



First Nations Tax Commission  
Commission de la fiscalité des premières nations

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# 2013-2014 Annual Report on the *Access to Information Act*

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# 1. Introduction

## (i) Purpose of the *Access to Information Act*

The purpose of the *Access to Information Act* is to provide a legal and enforceable right of public access to records that are under the control of those government institutions that are listed in its Schedule 1. The First Nations Tax Commission (FNTC) was added to that Schedule as part of the process that led to the adoption of the *First Nations Fiscal Management Act* (FMA) on March 23, 2005. The *Access to Information Act* is intended to complement and not replace existing procedures for access to government information. It is not intended to limit in any way access to the type of government information that is normally available to the general public.

## (ii) Preparation of the Annual Report

This annual report has been prepared in accordance with section 72 of the *Access to Information Act*, and outlines how FNTC has fulfilled its responsibilities under the *Access to Information Act* for the reporting period from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

## (iii) Tabling of the Annual Report

The FNTC's 2013-2014 Annual Report on the *Access to Information Act* will be tabled in Parliament in accordance with section 72 of the *Access to Information Act*.

## (iv) Mandate of the First Nations Tax Commission

The FNTC was established by federal legislation, the *First Nations Fiscal Management Act* (FMA), to provide for the regulation of First Nation property taxation. This Act, Bill C-20, was passed on March 23, 2005, and also created two other institutions: the First Nations Financial Management Board (FNFMB) and the First Nations Finance Authority (FNFA). At this time consequential amendments were made to the *Access to Information Act* to allow its application to the FNTC and the FNFMB. As such, the FNTC maintains openness, promotes transparency and assists any Canadian citizen the right to access FNTC's information.

In 1988, amendments to the *Indian Act* extended the taxing powers of First Nations to their interests in conditionally surrendered or "designated" lands. This First Nation-led change to the *Indian Act* gave First Nations broad new powers to tax the interests within the reserve, thereby establishing their jurisdiction, creating economic development opportunities and providing a basic tool for self-government. The FMA builds upon this work.

The FNTC's primary objective is to ensure that the First Nation property tax system is administratively efficient, harmonized with the various regions in the country, and considers the

interests of on-reserve taxpayers. The FMA establishes the FNTC as a statute-based service agency for First Nations exercising the approval of local revenue laws.

The FNTC represents the collective interests of First Nations and taxpayers and promotes economic development by enhancing the administrative efficiency and stability of the First Nation property tax system. The FNTC's chief aims are to expand First Nation taxation jurisdiction and increase investment and the value of real property tax on reserve. It also ensures the effective administration of the tax system while protecting its integrity by reconciling the interests of First Nation tax authorities, and taxpayers, thus creating benefits to all.

## 2. Administration/Structure

To fulfill the FNTC's responsibilities with respect to the *Access to Information Act*, the FNTC has developed an infrastructure (information management, security and Access to Information and Privacy policies and procedures) to support the FNTC's general operations and the administration of its Access to Information program.

The FNTC Access to Information and Privacy (ATIP) Office is part of the Corporate Services business line. There are three full-time employees who are dedicated part time to the Access to Information activities and three consultants and agency personnel who provide assistance and guidance when required.

## 3. Delegation Order

The FNTC has no delegation order, as the powers and responsibilities under the *Access to Information Act* have been retained exclusively by the Head of the Institution, the Chief Commissioner.

## 4. Interpretation of the Statistical Report 2013-2014

A copy of the FNTC's Statistical Report on the *Access to Information Act* is included in Appendix A of this Annual Report.

### (i) Requests under the *Access to Information Act*

No requests under the *Access to Information Act* were received during the reporting period.

### (ii) Requests closed during the reporting period

No requests were closed during the reporting period.

There is nothing to report in relation to exemptions, exclusions, format of information released, complexity, deemed refusals, and requests for translation.

(iii) Extensions

No extensions were taken during the reporting period.

(iv) Fees

There is nothing to report in relation to fees.

(v) Consultations received from other institutions and organizations

During the reporting period, the FNTC received no consultations from other institutions and organizations.

(vi) Completion time of consultations on Cabinet confidences

No consultations on Cabinet confidences on the application of section 69 of the *Access to Information Act* were sent to the Cabinet Confidences Section of the Privy Council Office.

