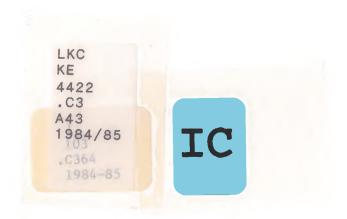


## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

# Access to Information and Privacy Acts

1984-1985





## ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACTS

### ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 1984 TO MARCH 31, 1985

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Minister of State Science and Technology



Ministre d'État Sciences et Technologie

Canada

Her Excellency
The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé,
P.C., C.C., C.M.M., C.D.
Governor General of Canada
Government House
1 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A OA1

Your Excellency:

I have the honour to submit to Your Excellency the annual reports on the administration of the Access to Information and Privacy Acts for the period of April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985, in accordance with section 72 of the legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Honourable Tom Siddon, P.C., M.P.

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#### INTRODUCTION

When the Access to Information and Privacy Acts were proclaimed into force on July 1, 1983, the public's right of access to information contained in federal government records was firmly established.

The Access to Information Act extends to Canadian citizens or permanent residents a general right of access to records under the control of federal government institutions, except in limited and specific circumstances. The Privacy Act gives Canadians access to information held by the federal government about themselves, protects their privacy by preventing others from having access to this information, and gives them some control over its collection and use. This legislation, therefore, constitutes an important step in the direction of a more open and accountable government. It should, as a result, foster greater participation by Canadians in the decision-making process.

This report is intended to describe how the Ministry of State for Science and Technology met its responsibilities in the second year of operation of the Access to Information and Privacy Acts.

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PART 1
REPORT ON THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

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#### 1. Summary of Activities

In the first year of operation of the Access to Information and Privacy Acts, the Access Coordinator of the Ministry of State for Economic and Regional Development (MSERD) was responsible for providing access support to the Ministry of State for Science and Technology (MOSST) with the latter's co-location with MSERD. When MSERD was disbanded in July, 1984, however, the Access to Information and Privacy Office of the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) assumed the responsibility for providing these services to MOSST.

The Ministry experienced minimal activity during this reporting period in terms of dealing with formal requests for access under the Access to Information and Privacy Acts.

#### Organization of Access to Information and Privacy Activities

The primary responsibilities of the Access to Information and Privacy Office include:

- Developing ministerial policies, procedures and guidelines for the orderly implementation of the Access to Information and Privacy Acts;
- Processing formal requests and advising senior management on the operation of the legislation and the disposition of cases;
- Promoting awareness of the legislation to ensure departmental responsiveness to the obligations imposed on the government;
- Acting as spokesperson for the Ministry in dealings with Treasury Board Secretariat, the Information and Privacy Commissioners and other government departments and agencies;
- Coordinating activities for the maintenance of current inventories of ministerial information holdings;
- Coordinating the preparation of information for management and Parliamentary reports as well as other material that may be required by central agencies.

#### 3. Processing of Formal Requests - Summary

The following summarizes the Ministry's process of dealing with formal access requests. All such requests are forwarded to the Access to Information and Privacy Office where they are reviewed for clarity and

conformity with the legislation. Each request is then assigned to a responsibility centre having the primary interest in the request. This responsibility centre is responsible for locating and retrieving the records containing the information sought and assists in determining the costs and fees associated with the processing of the request. After review of the relevant records, the responsibility centre is responsible for formulating recommendations on the disposition of the case. These are evaluated by the Access to Information and Privacy Office before a final recommendation is presented to the Secretary of the Ministry.

#### 4. Delegation of Authority

The responsibility for approving recommendations to deny or provide access to information held by the Ministry and requested under the Access to Information Act has been delegated to the Secretary of the Ministry.

#### 5. Formal/Informal Interface

The Access to Information Act is intended to complement, not replace, existing procedures and channels for access to government information. Individuals seeking information from the Ministry are encouraged to use regular and informal procedures and channels of information to the fullest extent possible.

#### 6. Reading Room

Section 71 of the Act requires government institutions to provide facilities where the public may inspect manuals used by employees of the institution in administering or carrying out programs or activities. In accordance with this section, a reading room was established by the Ministry in 1983. This facility is located in the Communications Branch and holds current copies of the Access Register and Personal Information Index, access request forms and general information for the public on how to exercise their rights under the legislation. The Ministry has no manuals of the type contemplated by section 71 of the Act.

