

## **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act Review Committee**

**7<sup>th</sup> Meeting - May 28, 2003 @ 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

### **Minutes**

**In attendance:** Peter O'Brien, Chair  
Jim Meek, Committee Member  
Susan Potts, Committee Member  
Bill Wilson, Committee Member

**Observers:** Bob Doherty, FOIPOP Coordinator - Technical Support  
Crystal Taylor, FOIPOP Admin Assistant - Technical Support

**Conference call:** Keith Corcoran, Committee Member

#### **1) Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- The minutes of May 1, 2003 were approved and will be posted on the Advisory Committee location on the N.S. Justice Web Site.

#### **2) Re: Oral Submissions Heard on May 8, 2003 and May 14, 2003**

- There was considerable discussion on the following topics:
  - What is considered as a reasonable fee.
  - How to improve the process for all parties.
  - Communication Director as a FOIPOP administrator.
- It was noted that all submissions except for the Capital District Health Authority recommended fee reduction.
- It was agreed the committee should look at:
  - Review Office's potential role in determining frivolous and vexatious requests.
  - Requests of previously disclosed records .
- Other issues noted included:
  - Confidentiality issues emphasized in Dalhousie University's submission.
  - Representation from Michelin re: 3rd party notice .
  - Request for an oral submission from Elaine Gibson of Dalhousie University

#### **3) Future Consultations**

- Four additional meetings will be scheduled during the summer, two in July (July 15<sup>th</sup> and July 29<sup>th</sup>) and two in August (dates will be set at the July 29<sup>th</sup> meeting).

#### 4) Summer meeting schedule and topics to be covered at each meeting

- Topics to be covered during the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting include:
  - Fees, improving the application process, and frivolous and vexatious requests.
- Topics to be covered during the July 29<sup>th</sup> meeting include:
  - Reviewing list of issues that have emerged and decide on what issues to pursue, and reviewing the three recent reviews on the legislation.
- Conference calls with the Information and Privacy Offices in British Columbia, Ontario and Canada will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### 5) Other Business

- It was requested that the committee be provided with: a copy of how fees and vexatious requests are handled in other jurisdictions; and the three recent reviews (Alberta, British Columbia, and Federal) on the legislation.
- The committee will explore conference calls with the Information and Privacy Offices in British Columbia and Ontario.
- The Province was to be notified that if it wished to make an oral submission in addition to a written submission it would have to be made on June 18<sup>th</sup>. **[Note: a written submission was filed by Provincial FOIPOP Administrators but there was no request to make an oral submission.]**
- It was agreed that a summary of points made in the written submission should be prepared

#### 6) Next meeting

- The next meeting was scheduled for July 15, 2003.

#### 7) Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.