. July 22, 2006

Three years after Harry Kierans leaped to his death out the windows of his 14th-floor suite in the Hall Towers at Kingsway and Edmonds, B.C. Housing is halfway through a \$4.6-million program of installing safer, smaller and more energy-efficient windows in the two highrise apartment buildings. After filing a series of freedom of information requests to obtain their brother's government records, Harry's sisters received a stack of documents measuring more than 22-cm thick including several memos that indicate Harry had made several requests to move out of the Hall Tower in the months leading up to his suicide.

[7]

"Daycare inspection reports don't mention losing kids." CBC BC. Jan. 10, 2014.

A Vancouver woman says she was shocked beyond belief to learn that daycare staff failed to notice when her two-year-old daughter wandered off and ended up alone outside in a parking lot. Rachel Garrick says young Henrietta had not been gone long when she wandered away from the Hastings Park Childcare Centre last November, but that fact is hardly comforting. When she could only find glowing licence reports and no mention of similar incidents, she sent Vancouver Coastal Health, the licensing agency, a request under the B.C. FOI Act. "I received that [response] last week and it was very upsetting to see in August, just a few months before Henrietta went missing, they lost track of another child."

[8]

"Abbotsford residents urge change in high-crash 'Sumas Prairie Speedway'." Mission City Record. Dec. 1, 2018.

A crash at the intersection of Dixon and Campbell roads left Camille Timmermans and her husband Nathan with long-lasting injuries, including a concussion and muscle issues. Joyce Verwoerd, who lives across the street from the Timmermans, adds grimly that an area resident only recently suffered that very fate. Verwoerd recently filed a freedom of information request with the Abbotsford Police Department for the number of crashes and fatalities on the area's roads. The numbers are staggering: 233 crashes in that time and seven deaths. That's two crashes per month and nearly one death per year.

[9]

"No discussion on school sale." Letter by Linda Travers, Victoria resident. Victoria Times Colonist. Apr. 22, 2007.

The Greater Victoria School District's decisions to close schools and sell taxpayers' property without a clear, transparent process are unconscionable. For months, I have been trying to get meaningful information about the January sale of Fairburn Elementary to a private developer. Starting with rumours last fall I eventually learned that a real estate company was directed in November 2006 to sell Fairburn without notification to taxpayers and nearby residents. My Freedom of Information request revealed there was no board meeting to change Fairburn's status from a three-year lease

to a decision to sell -- in direct contradiction to a May 13, 2003, district press release confirming that "schools slated for closure will not be sold." Parents and others from Lampson, Cloverdale, Richmond and other schools are doing their part by providing trustees with excellent information.

[10]

"CSR D failed residents." Letter by Dale and Karen Van Male. Campbell River Courier – Islander. May 2, 2007

Re your article "Dump trucks in school zone angers parents". The residents of the area are angry also. This has been an ongoing operation for four years with the last two years being the worst. Anyone living on Crawford or McLellan Road knows the magnitude of this operation.... One of the biggest blows to the residents was recently when a copy of the Development Permit for the property in question was obtained, through the Freedom of Information Act, and it became immediately obvious that the property owner was not living up to many of the terms and conditions as stated in the Development Permit and the Regional District was not enforcing it.

[11]

"Surface lease review finally released to public." Alaska Highway News (Fort St. John). June 8, 2007
Last week, northeast landowners and interest groups received a review of oil and gas surface leases contracted by the provincial government in 2005, but it's left them to wonder why it came two years late. A number of Peace residents were involved in the compilation of data through meetings and submissions, and at the time public policy consultant firm Perrin, Thorau and Associates said the report would be made public. But it wasn't until resident Rick Koechl filed a FOI request on behalf of concerned landowners that the final copy of the report "Availability of Information About Surface Access Leases" made its way into the region. The 43-page document reveals four recommendations that work towards providing landowners with sufficient information to negotiate surface lease agreements with oil and gas companies.

[12]

"'Nuisance' gains privacy victory; School board will have to provide information about pedophile teacher." Vancouver Sun. March 17, 2008

School officials describe him as a nuisance, but the provincial privacy office has ruled that an Abbotsford parent who has doggedly asked questions about the handling of a pedophile teacher deserves answers. The decision is a victory for Greg Cross, who has been trying to get information from the Abbotsford board of education regarding Serge Lebedoff since 2001, when he reported disturbing behaviour by the teacher-on-call and was told by a school principal that an investigation was underway. Cross continued to ask questions. That prompted the board to appeal to the Information Commissioner for permission to ignore his requests, saying they were frivolous, vexatious, annoying and costly. But in a recent ruling, the office refused, saying Cross has a legitimate interest in the matter and the board must respond.

[13]

"Residents call for pedestrian walkway." Peninsula News Review (Sidney), Oct. 5, 2012

A group of Central Saanich residents are banding together to call for a pedestrian walkway to be put in along a section of West Saanich Road. "We want this path primarily for safety and accessibility," resident Barb Whittington said. "According to a freedom of information request we got from the municipality, when this stretch of road was monitored from the fall of 2011 to the early spring of 2012, 100 per cent of the vehicles traveling down it were speeding, even after the speed limit was changed from 50 to 40 kilometers an hour."

[14]

"No easy answers: FOI requests 'overwhelm' City of White Residents question city's responses." Peace Arch News (White Rock). March 31, 2016.

White Rock residents say they are getting little response from the city on FOI requests, some dating back more than a year and are questioning why the process of accessing information is difficult. Ross Buchanan is one of several residents to file a handful of FOI requests with the city. Buchanans requests have covered a number of issues in the city over the past two years, including correspondence about the then-proposed addition of chloramine to the water supply, documentation of the city's research into joining the Greater Vancouver Water District and an untampered expense file for Mayor Wayne Baldwin for an 18-month period

[15]

"Suicide prompts call for changes; Coroner." Victoria Times-Colonist. May 4, 2013.

A coroner's report is calling for the files of all students with a diagnosed mental illness to be flagged, after a Victoria student with an anxiety disorder committed suicide after being kicked out of her school's gifted program. The report is a sober portrait of how the school system failed Freya Milne - an artistic, sensitive 16-year-old with "exceptional abilities and needs." An email obtained by the family under FOI shows the school's former co-ordinator of the gifted education program saw no compelling reason to give Freya "special treatment" because "she doesn't want to do an essay."

