

**Notice of Time Extension**

June 17, 2020

**Request Number 2020-0004**

Christine Massey  
#221 – 93 George St. S.  
Brampton, ON L6Y 1P4

Dear Ms. Massey:

I am contacting you regarding your access request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the Act) as submitted to the University of Toronto on May 18, 2020. On June 2, 2020, the University transferred the request to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (Sunnybrook) after determining that Sunnybrook had a greater interest in the responsive records.

If you have not already submitted \$5.00 application fee to the University of Toronto, I ask that it be provided to Sunnybrook immediately.

To confirm, you requested access to the following:

*All records in the possession, custody or control of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health or any other department of the University of Toronto (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.) describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).*

*Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead only to:*

- *the culturing of something, and/or*
- *the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), and/or*
- *the sequencing of something.*

*[If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).]*

A request under the Act usually must be answered within 30 calendar days, however section 27 (enclosed) allows for time extensions under certain circumstances. The time limit for answering your request has been extended for an additional 30 days to July 17, 2020. Because consultations with a person outside the institution are necessary to comply with the request, Sunnybrook cannot reasonably be completed within the time limit. You may request that our decision to extend the time limit be reviewed by the Information and Privacy Commissioner. The Commissioner can be reached at:

**Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario**  
**2 Bloor Street East, Suite 1400**  
**Toronto, Ontario M4W 1A8**  
**Canada**

Please note that you have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request a review from the Commissioner.

Please contact me at 416-480-6100, ext. 85046 if you have any questions. We would appreciate you using the Request number FOI -2020-0004 assigned to your request in any further correspondence.

Sincerely,



Jeff Cutler  
Privacy and FOI Coordinator

# **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990**

## **Extension of time**

**27 (1)** A head may extend the time limit set out in section 26 for a period of time that is reasonable in the circumstances, where,

(a) the request is for a large number of records or necessitates a search through a large number of records and meeting the time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the institution; or

(b) consultations with a person outside the institution are necessary to comply with the request and cannot reasonably be completed within the time limit.

## **Notice of extension**

**(2)** Where a head extends the time limit under subsection (1), the head shall give the person who made the request written notice of the extension setting out,

(a) the length of the extension;

(b) the reason for the extension; and

(c) that the person who made the request may ask the Commissioner to review the extension.

