

Freedom of Information Request SARS-COV-2 New Virus Variant

To: privacyandfoi@phsa.ca

Thu, Dec 31, 2020 at 6:33 PM

December 31, 2020

To: Provincial Health Services Authority - Email: privacyandfoi@phsa.ca
Provincial Health Services,
[200 - 1333 West Broadway](#),
Vancouver, BC
V6H 4C1

Attn: Senior Director, Information Access & Privacy Services

This is a formal request made under

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

[RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 165

Description of Requested Records:

All records in the possession, custody or control of Provincial Health Services Authority that:

- describe the isolation of the [alleged] *genetic variant of the* [alleged] *virus that* [allegedly] *causes* [the alleged disease referred to as] *COVID-19* [allegedly] *identified in the United Kingdom*, 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; fetal bovine serum).

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" refers instead to:

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

- describe the **discovery** (**not manufacture / fabrication / creation / assembly / alignment / trimming / mapping**) of the alleged genome for this alleged particular *new variant of coronavirus*;
- describe how this alleged *new variant of coronavirus* relates to the alleged "SARS-COV-2";
- include **any** additional analysis/investigation into this alleged "*new variant*".

Please note that my request is **not** limited to records that were authored by agents of Provincial Health Services Authority, or to records that pertain to work done by agents of the Provincial Health Services Authority; it includes **any** sort of record, authored by anyone, anywhere, ever.

If any records match the above descriptions of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that I may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. author; title; date; publisher); please provide URLs where possible.

Format:

URLs and/or pdf documents sent to me via email; I do not wish for anything to be shipped to me.

Contact Information:

Last Name: [REDACTED]

First Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Thank you in advance and best wishes.

Happy New Year

February 11, 2021

Via email to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Response Letter
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Our File No: PHSA F20-0855

I write in response to your December 31, 2020 request for records made under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSBC 1996, (the "Act").

Request

You requested the following records (the "Request"):

All records in the possession, custody or control of Provincial Health Services Authority that:

- describe the isolation of the [alleged] genetic variant of the [alleged] virus that [allegedly] causes [the alleged disease referred to as] COVID-19 [allegedly] identified in the United Kingdom, 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; fetal bovine serum).

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" refers instead to:

- the culturing of something, or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or
- the sequencing of something
- describe the discovery (not manufacture / fabrication / creation / assembly / alignment / trimming / mapping) of the alleged genome for this alleged particular new variant of coronavirus;
- describe how this alleged new variant of coronavirus relates to the alleged "SARS-COV-2";
- include any additional analysis/investigation into this alleged "new variant".

Phase One Response

BC Centre of Disease Control confirms that there are no records that describe the isolation of the SARS-CoV-2 variant identified in the United Kingdom, directly taken from a symptomatic patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other

source of genetic material, because in order to cultivate a virus it has to replicate in a cell, as a DNA or RNA virus can never be cultivated on its own.

A copy of the Act is available online at:

http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/96165_00

Phase Two

The remainder of the Request will follow in the next phase of this request under our file # F21-0912.

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia (the "OIPC") is the regulator of access and privacy laws in the province. If you have a concern with any decision in the processing of the Request you have the right to request a review of PHSA's decision from the OIPC. For ease of reference, information about the OIPC is included in Appendix A of this letter.

Additionally, should you have any questions about this letter, please contact the author at glimongelli@phsa.ca or 604-829-2514.

Sincerely,



Genevieve Limongelli
Freedom of Information Advisor
Information Access & Privacy Services
Provincial Health Services Authority