



*Protection from reprisal.  
Your Right. Our Mission.*

# ***ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT***

**ANNUAL REPORT TO PARLIAMENT**

**APRIL 1, 2012 TO MARCH 31, 2013**



Public Servants  
Disclosure Protection  
Tribunal Canada

Tribunal de la protection  
des fonctionnaires  
divulgateurs Canada

**Canada** 

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## Introduction

The purpose of the *Access to Information Act* (the Act) is to provide a right of access to information in records under the control of a government institution, subject to certain limited and specific exceptions.

Section 72 of the Act requires that the head of every government institution prepare for submission to Parliament, an annual report on the administration of the Act within the institution during each financial year.

This report describes how the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Tribunal Canada has administered its responsibilities in relation to the Act for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

### Overview of the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Tribunal Canada

The Public Servants Disclosure Protection Tribunal Canada was established under the *Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act* to encourage public servants to report wrongdoing by providing protection, in law, against reprisals.

The Tribunal is an independent, quasi-judicial body that hears reprisal complaints referred by the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner. It has the power to order remedies in favor of complainants and disciplinary action against persons who take reprisals.

The Tribunal's mission is to contribute to the enhancement of an ethical culture in the public service through the impartial and timely disposition of cases involving complaints relating to reprisals, alleged to have been taken against a public servant who has disclosed a wrongdoing.

### Organization and Instrument of Delegation

Requests under the Act are received and coordinated through the Executive Assistant to the Registrar and Deputy Head.

Due to the small size of the organization (7 FTEs on March 31, 2013), there has been no delegation made under the Act.

## **Access to Information Statistical Overview**

### Requests Received

The Tribunal received one *Access to Information Act* request and one consultation request during the reporting period.

### Sources of requests received

The request pursuant to the ATIA was received from a public servant. The consultation request was from another government department.

### Completion Time and Extensions

Both requests were completed in under 15 days.

### Disposition of Requests Completed

The request pursuant to the ATIA was referred to another department as the requested records did not reside with the Tribunal.

There was no objection to full disclosure of the information in the consultation request.

### Trends

The Tribunal has received a total of nine Access to Information Act requests since its inception in 2007, from the media and other government institutions and organizations. Two requests were received in the 2009-10 reporting period, three were received in the 2010-11 reporting period, two were received in the 2011-12 reporting period, and two were received in the 2012-13 reporting period. Although this is a low number, an increase in requests can be expected as knowledge of the Tribunal increases, and as it receives more cases over time.

### Fees and Costs

There were no application fees collected during the reporting period as no information pertaining to the request was held by the Tribunal and the consultation request was from another government department.

The coordinator, Executive Assistant to the Registrar and Deputy Head, allocated 1 hour for these requests to the review of documents.

### Training and Awareness

No training activities were undertaken during the reporting period.

### Policies, Guidelines and Procedures

No access to information policies, guidelines or procedures were developed, revised or implemented during the reporting period.

### Complaints

No complaint regarding the Tribunal was filed with the Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada during the reporting period.

### Appeals to the Federal Court

No appeals to the Federal Court were filed under the Act during the 2012-13 reporting period.

### Access to Information Act Statistical Report

This report can be viewed [here](#).