[16]

"Motocross track illegal." Ray Chipeniuk, letter to editor. Interior News (Smithers). May 23, 2012
About a year ago, I came to the Interior News office to complain to the editor of that era about the abundant coverage given to the Smithers Motocross Association (SMXA). The main grounds for my complaint were that motocross is an illegal use of the land base where the SMXA operates and the noise from illegal motocross events is a nuisance for residents up to three kilometres away. For verification of the statements I make in this letter about land use, zoning, and even the term "illegal," I encourage you to obtain the relevant documents from the RDBN. I did, through Freedom of Information, and I am not a reporter.

[17]

"DNV developments flagged over traffic concerns;; MLA cautions putting brakes on housing is no traffic fix." North Shore News. Dec. 7, 2018.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has flagged the District of North Vancouver, raising concern about the pace of development. The sentiments were spelled out in a series of letters from the ministry to district staff sent during the rezoning processes for a 150-unit townhouse project in Lions Gate and for the 411-unit Emery Village redevelopment in Lynn Valley. Kelly Bond, who with her fellow Emery Village renters is set to be demovicted in April, came by the letters via a Freedom of Information request she filed while informing herself about the development process.

[18]

"Unintended obfuscation?" Chilliwack Times. Dec. 7, 2010 .

Currently some residents in Yarrow have their collective knickers in knots because of a quarry operator's proposal to build a gravel conveyor belt system down the north face of Vedder Mountain to some properties on Vedder Mountain Road. Yarrow resident Victor Froese has been on the forefront of the battle to stop this particular project, which could basically turn a large piece of land into a gravel pit in his otherwise bucolic neighbourhood. Froese and his neighbour Walter Raupach have been determined, and have gone so far as to make FOI requests to find out where the project is at. At the newspaper, we are used to being led down the garden path either with distraction, misinformation or simply with language, so the persistence of Froese and Raupach is admirable.

[19]

"Our school trustees eating well." Cathy Wolfe, letter to editor. Courtenay Comox Valley Record. Nov. 4, 2008

Through a Freedom of Information request, I have discovered how much the SD71 school board spent on catering from January 2007 until June 2008. During this 18-month period, the board spent about \$146,500 of taxpayers' dollars to feed themselves, management and other SD71 employees at various meetings within the Comox Valley. This amount does not include expenses for the travel of trustees and district staff outside the district. I wonder how many lunch programs for needy students or how many learning assistance teachers or computers this money could have paid for instead, and how this huge expenditure benefited students at all.

[20]

"Filmmaker tells story of secrecy; Paul Manly's latest documentary tells a troubling tale." Harbour City Star (Nanaimo). Jan. 30, 2009

Nanaimo's Paul Manly's film analyzes both the Security and Prosperity Partnership and the Trade Investment Labour Mobility Agreement, criticizing the two processes that the filmmaker describes as an erosion to Canada's health regulations, civil liberties and democratic rights.... The SPP secret discussions and the phony protestors illustrate direct threats on Canadian democratic freedom, according to the filmmaker, but his documentary digs much further. He has collected as much as he can through other people's freedom of information requests and compiled what he says is a damaging account of the discussions and possible implications

[21]

"Canada Line operator ordered to reveal its deal with TransLink." Vancouver Sun. Apr. 18, 2009

The operators of the Canada Line have been ordered to reveal all the details of their agreement with TransLink, despite claims by Canada Line Rapid Transit Inc. that it would lead to an increased risk of terrorism and cause financial harm. Celia Francis, senior adjudicator for the Information Commissioner, said Canada Line Rapid Transit and InTransitBC did not provide sufficient evidence to "establish a reasonable expectation of harm flowing from disclosure." She ordered all information of the concession agreement be made available to lawyer Cameron Ward, who filed the FOI request, within the next 30 days. Ward represents former Cambie merchant Susan Heyes, who successfully sued TransLink, InTransitBC and Canada Line Rapid Transit for \$600,000 in damages after losing business as a result of tunnel construction along Cambie Street.

[22]

"Schools group questions information from district." Harbour City Star (Nanaimo). Dec. 27, 2013.

Members of the Save Cedar Schools coalition have questions about information they received from the Nanaimo-Ladysmith school district. Spokesman Steve Rae said the coalition is sifting through more than 6,000 pages of correspondence and material related to schools in their area that they requested from the district in a FOI request. "We've spent \$2,000 and more than four months of our time on trying to get this information and all we received was an incomplete record of what we wanted," Rae said. "We've been in contact with the Ombudsman's office and are asking that an investigation be held into this issue." The district contracted a consultant, at a cost of \$10,000, to help comply with three FOI requests regarding the district's plans for schools in Cedar.

[23]

"WCB doctors too old to practice." The Province (Vancouver) Apr. 10, 1997

The fate of some injured workers in B.C. is in the hands of retired doctors who aren't even allowed to practise any more, charges NDP MLA Rick Kasper who cited in the legislature the case of one of his constituents who found that two of the three doctors on his Workers Compensation Board "medical review panel" were no longer on the active list kept by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Instead, they were "life members" -- a category reserved for retired doctors who are specifically banned from "practising medicine for gain," Kasper said. But the injured worker involved, Clayton Adkens, from Sooke, told The Province that when he used FOI to research his own

case, he found one of the doctors had been paid about \$1,300 for his case alone. "I wanted to know what the qualifications were of the doctors on my case," said Adkens, a welder suffering lung damage. "But when I looked at the (college's) list, I couldn't find two of the names there at all."

[25]

"Terry Jacks' longest season." Vancouver Sun. Dec. 2, 2000.

The story began five years ago when a call from a shift worker at Howe Sound Pulp and Paper in Port Mellon tipped former singer Terry Jacks that the mill was not in compliance with its emission permits for sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide. Jacks says he didn't take the tip at face value. Instead he filed freedom of information requests with the provincial environment ministry for data comparing emissions from pulp mill stacks with the levels set under the pollution permit granted by Victoria. The bureaucrats led him on a merry chase, he says. But he persisted and he finally got the statistics he sought.

[26]

"Safe, quality daycare was all she wanted." Victoria Times Colonist. March 23, 1997.