(vii) Resources related to the *Access to Information Act*

During the reporting period, the costs related to the administration of the *Access to Information Act* incurred by the ATIP Office totalled \$32,150. \$25,000 was paid for salaries of three full-time employees dedicated part time to ATI activities, and \$7,150 was paid for goods and services that included training and publications.

## 5. Access to Information Training and Education

During this reporting period, two employees participated in one training course with Yvon Gauthier Info-Training Inc. in Ottawa, on matters relating both to the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*. Two employees also participated in the Canadian Access and Privacy Association's Annual Conference in Ottawa, on matters relating both to the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*.

## 6. Policies, Guidelines and Procedures

During this reporting period no new policies, guidelines or procedures were implemented.

## 7. Key Issues Raised as a Result of Complaints and/or Investigations

No complaints were received and no audits or investigations were undertaken during the reporting period.

## 8. Monitoring Of Time to Process Access to Information Requests

No monitoring of time to process Access to Information requests was conducted during the reporting period.

Appendix A. Statistical Report on the *Access to Information Act*





## Statistical Report on the Access to Information Act

Name of institution: First Nations Tax Commission

Reporting period: 01/04/2013 to 31/03/2014

### PART 1 – Requests under the Access to Information Act

#### 1.1 Number of Requests

	Number of Requests
Received during reporting period	0
Outstanding from previous reporting period	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>
Closed during reporting period	0
Carried over to next reporting period	0

#### 1.2 Sources of requests

Source	Number of Requests
Media	0
Academia	0
Business (Private Sector)	0
Organization	0
Public	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

### PART 2 – Requests closed during the reporting period

#### 2.1 Disposition and completion time

Disposition of requests	Completion Time							Total
	1 to 15 days	16 to 30 days	31 to 60 days	61 to 120 days	121 to 180 days	181 to 365 days	More than 365 days	
All disclosed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No records exist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Request transferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Request abandoned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Treated informally	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## 2.2 Exemptions

Section	Number of requests	Section	Number of requests	Section	Number of requests	Section	Number of requests
13(1)(a)	0	16(2)(a)	0	18(a)	0	20.1	0
13(1)(b)	0	16(2)(b)	0	18(b)	0	20.2	0
13(1)(c)	0	16(2)(c)	0	18(c)	0	20.4	0
13(1)(d)	0	16(3)	0	18(d)	0	21(1)(a)	0
13(1)(e)	0	16.1(1)(a)	0	18.1(1)(a)	0	21(1)(b)	0
14(a)	0	16.1(1)(b)	0	18.1(1)(b)	0	21(1)(c)	0
14(b)	0	16.1(1)(c)	0	18.1(1)(c)	0	21(1)(d)	0
15(1) - I.A.*	0	16.1(1)(d)	0	18.1(1)(d)	0	22	0
15(1) - Def.*	0	16.2(1)	0	19(1)	0	22.1(1)	0
15(1) - S.A.*	0	16.3	0	20(1)(a)	0	23	0
16(1)(a)(i)	0	16.4(1)(a)	0	20(1)(b)	0	24(1)	0
16(1)(a)(ii)	0	16.4(1)(b)	0	20(1)(b.1)	0	26	0
16(1)(a)(iii)	0	16.5	0	20(1)(c)	0		
16(1)(b)	0	17	0	20(1)(d)	0		
16(1)(c)	0						
16(1)(d)	0						

\* I.A.: International Affairs    Def.: Defence of Canada    S.A.: Subversive Activities

## 2.3 Exclusions

Section	Number of requests	Section	Number of requests	Section	Number of requests
68(a)	0	69(1)(a)	0	69(1)(g) re (a)	0
68(b)	0	69(1)(b)	0	69(1)(g) re (b)	0
68(c)	0	69(1)(c)	0	69(1)(g) re (c)	0
68.1	0	69(1)(d)	0	69(1)(g) re (d)	0
68.2(a)	0	69(1)(e)	0	69(1)(g) re (e)	0
68.2(b)	0	69(1)(f)	0	69(1)(g) re (f)	0
				69.1(1)	0

## 2.4 Format of information released

Disposition	Paper	Electronic	Other formats
All disclosed	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## 2.5 Complexity

### 2.5.1 Relevant pages processed and disclosed

Disposition of requests	Number of pages processed	Number of pages disclosed	Number of requests
All disclosed	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0
Request abandoned	0	0	0

