

British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.
Suite 500 – 1321 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 0B7
Tel (250) 978-1502
Fax 1-866-846-0453
www.bcferreries.com

December 21, 2021

Sent via email to: []

[]

Our Files: FOI-2022-021
and FOI-2022-022

Dear []:

Re: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Requests

British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. ("BC Ferries") received your requests for access to records under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the FOIPP Act) on November 1, 2021. You are seeking:

FOI-2022-021: All correspondence [within the] last 3 years regarding payment of recruitment bonuses for recruiting outside licensed employees

FOI-2022-022: All correspondence [within the] last 3 years regarding foreign recruitment of employees

As noted in our letter of November 10, 2021, we understand that you are seeking records respecting the subject matter indicated in these requests, and not any records that may exist related to specific individuals.

These requests are addressed separately below:

FOI-2022-021:

All correspondence [within the] last 3 years regarding payment of recruitment bonuses for recruiting outside licensed employees

Enclosed please find copies of the records responsive to your request. Some of these records contain information excepted from disclosure under the FOIPP Act. We have removed the telephone/fax/cellular numbers of BC Ferries employees as they are used in emergencies and are also treated privately (sections 15(1)(l), 19 and 22). We have also redacted computer file pathways, as their disclosure could harm the security of computer systems (section 15(1)(l)).

We have noted on the records disclosed to you which section of the FOIPP Act was relied on to sever the information. An excerpt of the relevant sections is attached.

Thank you for your fee deposit of \$8.50, received on November 23, 2021. There is a refund of \$0.20 for this request, as follows:

Locating and retrieving the records	Less than 3 free hours provided in the FOIPP Act	No charge
Scanned electronic copies of paper records	8 pages @ \$0.10/page	\$0.80
Preparing records for disclosure	0.25hours @ \$30.00/hour	\$7.50
	Total	\$8.30
	Less deposit	\$8.50
	Refund	\$0.20

FOI-2022-022:

All correspondence [within the] last 3 years regarding payment of recruitment bonuses for recruiting outside licensed employees

We have now conducted a search but have not identified any records responsive to this request. We consulted offices in the Human Resources, Information Technology and Operations divisions during this search.

Thank you for your fee deposit of \$9.00, received on November 23, 2021. There is a refund for the same amount for this request, as follows:

Locating and retrieving the records	Less than 3 free hours provided in the FOIPP Act	No charge
Scanned electronic copies of paper records	No responsive records located	\$0.00
	Total	\$0.00
	Less deposit	\$9.00
	Refund	\$9.00

We will send a refund cheque for a total of \$9.20 for the two requests by separate letter once the cheque is processed.

You can apply to the Information and Privacy Commissioner for a review of our response to either request. You have 30 working days from receipt of this letter to request a review by writing to:

Office of the Information and Privacy
Commissioner for British Columbia
PO Box 9038, Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, BC V8W 9A4
Facsimile: (250) 387-1696

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with a copy of this letter, a copy of your original request(s), and the reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting the review.

If you have any questions, please write or call our office at (250) 978-1502.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Jason Eamer-Goult
Director, Regulatory & FOIPP

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

[RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 165

Disclosure harmful to law enforcement

- 15** (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to
- (a) harm a law enforcement matter,
 - (b) prejudice the defence of Canada or of any foreign state allied to or associated with Canada or harm the detection, prevention or suppression of espionage, sabotage or terrorism,
 - (c) harm the effectiveness of investigative techniques and procedures currently used, or likely to be used, in law enforcement,
 - (d) reveal the identity of a confidential source of law enforcement information,
 - (e) reveal criminal intelligence that has a reasonable connection with the detection, prevention or suppression of organized criminal activities or of serious and repetitive criminal activities,
 - (f) endanger the life or physical safety of a law enforcement officer or any other person,
 - (g) reveal any information relating to or used in the exercise of prosecutorial discretion,
 - (h) deprive a person of the right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication,
 - (i) reveal a record that has been confiscated from a person by a peace officer in accordance with an enactment,
 - (j) facilitate the escape from custody of a person who is under lawful detention,
 - (k) facilitate the commission of an offence under an enactment of British Columbia or Canada, or
 - (l) harm the security of any property or system, including a building, a vehicle, a computer system or a communications system.
- (2) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if the information
- (a) is in a law enforcement record and the disclosure would be an offence under an Act of Parliament,
 - (b) is in a law enforcement record and the disclosure could reasonably be expected to expose to civil liability the author of the record or a person who has been quoted or paraphrased in the record, or
 - (c) is about the history, supervision or release of a person who is in custody or under supervision and the disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the proper custody or supervision of that person.
- (3) The head of a public body must not refuse to disclose under this section
- (a) a report prepared in the course of routine inspections by an agency that is authorized to enforce compliance with an Act,

(b) a report, including statistical analysis, on the degree of success achieved in a law enforcement program or activity unless disclosure of the report could reasonably be expected to interfere with or harm any of the matters referred to in subsection (1) or (2), or

(c) statistical information on decisions under the *Crown Counsel Act* to approve or not to approve prosecutions.