The Capital Regional District released details to the Times Colonist - through the initial FOI work of concerned mother Brenda Day - of problems involving a day-care operator, Sunny Times Day Care, exposing a sorry history of complaints from parents about the treatment of their children while at the still-operating facility. Columnist Deborah Pearce said that only days after her story appeared, "parents started coming out of the woodwork with complaints against the woman who ran the place." In the end, the manager voluntarily surrendered her day care licence, and promised to close her facility. Pearce said later "in my opinion Sunny Times would still be operating without FOI."

[27]

"Letter: Parksville's mayor has some explaining to do". Harbour City Star (Nanaimo). Sept. 4, 2002

Despite two requests, in writing, the Mayor has declined to inform the taxpayers of the financial status of her multimillion dollar 'vision and dream' - the Civic and Technology Centre. Failing response from the Mayor, the writer, under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, followed up by a formal complaint to the FOI commissioner, the following details were released: 1. The amount of money borrowed to date as authorized by referendum is \$4,550,000. 2. The interest paid to date on borrowed funds - \$374,745. 3. \$1,050,000 of the amount borrowed and \$59,745 of the interest is being repaid from lease revenues received by the city from the Vancouver Island Regional Library.

[28]

"B.C. school size rules ineffective, critics say." Vancouver Sun. July 22, 2019.

Trustees, teachers and parents say the province's school-design rules are out of step with student needs and modern curriculum.... The standards mean some of those rebuilds, like the one scheduled for Eric Hamber Secondary, will be significantly smaller than their predecessors. Vik Khanna, a tech entrepreneur who has a son attending Hamber, says he's concerned the new school will be more than 30 per cent smaller even though it is earmarked to accommodate the same number of students. The Vancouver school board has appealed to the ministry for more funding for the Hamber project, which is already set to cost \$79.3 million. Khanna says responses to FOI requests he filed indicated adding the space could cost as much as \$20 million more.

[29]

"Health authority intervenes at yet another China-owned senior home; Official highlights concerns about insufficient staffing, lack of cleanliness." Vancouver Sun. Dec. 13, 2019.

Sandra Hawkes is watching as health authorities on Vancouver Island have intervened at another senior care home owned by a Beijing company and is wondering why the Fraser Health Authority isn't taking similar steps. In 2017, Ottawa approved a \$1-billion-plus deal for Anbang Insurance

Group to buy Retirement Concepts and its 20 senior care homes, including Waverly. It was controversial from the start. Critics argued patient care could be harmed under a foreign company that revealed little about who actually owned it, which is a requirement under federal investment rules. Hawkes has spent months requesting more specific details about inspections through FOI requests. This has yielded inspection reports for Waverly in 2017-19 showing licensing officers making repeated requests for "corrective action" by certain dates. And many more stories.....

=====

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 3:10 AM

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

Subject: Bill 22

[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 am very concerned about the new legislation that includes allowing my personal data to be stored outside of Canada and potentially exposed to foreign laws which enable access to my data which I have not authorized.

In particular, laws in countries like the USA, China and Russia would not protect me from prying eyes who have no good reason to search through my personal data.

Please do more to protect my information. Do not let foreign governments get access to my information. Update the bill to protect your citizens.

Sincerely,
s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:42 AM

To: susie.chant@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI

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

Hello,

I heard on the radio this morning with dismay this new legislation regarding the \$25 FOI fee. This is outrageous! Faith in our democracy is at an all time low as well as trust in government and you think this is a good idea? Even the privacy commissioner has said its wrong, to which you've ignored his advice I could go on with many reasons as to why this is a bad idea but I'll keep it short. Please take a step back and give give this a second sober thought.

A little about myself, I was a long time Liberal supporter but have switched sides for the past two elections. I feel you've done an excellent job (thus far) and encourage you to reconsider this plan.

Regards,

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

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

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

Sent: October 20, 2021 8:21 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: FOI

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 7:44 AM

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

Subject: Fwd: FOI

> Hello,

> I heard on the radio this morning with dismay this new legislation regarding the \$25 FOI fee. This is outrageous! Faith in our democracy is at an all time low as well as trust in government and you think this is a good idea? Even the privacy commissioner has said its wrong, to which you've ignored his advice I could go on with many reasons as to why this is a bad idea but I'll keep it short. Please take a step back and give give this a second sober thought.

> A little about myself, I was a long time Liberal supporter but have switched sides for the past two elections. I feel you've done an excellent job (thus far) and encourage you to reconsider this plan.

> Regards,

> s.22

>

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: Horgan.MLA, John <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

From: Horgan.MLA, John <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

From:s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 9:15 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI

[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

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 9:56 AM

To: info@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI FEE needs to be readdressed for fragile demographics

[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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 10:27 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: hypocrazy

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

Sir

Re: \$25 fee for FOI requests

How does it feel to know you are looking at a hypocrite each time you look in a mirror?

s.22

Canada

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 12:00 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Open and transparent government: \$25 please

Importance: High

[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 s.22 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

From: s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Fee for FOI requests

[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

From:s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 11:35 AM
To: Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: re: Fee for FOI requests

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 12:27 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of information

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

I am writing to let you know I am appalled with your party position on access to information, this is not a communist country. Requests for information about what any level of government has or is doing should be free and unrestricted. Accountability is what democracy deserves and demands. AT ALL TIMES. I supported you during the last election but rest assured that will NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

s.22

Sent from my Galaxy

From: s.22
Sent: October 20, 2021 12:27 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: freedom of information

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

you never asked me about charging \$25 for an application to get information about government process that should be available to all citizens

and now you admit that your party did exactly the same thing as the liberals are now doing

but for some reason you think it is time to get back to "first principles"

you lying, sorry sack of shit

and people wonder why politics is degraded into a clown show that attracts the worst kind of clowns

s.22

PS. and this is a true thing, as a lifetime right-winger, i have been telling my friends "i can't believe it, i might actually vote for the ndp" ... silly me

you are all assholes left and right ...