## 7. Statistical Report - Interpretation and Explanation

Appendix A provides a statistical report on the Access to Information applications dealt with in the period from April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985. The following endeavours to provide explanations and interpretations for information contained in this report:

#### I. Requests under the Access to Information Act

Two requests were received by MOSST during this reporting period.

Appendix B attempts to provide a categorization of the requests received by MOSST in terms of known affiliations and provinces of origin.

## II. Disposition of Requests Completed

The two requests dealt with by the Ministry were completed during the reporting period and disposed of in the following manner:

## Disclosed in part

With respect to the first request, the applicant was granted only partial access to the records in question as a portion of the request concerned another government institution and part of the information sought did not exist.

#### Does Not Exist

With respect to the second request, the information requested did not exist.

#### III. Exemptions invoked

As will be noted from Appendix A, no exemptions were invoked by the Ministry in dealing with these requests.

#### IV. Exclusions cited

No exclusions were cited in dealing with these requests.

#### V. Completion Time

Both requests were completed within 30 days.

#### VI. Extensions

As both requests were completed within 30 days, there were no extensions involved.

#### VII. Translations

No translations were required.

#### VIII. Method of Access

In the one case where the records were disclosed in part, the requestor was provided with a copy of the relevant material.

#### IX. Fees

The fees collected during the reporting period totalled \$5.00. In one instance, the Ministry refunded the application fee as the information requested did not exist.

#### X. Costs

Total officer costs associated with Access to Information Act activities are estimated at \$5,390.44 for 1984-85. This compares to support staff costs of \$830.18 for a total of \$6,220.62. The total person-year resources for 1984-85 are therefore estimated as totalling 0.19. This does not include the salary costs for those MSERD staff who were responsible for administering ATIP activities on a part-time basis during the period of April to July of 1984. Fees collected during the reporting period are estimated to represent 0.08 per cent of the Ministry's total costs.

## XI. Appeals to the Information Commissioner

No complaints were lodged with the Information Commissioner during this reporting period.

### XII. Appeals to the Federal Court

No appeals were filed with the Federal Court under the Access to Information Act in 1984-85. PART 2
REPORT ON THE PRIVACY ACT

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#### 1. Summary of Activities

Certain features that were common to the activities of both the Access to Information and Privacy Acts are referred to in part I, section 1 of the Access to Information Act Report.

#### Organization of Access to Information and Privacy Activities

The reader is referred to part I, section 2 of the Access to Information Act Report.

#### 3. Processing of Formal Requests

The processing of formal requests under the Privacy Act is as described in part I, section 3 of the Access to Information Act Report.

## 4. Delegation of Authority

The responsibility for approving recommendations to deny or provide access to personal information requested under the Privacy Act has been delegated to the Secretary.

#### 5. Formal/Informal Interface

Access to the type of personal information that has generally been available to individuals has been continued without formal recourse to the Privacy Act. Where access cannot be granted through informal channels, individuals are informed of their right to submit a formal request under the Act.

#### 6. Exempt Banks

No personal information bank has been designated as exempt in accordance with section 18 of the Privacy Act.

## 7. Disclosure under paragraph 8(2)(e) of the Privacy Act

The Ministry did not receive any requests from the investigative bodies specified in the Regulations during this reporting period. The Secretary of the Ministry is the officer who is authorized to disclose personal information under paragraph 8(2)(e) of the Act.

## 8. Use and Disclosure

The Ministry's Access to Information and Privacy Policy Directive outlines the intent and requirements of the Privacy Act and Treasury Board guidelines with respect to the collection, use, disclosure, retention and disposal of personal information so that all staff will be aware of their responsibilities for the proper management of information holdings. They are particularly advised that no personal information is to be collected unless it relates directly to an operating program or activity; that the individuals from whom they collect information are to be informed of the purpose for which the information is being collected unless this would result in the collection of inaccurate or misleading information; that such personal information is to be retained for a minimum of two years unless the individual consents to earlier disposal.

## 9. Statistical Report - Interpretation and Explanation

Appendix C provides a statistical report on the requests for personal information received under the Privacy Act which were dealt with in the period from April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985.

## I. Requests under the Privacy Act

Two requests were received by MOSST during this reporting period.