(4) The head of a public body must not refuse, after a police investigation is completed, to disclose under this section the reasons for a decision not to prosecute

(a) to a person who knew of and was significantly interested in the investigation, including a victim or a relative or friend of a victim, or

(b) to any other member of the public, if the fact of the investigation was made public.

Disclosure harmful to individual or public safety

19 (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information, including personal information about the applicant, if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to

(a) threaten anyone else's safety or mental or physical health, or

(b) interfere with public safety.

(2) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant personal information about the applicant if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to result in immediate and grave harm to the applicant's safety or mental or physical health.

Disclosure harmful to personal privacy

22 (1) The head of a public body must refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

(2) In determining under subsection (1) or (3) whether a disclosure of personal information constitutes an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy, the head of a public body must consider all the relevant circumstances, including whether

(a) the disclosure is desirable for the purpose of subjecting the activities of the government of British Columbia or a public body to public scrutiny,

(b) the disclosure is likely to promote public health and safety or to promote the protection of the environment,

(c) the personal information is relevant to a fair determination of the applicant's rights,

(d) the disclosure will assist in researching or validating the claims, disputes or grievances of Indigenous peoples,

(e) the third party will be exposed unfairly to financial or other harm,

(f) the personal information has been supplied in confidence,

(g) the personal information is likely to be inaccurate or unreliable,

(h) the disclosure may unfairly damage the reputation of any person referred to in the record requested by the applicant, and

(i) the information is about a deceased person and, if so, whether the length of time the person has been deceased indicates the disclosure is not an unreasonable invasion of the deceased person's personal privacy.

(3) A disclosure of personal information is presumed to be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if

(a) the personal information relates to a medical, psychiatric or psychological history, diagnosis, condition, treatment or evaluation,

(b) the personal information was compiled and is identifiable as part of an investigation into a possible violation of law, except to the extent that disclosure is necessary to prosecute the violation or to continue the investigation,

(c) the personal information relates to eligibility for income assistance or social service benefits or to the determination of benefit levels,

(d) the personal information relates to employment, occupational or educational history,

(e) the personal information was obtained on a tax return or gathered for the purpose of collecting a tax,

(f) the personal information describes the third party's finances, income, assets, liabilities, net worth, bank balances, financial history or activities, or creditworthiness,

(g) the personal information consists of personal recommendations or evaluations, character references or personnel evaluations about the third party,

(h) the disclosure would reveal

(i) the identity of a third party who supplied, in confidence, a personal recommendation or evaluation, character reference or personnel evaluation, or

(ii) the content of a personal recommendation or evaluation, character reference or personnel evaluation supplied, in confidence, by a third party, if the applicant could reasonably be expected to know the identity of the third party,

(i) the personal information indicates the third party's racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation or religious or political beliefs or associations, or

(j) the personal information consists of the third party's name, address, or telephone number and is to be used for mailing lists or solicitations by telephone or other means.

(4) A disclosure of personal information is not an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if

(a) the third party has, in writing, consented to or requested the disclosure,

(b) there are compelling circumstances affecting anyone's health or safety and notice of disclosure is mailed to the last known address of the third party,

(c) an enactment of British Columbia or Canada authorizes the disclosure,

(d) the disclosure is for a research or statistical purpose and is in accordance with section 33 (3) (h),

(e) the information is about the third party's position, functions or remuneration as an officer, employee or member of a public body or as a member of a minister's staff,

(f) the disclosure reveals financial and other details of a contract to supply goods or services to a public body,

(g) public access to the information is provided under the *Financial Information Act*,

(h) the information is about expenses incurred by the third party while travelling at the expense of a public body,

(i) the disclosure, in respect of

- (i) a licence, a permit or any other similar discretionary benefit, or
- (ii) a degree, a diploma or a certificate,

reveals any of the following with respect to the applicable item in subparagraph (i) or (ii):

- (iii) the name of the third party to whom the item applies;
- (iv) what the item grants or confers on the third party or authorizes the third party to do;
- (v) the status of the item;
- (vi) the date the item was conferred or granted;
- (vii) the period of time the item is valid;
- (viii) the date the item expires, or

(j) the disclosure, in respect of a discretionary benefit of a financial nature granted to a third party by a public body, not including personal information referred to in subsection (3) (c), reveals any of the following with respect to the benefit:

- (i) the name of the third party to whom the benefit applies;
- (ii) what the benefit grants to the third party;
- (iii) the date the benefit was granted;
- (iv) the period of time the benefit is valid;
- (v) the date the benefit ceases.

(5) On refusing, under this section, to disclose personal information supplied in confidence about an applicant, the head of the public body must give the applicant a summary of the information unless

(a) the summary cannot be prepared without disclosing the identity of a third party who supplied the personal information, or

(b) with respect to subsection (3) (h), either paragraph (a) of this subsection applies or the applicant could reasonably be expected to know the identity of the third party who supplied the personal recommendation or evaluation, character reference or personnel evaluation.

(6) The head of the public body may allow the third party to prepare the summary of personal information under subsection (5).