Sell your cleverness and buy bewilderment. Rumi

From: Jeremy Hainsworth <jhainsworth@glaciermedia.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2021 1:39 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Media request re Bill 22 and McEvoy letter

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

Hi,
I'm a Vancouver-based reporter with Glacier Media.
I am writing about Information and Privacy Commissioner Michael McEvoy's open letter regarding Bill 22.
Can the premier office tell me why his office should be exempt from public freedom of information requests, please?
In January 2020, the premier said British Columbians had a right to know how he was spending their money.
His comments are here: <https://www.timescolonist.com/updated-b-c-freedom-of-information-law-changes-suggested-as-spending-scandal-unfolds-1.23611570>
What has changed?
Does the premier retract that comment?
What does the premier's office have to hide from British Columbians? If he has nothing to hide, why have an exemption to freedom of information rules?
Thanks
Jeremy Hainsworth

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

s.22

From:s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 2:13 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Check this out – Vaughn Palmer: Horgan attacks public access to government information | Vancouver Sun

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

Vaughn Palmer: Horgan attacks public access to government information | Vancouver Sun
<https://vancouversun.com/news/politics/vaughn-palmer-horgan-attacks-public-access-to-government-information>

You are WRONG on this, and the optics are HORRIBLE! 😞(

As someone who has had to access FOI several times myself, I know it is tremendously difficult to do so much of the time, takes FOREVER to get it done, and is a massive run-around and time waster 😞

YOU ARE WRONG ON THIS!

s.22

From:s.22

Sent: October 20, 2021 2:48 PM

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

Subject: FOI fees

[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

-----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

From:s.22

Sent: October 21, 2021 7:33 AM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Proposed FOI Changes

[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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 21, 2021 12:29 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Proposed FOI bill

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

Dear Premier Horgan,

Look at you now! A bona fide Fascist! The NDP devolves. Next provincial election, I'll vote Green.

Sincerely,

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: October 21, 2021 2:06 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FREEdom of Information

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

Do NOT allow any additional fees for FREEdom of Information. It shouldn't cost anything to get the criminal government to court using documents we're entitled to view. This will be a clear indication of who you are. Be the public servant who serves the public. You're being watched and hell is awaiting your decision.

Peace

s.22

Individual

Mediator

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

From: s.22
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:17 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: re: FOI fees

[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

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:28 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: FOI bill

[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 21, 2021 10:20 PM
Subject: FOI bill

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

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

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

Sent: October 22, 2021 8:31 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW:

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 21, 2021 5:03 PM

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

Subject:

Good afternoon Premier,

Recently your Government made an announcement that people who request background information through Freedom of Information will be charged \$25, which I think is a small price to pay for demanding a lot of Staff time to respond to these requests.

I think that it would be prudent to have the Ministry explain why the \$25 is reasonable and also that the Government receives repeated requests from a few people who from my experience are trying to tie up Government operations, and based on your record nothing untoward is found.

Keep up the good work John.

Your friend from s.22

s.22

Sent from my iPhone

From: s.22
Sent: October 22, 2021 8:45 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI fees

[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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 8:55 AM

To: Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: John Horgan - Freedom of Information access

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

Dear Honorable Melanie Mark

I am concerned about the comments and on-going attitude of your leader John Horgan.

I am a long-time citizen of s.22 and have until recently voted for the provincial NDP for over two decades.

First of all, I would like to add my voice condemning his callousness about all the deaths during the heat dome. I don't need to repeat his actions and comments. My gawd, what a horror show that was and those poor seniors and vulnerable citizens all over the province. It was even written up in international papers.

Think how some of them must have suffered, alone and afraid.

One common aspect of all those who died are that they are a certain age in a certain income class who are isolated or alone.

I vote for the NDP to look out exactly for those citizens.

That heat dome episode alone, even though I respect you, I will not vote for the NDP in my riding as long as John Horgan is leader.

All explanations in public, he has used shifty and sketchy deflection language and I know perfectly well he can make a straightforward statement about your government's mistakes.

Secondly, this whole 'fee' for freedom of information requests and other issues is ridiculous and again Mr. Horgan says 'who cares?'. I care, I have helped low-income parents access information about institutions and bureaucracies that they needed and I tell you what... I 'don't care' if Bob Mackin (a 'journalist' I despise) has made 380 requests... FOI is one of the few direct ways a citizen of the province can get information and the government can be transparent.


I vote for the NDP for transparency in government and to let regular people have easier access to this.

What I want to hear is all this 'tweaking' of the FOI etc... is dropped.
For the first time I am starting to be embarrassed to say I am an NDP supporter.

If these two issues are addressed properly then it will be an indication to me that the NDP is willing to mature and exercise responsible governance.

Imagine if Christy Clark did and said some of the highly immature and callous comments Mr. Horgan has made.

Thank you for your time,
s.22

Autumn 

From:s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 9:01 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: For shame gentlemen

[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.

-----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-](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%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=nPvQpzJBtGpt1w2aj1U9KY1qHilxcKG8aNrexzPx%2Fg8%3D&reserved=0)

[1.5633559&data=04%7C01%7Cpremier%40gov.bc.ca%7C8884b489633d43fefbec08d99577496f%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637705161825594234%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=nPvQpzJBtGpt1w2aj1U9KY1qHilxcKG8aNrexzPx%2Fg8%3D&reserved=0](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%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 9:36 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: CBC News : THE BC PREMIER SHOULD AGAIN BE REMINDED THAT HE WAS ELECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF BC NOT THE CORPORATE ORDER..... STOP SELLING OUT THE CITIZENS OF BC. CAN'T WAIT FOR THE NEXT BC PROVINCIAL ELECTION!!! B.C. premier defends fee for ...

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

<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cbc.ca%2Fnews%2Fcanada%2Fbritish-columbia%2Fpremier-bc-foi-requests-1.6220414&data=04%7C01%7Cpremier%40gov.bc.ca%7C6cd60de33f91463c6d3e08d99579ffb0%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637705173472744468%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=V6asGW0FqjCe%2FkU4Aqjr9QxINxHfBgVy%2Br8s4IVUzug%3D&reserved=0>

Sent from my iPad

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 9:37 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: CBC News : THE BC PREMIER SHOULD AGAIN BE REMINDED THAT HE WAS ELECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF BC NOT THE CORPORATE ORDER..... STOP SELLING OUT THE CITIZENS OF BC. CAN'T WAIT FOR THE NEXT BC PROVINCIAL ELECTION!!! B.C. premier defends fee...