Appendix D provides a categorization, by province of origin, of the requests for personal information received by MOSST.

## II. Disposition of Requests Completed

These two requests were disposed of in the following manner:

#### Disclosed in Part

With respect to the first request, the applicant was granted partial access. Part of the information requested was no longer available because of the reorganization which took place within the Ministry in 1983. In addition, part of the information requested was excluded under section 70 of the Privacy Act.

#### Does Not Exist

With respect to the second request, the information requested did not exist.

#### III. Exemptions Invoked

No exemptions were invoked in either of these requests.

#### IV. Exclusions Cited

As will be noted from Appendix C, one exclusion under paragraph 70(1)(a) of the Act was cited by the Ministry in dealing with one request.

#### V. Completion Time

Both requests dealt with during this reporting period were completed within thirty days.

#### VI. Extensions

As these two requests were completed within thirty days, no extensions were involved.

#### VII. Translations

No translations were required in dealing with these requests.

#### VIII. Method of Access

With respect to the case in which the information was disclosed in part, the requestor was provided with a copy of the relevant material.

#### IX. Correction and Notation

No requests for a correction or notation were received.

#### X. Costs

Total officer costs associated with the Privacy Act activities are estimated at \$5,558.88 for 1984-85. This compares to support staff costs of \$839.92 for a total of \$6,398.80. The total person-year resources for 1984-85 are therefore estimated as totalling 0.19. This does not include the salary costs for those MSERD staff who were responsible for administering ATIP activities on a part-time basis during the period of April to July of 1984.

#### XI. Complaints to the Privacy Commissioner

No complaints were lodged with the Privacy Commissioner during this reporting period.

## XII. Appeals to the Federal Court

No appeals were filed with the Federal Court under the Privacy Act in 1984-85.

TRC 350-62 (83/2)

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- O Canada	du Can	ada					REPORT	ON ACCES	S T	O INFORI	MATION	
Institution									R	eporting peri	lod	· · · ·
Ministry of	State	for Sci	e r	ice	and	l Techn	ology			840401	l to 850331	
I Requests under the A	ccess to Inform	ation Act	ا	II Dis	positio	n of requests	completed		_			
Received during reporting period 2 1. All disclosed					sed			6.	Unable to p	process		
Outstanding from previous period 0 2. Disclosed in part			In part		1	7.	Insufficient	t information				
TOTAL		2		3. Exc	cluded				8.	Abandoned	1	
Completed during repor	rting period	2		4. Exe	empt				9.	Does not e	×ist	1
Carried forward 0 5. Tran			nsferre	ed			TO	DTAL		2		
III Exemptions invoked	N/A										IV Exclusions cited	N/A
S. 13(1) (a)		S. 16(1) (d)	ı				S. 20(1) (c)	)			S. 68 (a)	
(b)		S. 16(2)					(d	)			(b)	
(c)		S. 16(3)					S. 21(1) (a)	)			(c)	<u> </u>
(d)	<del> </del>	S. 17				<del> </del>	(b		$\dagger$		(d) S. 69(1)	
5. 14		S. 18 (a)					(c)		+		S. 69(1) (a)	
							(d		+		(b)	
S. 15(1) Internat. rel.		(b)						, 	+		(c)	
Defence		(c)	(c)				S. 22		╀		(d)	
Subversive activities		(d)					S. 23		+		(e)	
S. 16(1) (a)	S. 19(1)					S. 24	<del> </del>	$\perp$		(f) (g)		
(b)		S. 20(1) (a)				S. 25		$\perp$		(9)	1	
(c) (b)					S. 26							
V Completion time		VI Extensi	on	5 N	/ A		VII Transla	tions N/A			VIII Method of access	
Under 30 days	2				Under 80 days	Over 30 days	Translation requested				Coples given	
31 to 60 days		Searching					Translation prepared	)				1
		Consultatio	n				English to	French			Examination	
60 to 120 days		Third party	,		-		French to	English				
Over 120 days		TOTAL					Average tir				Copies and Examination	
IX Fees	-	X Costs					XI Appeals	to info. comr	niss	ioner N / A	XII Appeals to Federal	court N/A
Fees collect	ed			Person	nel			Reasons			Appeal b	y
Application fees	5.00	Officer			\$		Non disclo	sure	-		Applicant	
Penroduction	7,00				5.3	390.44	Extension				Third party	
Reproduction		Support sta	aff		\$	220 10	Publication				Information commissioner	
Searching						330.18	Denial of t	epare trans.				
Preparation		Other			\$		Other				Average time of resol. (for those compl.) (days	
	<del>                                     </del>						No. initiat	ed during		<del></del>	No. initiated during reporting period	
Computer processing		TOTAL			62	220.62	reporting period  No. completed during				No. completed during reporting period	
TOTAL					reporting	period			No. carried forward	100.0		
	5.00	Officer (PY	()			.15	No. carried	ne of resol.				
Fees waived over \$25.00	\$	Support sta	aff	(PY)		.04		ompl.) (days)	_		Disclosure ordered	
Fees waived				.19	Commission mendation	ner's recom- accepted oner's recom-			Non-disclosure ordered			
(no. of times)		TOTAL				• 4 7	Commission	ner's recom-			Other	

