

Mr. Peter O'Brien, Chairperson
FOIPOP REVIEW COMMITTEE
C/o Nova Scotia Department of Justice
P.O. Box 7,
5151 Terminal Road
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2L6

Dear Peter O'Brien:

With reference to your request for submissions concerning a review of the Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act.

Enclosed is my submission concerning this important matter. Most important will individuals like myself will be able to appear before this committee.

Would there be hearings in Bridgewater? If so I would like to appear. Depending on the weather, it would be too far to Halifax.

If in Bridgewater, I would like to appear before this committee.

Yours truly,
Anthony Weagle

An advisory committee was established by the mule of politices, that engenders nothing, to review the Freedom of Information and the Protection of Privacy Act.

Fees for requests under the Freedom of Information Act is very expensive. Especially for the mass media and politicians who needs good information to be accurate and useful for constructive criticism. Fees must be considered reasonable and mainly to cover the expenses. Government cannot make a profit for the main purpose of increasing revenues.

On the other hand, Freedom of Information should be "free", if requesting personal information about one's authentic self. Especially if mistakes or wrong doings by government, specifically the bureaucrats who seems to be making a lot of errors lately.

Bureaucratic error makes government look bad. Bureaucrats are also human but the problem is when they refuse to correct their mistakes.

The next step is to complain loudly to the politician who spend more time with constituent's problems then passing good legislation. It would be helpful if "honest was the best policy" for both politician and bureaucrate.

Most important, does the average Nova Scotian know anything about the Freedom of Information Act, the procedure and how to use it? A little education would go a long way.

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I can only relate to my own personal experience with the Freedom of Information Act. (one of my own ten defining moments)

The other year I applied for financial assistance to Community Services, Housing Services to fix up my home in South Brookfield. Due to my low income and disability I qualified for assistance and help was on the way.

The problem, the contractor failed or had no intention of doing the repairs on my home. My financial assistance was cancelled.

Shortly before the contract I signed with Community Services Housing Services expired, I received a letter from the Program Administrator.

They accused me of "not" signing a promissory note and it had to be signed and returned before a specific date or it was cancelled.

I was in a state of chaos and did I know what to do. My knowledge of government was way above average because I studied political science under Professor Gavin Boyd at Saint Mary's University. (Bridgewater)

Discussing interest groups, political factions, etc. within these highly industrialized democracies. One assignment was to write a 3000 word essay:

How important is the bureaucracy compared to the Nova Scotia Legislature and the Cabinet in policy making? Is the tradition of bureaucratic anonymity and secrecy good or bad?"

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Would members of this advisory committee like to write a 3000 word essay on the same topic and send it to Professor Gavin Boyd?

My training in political science under Professor Gavin Boyd told me to use the Freedom of Information Act. The results, I did sign that promissory note. (proof = see enclosed papers)

Would this advisory committee consider this an frivolous application on my part? Would government bureaucrats consider this as an nuisance application? It was the truth???

The truth was against me because government refused to admit or even correct their mistakes. I felt like using the freedom of Information Act again but it was very expensive.

Second would this advisory committee please read my request for Freedom of Information? (see enclosed papers) REASON

Would this advisory committee believe a [REDACTED] by government or a bureaucrate and a contractor who was an agent of the Crown?

Consequently is this advisory committee familar with the following critical choices:

1. the land, goods or money of the subject are in the possession of the Crown
2. the claim arises out of a contract entered into by or on behalf of the Crown
- 3 . the claim is based upon liability of the Crown in [REDACTED] to which it is subject by this Act.

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4. in respect of a [REDACTED] by any of its officers or agents
5. in respect of any breach of the duties that a person owes to his servants or agents by reason of being their employer
6. in respect of any breach of the duties attaching to ownership, occupation, possession or control of property
7. under any statute, or under any regulation o r by law made or passed under the authority of any statute

These seven critical choices came from the proceedings against the crown act. For example when a personal request is made for freedom of information these seven critical choices must be taken into consideration and if a [REDACTED] by government bureaucrats.

The request for "freedom of information" and its bone afied justifications for such information must be granted.

Most important advising the individual who made the request to use section 18 "Notice to Crown" in the Proceedings against the Crown Act.

In closing I strongly feel Nova Scotians must create their life from the inside out according to Dr. Phillip C. McGraw. Ph D.

On the other hand, government must also create their own policies from the inside out. If not, Nova Scotians "cannot" follow Dr. Phill's advice.

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Because it all boils down to:

1. 10 Defining Moments
 2. 7 Critical Choices
- and
3. 5 Pivotal People

Peter O'Brien
Jim Meek
Susan Potts
Keith Corcoran
Bill Wilson