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

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22

Date: October 22, 2021 at 9:35:45 AM PDT

To: premier@gov.bc.ca

Subject: CBC News : THE BC PREMIER SHOULD AGAIN BE REMINDED THAT HE WAS ELECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF BC NOT THE CORPORATE ORDER..... STOP SELLING OUT THE CITIZENS OF BC. CAN'T WAIT FOR THE NEXT BC PROVINCIAL ELECTION!!! B.C. premier defends fee for ...
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/premier-bc-foi-requests-1.6220414>

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<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/premier-bc-foi-requests-1.6220414>

Sent from my iPad

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

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

Sent: October 22, 2021 10:08 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 10:06 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: Popham.MLA, Lana <Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

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

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 form 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.

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 10:21 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,

I supported you in the last 2 elections but my support is not guaranteed.

I am a s.22 . 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.

I'm a s.22 and 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

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

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Sent: October 22, 2021 10:22 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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 Thanks, s.22

From:s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 1:15 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: fees for information?

[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

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 3:50 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of Information

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

I am writing to express my displeasure with the proposed changes to the Freedom of Information legislation, including the thinly veiled proposal to begin charging a fee for information requests. As a long time NDP supporter I find the increasing arrogance of your office and government distressing enough that I do not plan to support your party in the future.

Freedom of information should be a cornerstone of democracy and government should make information freely available as much as possible. The simple fact that citizens need to file a request for information illustrates that information is not freely available. Your government should be proactively making more information freely available rather than implementing barriers to access such as fees or exempting the Office of the Premier from FOI requests.

As a s.22 I know that electronic systems can be put in place to provide access to all information. That is what your government should be doing – making all information available and then restrict access based on well defined privacy criteria. Government is not a business and should not be run as business. Hence in principle there should be no “business” reasons to restrict access to information. The only plausible restriction is one of individual privacy, not one of political expediency or the fact that certain parties may file volumes of requests. One sure method to reduce the number of requests is to make more information freely available!

Thanks,

s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 7:14 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI fee

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

Hey Whoregun- I do believe it must have been one of your Union friends who advised you to implement a fee for information "all British Columbians" are entitled too upon request.

It's a Union tactic - make it difficult if not impossible for members follow Their Unions business.

And for good reason - their dues dollars are spent on people like you!

You really have become a whore for the Unions - nothing to be proud of John Boy!

Bye bye,

s.22

2

From:s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 8:26 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; lisa.beare@leg.bc.ca; Beare.MLA, Lisa LASS:EX <Lisa.Beare.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Info-oipc <info@oipc.bc.ca>; Ashton.MLA, Dan LASS:EX <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Wilkinson.MLA, Andrew LASS:EX <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Greene, Kelly LASS:EX <Kelly.Greene.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Glumac.MLA, Rick LASS:EX <Rick.Glumac.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Elmore.MLA, Mable LASS:EX <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>;s.22
Subject: 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 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, I write this letter as a lifelong New Democrat, where I have given a lifetime of service to the cause of human rights and uplifting the status of the average working person. I am a s.22 s.22 and have served in numerous capacities on behalf of the cause. 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 a New Democrat 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, as I would never as a New Democratic think like this - 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, and that is the reason I have been a long-time New Democrat 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>

From: s.22

Sent: October 22, 2021 11:55 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 'READ AND LISTEN. Backward for government transparency': BCIT and B.C. journalism educators express disappointment, concern over new potential FOI request procedures - North Shore News

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

https://www.nsnews.com/bc-news/deeply-disappointed-bc-journalism-educators-including-bcit-ask-province-not-to-adopt-25-foi-fee-4541835?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=Email

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 23, 2021 9:21 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Proposed Changes to the Freedom of Information Act

[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 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

From: s.22
Sent: October 24, 2021 10:04 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Welcome to BC

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

Mr Horgan

I damn near fell off my chair when the news hour reported the NDP government is bringing in a \$25 fee to access freedom of information issues. It is atrocious enough you have segregated and discriminated against those who have chosen not to be jabbed with a potentially dangerous drug posing as a vaccine. And the fact the Feds may refuse EI to those who lose their jobs over vaccination refusal. I hope Canadians are waking from their coma's and see what is really going on. The sign at the airport should read WELCOME TO CANADA AND BC BANANA REPUBLIC.

From: s.22

Sent: October 24, 2021 3:23 PM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca

Subject: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation

[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

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, but also as a 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 and regular advocate for the cause of human rights for average and marginalized people) to account. I want this type of system where even my own party is not immune to scrutiny 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 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:s.22

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.

s.22

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

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.

From: s.22

Sent: October 24, 2021 6:09 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI proposed fees

[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. s.22 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

-----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

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 8:25 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: FOI fees

[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 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

**PDF Letter was attached to email. See attached PDF labelled 'OOP-2021-14924
Attachment 1 - s.22 for copy**

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

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: October 25, 2021 8:27 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: FOI amendments

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

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

From:s.22
Sent: October 23, 2021 8:55 AM
To: Horgan.MLA, John <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

From: s.22
Sent: October 25, 2021 11:01 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: proposed changes to FOI Act

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

s.22

Telephone: s.22
Email: 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

From:s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 10:39 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; info@oipc.bc.ca

Subject: FOIPPA fee

[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 mispending 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

From: s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 11:10 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Mark.MLA, Melanie LASS:EX <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI requests

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

Dear Premier and Ms Mark

The stated purpose of your Bill 22 is to reduce the number of FOI requests! I am shocked! Obviously it is the people who have the least amount of money who will be most impacted. So they will have no access to the records of their own government? That is outrageous!

Why not, instead, staff the department that is handling FOI requests? Why not improve its efficiency? Why not listen to the recommendations of the committees that have been studying the handling of FOI requests?

It seems that this is a very cynical move to stop citizens of BC from finding out how our BC government operates. I had expected better from you.

Sincerely,
s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 12:22 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: \$25 fee on Freedom of Info.

[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, no way will I vote for you guys either

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 1:14 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Rankin, Murray LASS:EX <Murray.Rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lore, Grace LASS:EX <Grace.Lore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: New approach to FOI requests

[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

From: 's.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 2:45 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Leonard.MLA, Ronna-Rae LASS:EX <Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: JUST ANOTHER REASON NOT TO TRUST THE LYING NDP...

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

https://thetyee.ca/News/2021/10/25/BC-FOI-Changes-Widely-Condemned/?utm_source=weekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=251021

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 25, 2021 7:49 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: stromp <stromp@telus.net>; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

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

[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

Beyond the FOI usage by opposition parties or the news media – who serve the public interest in their own way - we need to focus now on the average B.C. citizens, who can least afford request application fees permitted in Bill 22, and would be most harmed - the innocent parties caught in the political crossfire.