APPENDIX B

Requests Received under the Access to Information Act

Affiliation Groups	No.	Percentage of Requests
Academia	2	100
Provinces of Origin	No.	Percentage of Requests
Manitoba Quebec	1	50 50
	<del></del>	
Total	2	100

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#### REPORT ON THE PRIVACY ACT

Institution											R	eporting pe	rio	d		
Ministry o	of Stat	e i	for Sc	ie	nce	and	i Tech	no1	ogy			84040	1	to 85033	1	
Requests under the	Privacy Act			, ,	II Dis	position	of request	scomp	pleted							
Received during repo	rting period		2	1. All disclosed				6.	6. Insufficient information							
Outstanding from previous period					2. Dis	sclosed	in part			1	7.	Abandone	₽d			
TOTAL			2		3. Ex	cluded					8.	8. Does not exist				1
Completed during reporting period 2					4. Exempt					TO	TOTAL				2	
Carried forward 0			0	] [	5. Un	able to	process									
III Exemptions invok	ed N/A													IV Exclusions	ited	
5. 18(2)			S. 21					S. 23	3 (b)					S. 69(1) (a)		
S. 19(1) (a)			S. 22(1) (a	a)				S. 24	4					S. 70(1)	$\overline{}$	
(b)			(b	o)				S. 2	5					(a)		1
(c)			(c	:)			-	S. 20	6				1	(b)		
(d)			S. 22(2)				==.	S. 2	7					(d)		
S. 20			S. 23 (a)					5. 2	8				1	(e) (f)		
V Completion time			VI Extens	ion	s N/	 ' A		VII	VII Translations N/A				\ \ \	III Method of ac	cess	
Under 30 days	2				Under Over 30 days 30 days			requ	Translation requested Translation				[	Copies given		
31 to 60 days			Interference with opera	ations			prov	provided				-			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
60 to 120 days			Consultati		-			-	English to French French to English				ľ	Examination		
Over 120 days			TOTAL					Average time to prepare translations				Copies and examination		1		
IX Correction and no	otation N/	A.														
Corrections requeste	d <b>&gt;</b>			С	Corrections made ➤				Notation attached >							
X Costs				×	I App	eals to	privacy com	missio	ner N	/ A	XI	I Appeals	to	Federal Court	/A	<u>-</u>
Personnel	\$	-	PY	L	Jse and	l disclos	Reas	ons			-	Appeal by				
Officer	\$		1.5	-		closure					-	pplicant				
	5558.8	0	.15	-	xtensi						Pr	ivacy comr	mis	sioner		
Support staff	839.9	2	.04	$\vdash$	Publicat Denial o	of trans	lation							resolution		
Other	\$			-		prepar	e a translati	on			N	o. initiated	du			
	Į.	$\perp$		L	Other						Z	porting per o. complete	ed (	during	<del></del>	
TOTAL \$398.80 .19 No. initiated during reporting period										porting per						
	16398.8	S UI	.19			npleted						o. Carried 1	- OI V	reid		
					No. carried forward				Disclosure ordered							
							f resolution pleted) (day				N	on-disclosu	re	ordered	·	
				Cn	ommi	ssioner'	s recom- epted				0	ther				
Commissioner's recommendation rejected																

APPENDIX D

## Requests Received under the Privacy Act

Provinces of Origin	No.	Percentage of Requests
Alberta Ontario	1	50 50
Total	2	100