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# NATIONAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AUDIT - 2008

PREPARED FOR THE CANADIAN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION  
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# HIGHLIGHTS

Want to know how much CBC pays its top employees? Hurry up and wait. Want to obtain a spreadsheet file of purchases by the City of Windsor, Ontario? Get ready to write a BIG cheque. Want use-of-force reports from officers using Tasers in Saskatoon, Regina, Hamilton or Saint John? You can just forget it.

The fourth annual Canadian Newspaper Association freedom of information audit shows vast inconsistencies in how governments and public agencies fulfill their obligation to be open with the people who elect them. Information available in little time and at no cost from some institutions was unavailable, or only available at high cost or with long delays, from others.

Some examples:

- The City of Windsor said it would cost as much as \$103,000 to provide an electronic list of payments for goods and services, while Saskatoon, St. John's and Regina released the same information quickly and for free.
- Saskatoon, Saint John and Regina police all refused to disclose records about their officers' use of Tasers, saying they don't have to do so because they aren't covered by access legislation. Hamilton police claimed Ontario law forbade release of the reports even though other Ontario forces were prepared to release them for a fee. Five forces released the use-of-force reports with some information severed.
- The CBC imposed a six-month time extension on top of the normal 30-day deadline to reply to a request for the salary ranges and classifications of its top employees. Most other federal institutions released the information in a month or less. Ironically, as of the audit close date the CBC had provided no response to a request for its policy on employees talking to the media.

The 2008 audit found that four in 10 times, institutions failed to deliver a decision on access to public records within the time limit set out by law. At the end of the audit, more than one

in eight of the requests made remained outstanding or hadn't been acknowledged. Most of these were nearly two months overdue.

The 2008 CNA audit uses a letter grade to assess the speed and completeness of each institution's disclosure. Among federal departments and agencies, the department of Public Works and Government Services got the best grade (B+), while the CBC got the worst (D). Among provinces, Saskatchewan got an A-, while British Columbia and Ontario each got C-. In the municipal sector, Saskatoon received an A-, while Moncton, Saint John and Quebec City all received F because they didn't disclose anything in response to requests.

Overall, as in 2007, provincial and municipal institutions in Saskatchewan had the best performance in the audit, again making the province a leader in openness. Saskatchewan was one of the worst performers in the initial audit in 2005, but has improved steadily since. New Brunswick continues to turn in some of the worst performances. Its overall performance this year was dragged down by municipalities that refused to disclose records—or promised to do so and did not—because they are not covered by the Right to Information Act. The province's legislature is now considering a modernized act that includes municipalities and police.

Fees continue to be a barrier to access. Municipalities in Ontario, Manitoba and B.C. were particularly prone to ask for money to release information that other jurisdictions were willing to provide for free. Experience shows officials are often reluctant to grant fee waivers and this is a real barrier to access for citizens seeking information from institutions in those provinces.

The audit also found that many institutions have a long way to go when it comes to releasing information in the electronic formats of the 21st century. Journalists and citizens frequently seek to obtain electronic information from government databases so they can analyze performance in delivering programs and services. One of the requests sent to each level of government requested information in an electronic format capable of being imported into, and analyzed in, a database or spreadsheet program. Many institutions either disregarded the request for an electronic format or said they could not or would not release records in a readable electronic format, choosing to either release paper printouts or static pdf files instead.

One request sent to all of the federal institutions audited asked for data from the system that keeps track of requests under the Access to Information Act. Without exception, those institutions that record the information refused to release an electronic file, even though they are capable of doing so. Performance was a little better at the provincial and municipal levels, but even then, some institutions chose to release paper copies or pdf files instead of the requested format. The government of Newfoundland and Labrador released a list of highway construction contracts as a paper printout, which was a computer printout that included a “print date,” while maintaining in its disclosure letter that it didn’t have any electronic data.

The audit ran from late August to early November. A project team filed 219 requests to municipalities and police forces, all 10 provinces and the Yukon, and to 11 federal government departments, agencies and crown corporations. Five requests were sent to each level of government and the responses were tracked in a database.