The government assures us that no application fees will be charged for personal requests, just for non-personal "general" ones; one problem we have is that the NDP implies that because most of the public do not file general requests, the public interest would not be harmed by possible prohibitive fees. This assumption is entirely wrong.

Ken Rubin, Canada's most expert FOI applicant and researcher for news media, noted: "From my experience, higher initial fees do act as a barrier: it turns people off who would apply (like citizen groups, people seeking to government effects on their health, income, environment, consumer products, etc.); and some limit their use of FOI in Alberta given the \$25 application fee price tag.

[SEE FILE]

**Word Document was attached to email, see Word Doc labelled 'OOP-2021-14924
Attachment 2 – Stromp' for copy**

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 10:22 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Freedom of information changes - Mandate Queary

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

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

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

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 8:30 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: FOI fee

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

-----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 (my party) 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

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\

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

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

Sent: October 26, 2021 8:31 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: FOI Bill changes

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 25, 2021 5:27 PM

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

Subject: FOI Bill changes

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 definitely 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

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 10:53 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

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

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

Dear Premier Horgan,

A little light reading...

s.22

https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fthetyee.ca%2FNews%2F2021%2F10%2F25%2FBC-FOI-Changes-Widely-Condemned%2F%3Futm_source%3Dweekly%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D251021&data=04%7C01%7Cpremier%40gov.bc.ca%7C28b9eb16acfc47c10a3c08d998a96762%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C637708675607281613%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ij1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=ULbYUB21yFWv8xkJcxdbPWWBSxqVYpZv23f7dNIM3Gc%3D&reserved=0

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

From:s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 1:32 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: FOI Bill changes

[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

>

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 3:04 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Milobar.MLA, Peter LASS:EX <Peter.Milobar.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Bill 22 Freedom of Information charges

[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

From: Jason Woywada <jason@fipa.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 3:20 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Mike Larsen <s.22 ; BCLiberalCaucus@leg.bc.ca; greencaucus@leg.bc.ca
Subject: Bill 22 amendments to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

[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 improve—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.

PDF letter attached to email. See PDF labelled 'OOP-2021-14924 Attachment 3 – Woywada' for copy.

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 6:20 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 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 Premier John Horgan

It must be tedious to constantly answer foi requests from the Liberals.

But it has always been a route bc citizens can take to get answers to questions and without charge. s.22

worked hard to create Access to information with the Liberal govt. Please keep the free rules so not so wealthy citizens can write to the govt and not worry about the cost.

Yours truly

s.22

Sent from my iPad

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 26, 2021 6:57 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Dykeman, Megan LASS:EX <Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: (FREE)dom of Information

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

If you have nothing to hide, then make the required information available and timely and FREE... This is fast becoming a human right... Knowing what the government knows and what they may be hiding from the electorate!

Sent from my iPhone

From: s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 10:36 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: 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 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

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 27, 2021 2:12 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Subject: CLD analysis of Bill 22 - "Significantly weakens" FOI law

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

[View this email in your browser](#)



27 October – for immediate release

British Columbia: Proposed Amendments Significantly Weaken Access to Information Legislation

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Our mailing address is:
Info@law-democracy.org

s.22

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Sent: October 27, 2021 2:47 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>

Subject: Father of B.C.'s FOI law says NDP can't be proud of Bill 22

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

<https://thebreaker.news/news/gabelmann-on-foi-bill/>

[BUSINESS, NEWS](#)

[OCTOBER 27, 2021](#)

[AUTHOR: THEBREAKER](#)

Exclusive: Father of B.C.'s freedom of information law says NDP can't be proud of Bill 22

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Copyright

From:s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 1:07 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: updating BC privacy legislation

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

Why is this Govt NOT listening to the BC Privacy Commissioner for amendments to BC Privacy legislation?

yes, the privacy legislation needs to be updated but NOT to benefit Govts and business and make it more difficult and costly for public to submit FOI requests.

Public is fed up with Govt and business attempting to hide information from public.

Thanks.

s.22

(BC Taxpayer)

Looking forward to your response.

From:s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 11:11 AM

To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: 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>; 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 ; Bob Mackin <bob@thebreaker.news>; Info-oipc <info@oipc.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: 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 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 reflects 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 are or you staff felt this type of response is somehow "sufficient" when it is clearly note.

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

and met you numerous times and 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://vancouversun.com/news/metro/vancouvers-approach-to-access-to-information-appalling>

When a citizen looks at the changes, and weak excuses, deflective 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 which I have so proudly supported, 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:
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 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, Rob LASS:EX <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Horgan, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ma, MLA, Bowinn LASS:EX <Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Simons, Nicholas LASS:EX <Nicholas.Simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; jennifer.whiteside.mla@gov.bc.ca; Farnworth, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; D'Eith, Bob LASS:EX <Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Wilkinson, Andrew LASS:EX <Andrew.Wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Lee, Michael LASS:EX <Michael.Lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ashton, Dan LASS:EX <Dan.Ashton.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bond, Shirley LASS:EX <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Olsen, Adam LASS:EX <Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Furstenau, Sonia LASS:EX <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Morris, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; de Jong, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; s.22

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, but also 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://vancouver.sun.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 (of which I am a member and regular advocate for the cause of human rights for average and marginalized people) to account. I want this type of system where even my own party is not immune to scrutiny 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 are 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: s.22

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.

s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 12:18 PM

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>

Subject: Re: Freedom of information

[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.

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 8:22 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

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

From: s.22

Sent: October 27, 2021 1:13 PM

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

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: 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.

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
>
>

From: s.22

Sent: October 28, 2021 8:23 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: re: FOI and Transparency

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

Mr Whorgan, I think your response of "Who Cares" really is a great summary of your hypocritical attitudes these days, regards s.22

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 28, 2021 10:33 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Subject: CAJ denounces B.C.'s proposed FOI amendments

[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>

"Bill 22 takes the 'free' out of freedom of information," said Brent Jolly, CAJ president. "In one fell swoop, we have gone from the 21st century back to the stone age with this bill. It is a thumb in the eye of transparency efforts to ensure governments are transparent in their day-to-day operations.

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 28, 2021 12:06 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI changes to impact BC First Nations

[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

Kukpi7 Judy Wilson, UBCIC secretary-treasurer, noted First Nations experience high levels of poverty and would be disproportionately impacted.