## 2.5.2 Relevant pages processed and disclosed by size of requests

Disposition	Less than 100 pages processed		101-500 pages processed		501-1000 pages processed		1001-5000 pages processed		More than 5000 pages processed	
	Number of requests	Pages disclosed	Number of requests	Pages disclosed	Number of requests	Pages disclosed	Number of requests	Pages disclosed	Number of requests	Pages disclosed
All disclosed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abandoned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## 2.5.3 Other complexities

Disposition	Consultation required	Assessment of fees	Legal advice sought	Other	Total
All disclosed	0	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0	0
Abandoned	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0

## 2.6 Deemed refusals

### 2.6.1 Reasons for not meeting statutory deadline

Number of requests closed past the statutory deadline	Principal Reason			
	Workload	External consultation	Internal consultation	Other
0	0	0	0	0

### 2.6.2 Number of days past deadline

Number of days past deadline	Number of requests past deadline where no extension was taken	Number of requests past deadline where an extension was taken	Total
1 to 15 days	0	0	0
16 to 30 days	0	0	0
31 to 60 days	0	0	0
61 to 120 days	0	0	0
121 to 180 days	0	0	0
181 to 365 days	0	0	0
More than 365 days	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0

## 2.7 Requests for translation

Translation Requests	Accepted	Refused	Total
English to French	0	0	0
French to English	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0

## PART 3 – Extensions

### 3.1 Reasons for extensions and disposition of requests

Disposition of requests where an extension was taken	9(1)(a) Interference with operations	9(1)(b) Consultation		9(1)(c) Third party notice
		Section 69	Other	
All disclosed	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0
No records exist	0	0	0	0
Request abandoned	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0

### 3.2 Length of extensions

Length of extensions	9(1)(a) Interference with operations	9(1)(b) Consultation		9(1)(c) Third party notice
		Section 69	Other	
30 days or less	0	0	0	0
31 to 60 days	0	0	0	0
61 to 120 days	0	0	0	0
121 to 180 days	0	0	0	0
181 to 365 days	0	0	0	0
365 days or more	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0

## PART 4 – Fees

Fee Type	Fee Collected		Fee Waived or Refunded	
	Number of requests	Amount	Number of requests	Amount
Application	0	\$0	0	\$0
Search	0	\$0	0	\$0
Production	0	\$0	0	\$0
Programming	0	\$0	0	\$0
Preparation	0	\$0	0	\$0
Alternative format	0	\$0	0	\$0
Reproduction	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	0	\$0	0	\$0

## PART 5 – Consultations received from other institutions and organizations

### 5.1 Consultations received from other government institutions and organizations

Consultations	Other government institutions	Number of pages to review	Other organizations	Number of pages to review
Received during reporting period	0	0	0	0
Outstanding from the previous reporting period	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0
Closed during the reporting period	0	0	0	0
Pending at the end of the reporting period	0	0	0	0

### 5.2 Recommendations and completion time for consultations received from other government institutions

Recommendation	Number of days required to complete consultation requests							Total
	1 to 15 days	16 to 30 days	31 to 60 days	61 to 120 days	121 to 180 days	181 to 365 days	than 365 days	
Disclose entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disclose in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exempt entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exclude entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consult other institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### 5.3 Recommendations and completion time for consultations received from other organization

Recommendation	Number of days required to complete consultation requests							Total
	1 to 15 days	16 to 30 days	31 to 60 days	61 to 120 days	121 to 180 days	181 to 365 days	than 365 days	
Disclose entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disclose in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exempt entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exclude entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consult other institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### PART 6 – Completion time of consultations on Cabinet confidences

Number of days	Number of responses received	Number of responses received past deadline
1 to 15	0	0
16 to 30	0	0
31 to 60	0	0
61 to 120	0	0
121 to 180	0	0
181 to 365	0	0
More than 365	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0

### PART 7 – Resources related to the Access to Information Act

#### 7.1 Costs

Expenditures	Amount
Salaries	\$25,000
Overtime	\$0
Goods and Services	\$7,150
• Professional services contracts	
• Other	\$7,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,150</b>

## 7.2 Human Resources

<b>Resources</b>	<b>Dedicated full-time to ATI activities</b>	<b>Dedicated part-time to ATI activities</b>	<b>Total</b>
Full-time employees	0.00	3.00	3.00
Part-time and casual employees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Regional staff	0.00	0.00	0.00
Consultants and agency personnel	0.00	3.00	3.00
Students	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	0.00	6.00	6.00

Appendix B. Supplementary Reporting - *Access to Information Act*