# INTRODUCTION

## CNA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Freedom of Information—broadly defined as the right of citizens to gain access to information about the policies, decisions and operations of their governments—has been recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada as a “quasi-constitutional” right and a cornerstone of our democratic system.

This right is underwritten by freedom of information statutes in every Canadian province and territory. These laws ensure that members of the public can view or obtain government records on request, subject only to necessary, specific and limited exemptions.

These laws have noble objectives, but in reality the story is somewhat different. Many government agencies and departments have a deeply rooted custom of keeping information confidential. Public servants and politicians often appear not to understand the constitutional imperative of allowing the public to look over their collective shoulders.

The Canadian Newspaper Association (CNA) annual Freedom of Information (FOI) Audit aims to set a marker to assess how well or how poorly governments understand and deliver on their obligations to divulge information about what they do, how they do it and at what cost to the taxpayer.

The CNA believes that citizens should be able to access such information without having to resort to law, and that the laws are there merely to underwrite the public’s right to know. However, as the first three CNA FOI audits demonstrated, officials often resist releasing even the most basic public information. Citizens are often forced to invoke the law and go the freedom of information route to obtain what should be public in the first place.

The CNA national FOI audit paints a systematic picture of what happens when an ordinary citizen resorts to access laws to enforce his or her right to know.

# STUDY METHODOLOGY

For this audit, only written requests were filed.

Five requests were devised for each level being tested: municipalities and municipal police forces, provinces and the Yukon, and federal departments and crown corporations. These were then filed simultaneously so all agencies were tested at the same time using the same wording.

The agencies receiving the requests were not told the requests were part of an audit. In order to guard against the possibility that requests from media would be treated differently from routine requests, a student was hired to prepare and submit the requests, which were mailed from a private address in the student's name. Communications with agencies were via an e-mail account set up in the student's name.

The audit team sent 219 requests to 11 federal departments and crown corporations, to 22 municipalities and the police forces serving those municipalities, and to departments and ministries in all 10 provinces and the Yukon. One request was removed from the audit after the agency—Edmonton Police—claimed it did not receive a cheque for the application fee, leaving 218 counted in the results.

At each level, one request was filed for electronic database records, with three common formats, Microsoft Excel or Access and delimited text given as options for release.

The requests sent to each level were as follows:

TOPICS (Short forms used later are at end of each description)

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION AND SHORT FORM
Federal	An electronic copy of the data in the agency's system used to track requests under the Access to Information Act. Please include requests for the fiscal year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 to date. Please provide in Microsoft Excel, Access, or delimited text. (ATIP)
Federal	A listing of the vehicle fleet owned or leased by the agency and available for the transportation of the minister or deputy minister (or senior executives for crown corporations), plus a copy of the department's policy with regard to idling of vehicles. (Cars)
Federal	The name, classification and salary range for all employees at the ADM (or equivalent) level or higher. For crowns, senior executives substituted. (Employees)
Federal	A list of hospitality events put on by the deputy minister's office, or by the minister's office in 2007-2008 and 2008 to date, including for each event the purpose of the event, the location, number of attendees and the total cost of the hospitality event. For crowns, slightly different wording was used. (Hospitality)
Federal	The current policy and procedures with regard to employees/public servants speaking to members of the news media, and the policy that was in effect December 31, 2005. (Media)

TOPICS (Short forms used later are at end of each description)

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION AND SHORT FORM
Municipal	An inventory of the municipality's passenger vehicle fleet, including make and model, how many are in the fleet, and the department using the vehicles. As well, a copy of the municipality's policy on idling vehicles. (Fleet)
Municipal	A list of all out-of-province trips taken by the mayor, including destination, purpose of trip, and cost of the trip. If no such list exists, please provide other records sufficient to provide the same information [clarified when asked to mean current mayor's term(s)] (Mayor)
Municipal	An electronic list of all payments made by the municipality for goods and/or services. Please include the name of the payee, the reason for the payment, the amount paid, the invoice number, and the date paid. Please provide the data in Microsoft Excel, Access or delimited text format. (Payments)
Municipal	The priority list for municipal road repairs for the current year, including name of street, work required, estimated or expected cost, and when the work is scheduled. (Roads)
Municipal (police)	All reports prepared by police officers in 2007 and 2008 after their use of Tasers or any similar electronic control devices. (Tasers)