"The fee will deter First Nations from filing FOI requests," she said in a statement.

From: s.22
Sent: October 28, 2021 7:27 PM
To: Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: 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.

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:
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 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

From:s.22

Sent: October 30, 2021 11:07 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Your gov't should be ashamed of the FOI law changes you are considering

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

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/>

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 30, 2021 12:50 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Coalition news, Globe and Mail, etc

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

Dear Premier,

You 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 promo videos, from Morocco and Scotland. - ST

<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

It didn't take long for B.C.'s NDP government to display the level of arrogance and contemptuousness it once accused the Liberals of when they ran things in the province.

Two mp4 videos attached to email, see attachments labelled 'OOP-2021-14924 Attachment 4 - Stromp' & 'OOP-2021-14924 Attachment 5 - Stromp' for copies.

From: s.22

Sent: October 30, 2021 6:18 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: So arrogant, so soon.

[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

From: Stromp <stromp@telus.net>
Sent: October 30, 2021 8:21 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; stromp <stromp@telus.net>; Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: BILL 22 impacts students, via journalism on health/safety issues, et.al.

[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

"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 changes to UBC's cash payment policies after provincial concerns about money laundering, the harmful impacts of Greekrank on Greek life and 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."

[2]

Student Press Freedom Act BC, Oct. 24, 2021

@SPFACampaign

Campaign to pass Canada's first secondary student journalism protection legislation in the province of British Columbia.

<https://www.spfacampaign.org/news/spfa-campaign-joins-bc-fipas-transparency-matters-coalition>

"The SPFA Campaign has officially joined BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association's Transparency Matters Campaign working to ensure Bill-22 doesn't come in provisional law. Bill-22's regressive changes to BC's already broken FOI system that would prohibit student journalists across the province from accessing government records.

"Bill-22 would fundamentally distort BC's media landscape, creating an imbalance of the journalistic capabilities of small outlets, including regional/community, high school and post secondary, and ethnic and cultural newspapers, disproportionately disadvantaging them compared to corporate/commercial media. It would amplify existing socioeconomic barriers and concentrate access to information to a smaller, wealthier, and less diverse segment of British Columbians."

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

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 8:24 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Bill 22 Freedom of Information

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

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

From: s.22
Sent: October 30, 2021 8:30 AM
To: Fleming.MLA, Rob <Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: Bill 22 Freedom of Information

Dear Mr. Fleming,

Please don't make me regret voting for you by failing to speak up strongly and vote against the \$25 dollar Freedom of Information fee. When in opposition the NDP were vocal about the importance of a strong Freedom of Information system for government accountability.

This fee may seem small to you and Premier Horgan, but it is the weekly food budget for many people. In a time of increased costs for everything including the basics of food and shelter, this Bill is a cold and calculating way to keep us uninformed and mute.

I expected better.

Kind regards,

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: October 31, 2021 11:46 PM

To: Sharma, Niki LASS:EX <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office
PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: I have major problems with the new fee for freedom of information requests

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

Dear Ms. Sharma and Mr. Horgan -- I appreciate that criticism is hard to take when people have been farming FOI requests to back up that criticism. This information is otherwise not forthcoming. It is what the act is for. The fee effectively hides from the press any negative information on the government. It will only make your supporters distrust you.

This proposed fee has all the moral feel of Christie Clarke's triple deleted emails. This fee eliminates any moral high ground the NDP might have got from that

I am otherwise pleased with the performance of the NDP since they took power, especially on their handling of COVID. s.22

s.22

My other friend s.22 a lot has moved to the Green Party. I hope my lack of freedom of information does not call into question whether an BC NDP problem exists or not. It would be very hard to defend at the door. In my neighbourhood it would be hard to defend against the both the Liberals and the Greens. I might even question my own loyalties.

Mr. Horgan always impresses me for his toughness. A tough person would face his problems head on not try to hide them as the BC Liberals did. Everyone makes mistakes. So far, what has separated the BC-NDP from the BC Liberals is that we don't go to great efforts to hide ours. I think the province of BC prefers honesty and integrity over perfection. The people of BC saw through the Liberals lack of honesty. They will see through anyone's lack of honesty.

s.22

From: Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: November 1, 2021 1:36 PM
To: s.22 >; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: I have major problems with the new fee for freedom of information requests

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

Hi s.22 !

This is Ezra, Niki's assistant. I totally hear you about transparency. To clarify, the purpose and I think the outcome of this amendment is to improve transparency: A lot of the information that currently you can only get through an FOI will just be accessible for free, no request required. These are called 'proactive disclosures.' We're also making it an offence to willfully evade and FOI, and giving ministries the power to add 'subsidiary entities' to the list of what's FOI-able.

And yes, they are considering a fee for non-personal FOI requests. Individuals won't be impacted, but this way if say, purely hypothetically, a particular political party was making 4,772 requests, for the combined cost of 14.3 million dollars... well, this might pump the brakes a little. For comparison, 98% of applicants make fewer than 5 requests annually. All news outlets combined FOI requests add up to a couple hundred. An FOI costs 3,000 dollars on average to process, and the sheer number of requests we were getting from a few groups have been gumming up the system, slowing it down. We want to make sure everyone gets their FOI processed within the deadline, so while we're putting a bunch more money in to improve the process, we'd also like the option to introduce a small fee at some point if the number of FOIs continues to escalate. From what I understand, the fees aren't happening right away, but the option is on the table.

It's still going to be very easy for journalists to get the information they need. In fact, it will likely be a whole lot easier: ideally they won't even need an FOI, and if they do they should be able to get the material much faster. Since folks are often writing on a deadline, a swift turn around time is pretty essential here.

I hope that answers some of your concerns! I do recognize that it's not an ideal situation. If you'd like to chat about it more I'm happy to do so over email, or you can give me a call at the office number below.

All the best!

--

Ezra Bloom (they/them)
Constituency Assistant | Niki Sharma, MLA Vancouver-Hastings
Office Phone: 604-775-2277 | 2365 E Hastings St, Vancouver, BC V5L 1V6
Sign up for our newsletter!

I acknowledge that I work, live, and organize on the unceded lands of the unceded, ancestral and traditional homelands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail and any attachments are confidential and protected by legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of this e-mail and any attachments is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact us immediately by return e-mail and delete this copy from your system. Thank you.

From: s.22
Sent: November 1, 2021 12:02 AM
To: Sharma.MLA, Niki <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: I have major problems with the new fee for freedom of information requests

Dear Ms. Sharma and Mr. Horgan -- I appreciate that criticism is hard to take when people have been farming FOI requests to back up that criticism. This information is otherwise not forthcoming. It is what the act is for. The fee effectively hides from the press any negative information on the government. It will only make your supporters distrust you.

This proposed fee has all the moral feel of Christie Clarke's triple deleted emails. This fee eliminates any moral high ground the NDP might have got from that

I am otherwise pleased with the performance of the NDP since they took power, especially on their handling of COVID.s.22

s.22

My other friend s.22 a lot has moved to the Green Party. I hope my lack of freedom of information does not call into question whether an BC NDP problem exists or not. It would be very hard to defend at the door. In my neighbourhood it would be hard to defend against the both the Liberals and the Greens. I might even question my own loyalties.

Mr. Horgan always impresses me for his toughness. A tough person would face his problems head on not try to hide them as the BC Liberals did.

Everyone makes mistakes. So far, what has separated the BC-NDP from the BC Liberals is that we don't go to great efforts to hide ours. I think the province of BC prefers honesty and integrity over perfection. The people of BC saw through the Liberals lack of honesty. They will see through anyone's lack of honesty.

from:

s.22

is:

s.22

From:s.22
Sent: November 1, 2021 4:59 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Sharma, Niki LASS:EX <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: FOI problem

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

Dear Premier Horgan

I have been in BC since s.22 and have voted NDP in every provincial election since. I'm always pleased when the NDP becomes the governing party. For the most part I have also been very impressed with what you've done since taking the reins.

But my skeptical antennae are beginning to act up. A few days ago I read an op-ed piece by Gary Mason in the Globe and Mail that described some of the changes to the FOI the BC government is looking at.

Very bad idea, and very bad optics that will be gleefully and repeatedly used against you by your opponents. What it looks like to generally supportive observers like myself is the kind of creeping arrogance and power hunger that so often gradually overtakes people holding such power. Is this possible Mr. Horgan? Are you becoming jaded, defensive, wanting to solidify control?

I'm pretty sure you are going to lose votes over this, and perhaps your governing position in the next election, if you stick to this plan. I may be among those who abandon the party after all this time. I have little to no respect for the BC Liberals, but my vote may go to the Greens or I may just not vote in the next election as a form of protest. I would also be very unlikely to donate next time or put up another lawn sign as I so often have.

I know I'm not alone in my distaste for these proposed cuts to the viability of the FOI. For example, I shared part of the Gary Mason article on my neighbourhood sharing app Nextdoor Digest, with thousands of subscribers covering s.22 I've received several replies basically all saying something similar, like this one, "I've had it with the NDP."

Please shake off this ill-considered thinking and drop these changes. If anything, such public services should be made more accountable and accessible. And as Gary Mason pointed out, it was actually your party that first brought in this act in 1993. Weakening it significantly like you are thinking about doing would be a cruel irony.

Sincerely (but none too pleased.)
s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: November 2, 2021 12:00 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FOI Access

[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.

Even though I'm not an NDP member, until now, I have always voted for the NDP provincially. It would appear that a minority government is best for the Province.

s.22

From:s.22

Sent: November 2, 2021 3:46 PM

To: contact@bcndp.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Sharma, Niki LASS:EX

<Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; info@humanrights.ca

Subject: Drop the changes to FOIPI

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

Hello.

I have been in BC for nearly s.22 and have voted NDP in every provincial election since. But my skeptical antennae are beginning to act up. A few days ago I read an op-ed piece by Gary Mason in the Globe and Mail that described some of the changes to the FOI the BC government is looking at..

Very bad idea folks, and very bad optics that will be gleefully used against you by your opponents. What it looks like to observers like myself is the kind of creeping arrogance and power hunger that so often gradually overtakes people holding such power.

You are going to lose votes, and perhaps your majority position in the next election if you stick to this plan. I may be among those.

I would also be very unlikely to donate next time or put up another lawn sign as I so often have.

I know I'm not alone in my distaste for these proposed cuts to the viability of the FOI.

Many of my neighbours in s.22
NDP.

have said that they too have had it with the

Premier Horgan and all members of the NDP caucus - drop these changes.

If anything, such public services should be made more accountable and accessible.

--

s.22

CC of hard copy letter from Mayor Doug McCallum to Minister Lisa Beare received by PO on Nov 3, 2021. See PDF labelled 'OOP-2021-14924 Attachment 6 – McCallum' for copy.

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:tfeu

PDF letter attached to email. See PDF labelled 'OOP-2021-14924 Attachment 7 – Mooring' for copy.

From: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: November 4, 2021 8:28 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Bill 22

[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 28, 2021 1:51 PM
To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: 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,

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: November 4, 2021 7:32 PM

To: info@oipc.bc.ca; Sharma, Niki LASS:EX <Niki.Sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office
PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Amendments to FOIPI

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

Hello.

I have been in BC for nearly s.22 and have voted NDP in every provincial election since. But my skeptical antennae are beginning to act up. A few days ago I read an op-ed piece by Gary Mason in the Globe and Mail that described some of the changes to the FOI the BC government is looking at..

Very bad idea folks, and very bad optics that will be gleefully used against you by your opponents. What it looks like to observers like myself is the kind of creeping arrogance and power hunger that so often gradually overtakes people holding such power.

You are going to lose votes, and perhaps your majority position in the next election if you stick to this plan. I may be among those.

I would also be very unlikely to donate next time or put up another lawn sign as I so often have.

I know I'm not alone in my distaste for these proposed cuts to the viability of the FOI.

Many of my neighbours in s.22 have said that they too have had it with the NDP.

Premier Horgan and all members of the NDP caucus - drop these changes.

If anything, such public services should be made more accountable and accessible.

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s.22

Online petition/form letter campaign. Received 105 identical emails from Oct. 22-Nov 5. Only variation was email address of sender included in the 'To' field.

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

From: BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association <FIPABusiness@fipa.bc.ca>

Sent: October 22, 2021 6:17 AM

To: s.22 OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>;

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

Subject: Transparency Matters to Me. Stop Bill 22.

[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.