TOPICS (Short forms used later are at end of each description)	
LEVEL	DESCRIPTION AND SHORT FORM
Provincial	Any briefing notes prepared for the provincial minister of finance on the issue of a carbon tax. (Carbon)
Provincial	An electronic list of highway construction contracts including fields for the contractor, contract value, date contract awarded and description of the work, for contracts of \$100,000 or more awarded during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Please provide the data in Microsoft Excel, Access or delimited text format. (Contracts)
Provincial	Any guidelines or rules on the use of Tasers or any similar electronic control devices by police in the province. (Guidelines)
Provincial	Any internal audits of the system in the last two fiscal years of paying physicians for services covered by the provincial Medicare plan. (Physicians)
Provincial	A list of vehicles (including make, model, and year) available for transportation of members of cabinet and senior public servants. As well, please provide a copy of your policy on the idling of vehicles. (Vehicles)

The audit team mailed the requests on Aug. 26, 2008. Most were received by institutions between Aug. 28 and Sept. 5. An exception was the three federal crown corporations, which had later receipt dates because new cheques had to be issued for the application fees. The time to a decision was calculated from the date an institution said it had received the request, usually indicated in an acknowledgement letter or e-mail. When the auditors received e-mailed or mailed communications from institutions, these were logged in a database system for later analysis. When an agency made a decision on a request, the date of the decision letter was used as the decision date.

The study kept track of seven parameters relating to each request. These were:

- The date the request was received;
- The date the agency issued a decision;
- The type of decision (full release, partial denial, full denial, no records exist, time extension if beyond the end of the audit period and not replaced by a decision, or fee estimate);
- The number of days the institution took to go from receiving the request to issuing a decision;
- The amount of any fee estimate;
- The number of days for any time extension; and
- Any exemptions to release that were claimed by the institution.

The audit was closed on Nov. 20, 2008.

The team held all institutions to the same standards. Requests without a decision at the end of the audit period were deemed to have been refused. In no case was an institution given less than 45 days to respond, and most had more than two months. Forty-five days brings all requests without extensions beyond the legal window and to the point at which a complaint for deemed refusal could be filed. In most jurisdictions this point is reached in 30 calendar days, in British Columbia in 30 business days and in Quebec in 20 calendar days.

## METHODOLOGY: GRADES

An innovation in this year's audit is grading of institutions based on the speed and completeness of disclosure. The faster and more complete the disclosure, the more points an institution was given. Points were deducted for excessive delay, for long time extensions and for large fee estimates on the basis that these are impediments to access. Points were aggregated to arrive at a letter grade. An institution receiving an A was one that consistently released information within 10 days of receiving requests, at modest or no cost, often released information informally without requiring an access request, and consistently released all of the information requested. B indicates satisfactory performance, the equivalent of releasing all of the information requested, taking the full 30 days that are allowed each time. C or D represents commensurately poorer performance, while F indicates no information was released for one reason or another.

# AUDIT RESULTS

## MEETING DEADLINES

The most basic measure of performance under access legislation is whether institutions meet the deadlines to respond to citizens. This deadline is usually 30 days from the date the request is received.

The results of the 2008 CNA FOI audit show that government institutions in Canada are still missing the mark. More than a third of the responses were either late, or the institution hadn't responded at all.

Institutions in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Yukon did best, with more than 80 per cent of requests answered within the deadline. New Brunswick, where municipalities are not included in access legislation—allowing them to disregard requests if they choose—had the worst performance at 42 per cent. Quebec was second worst, with just slightly under half of the requests getting a response within 30 days (in Quebec the law actually requires institutions to respond within 20 days).

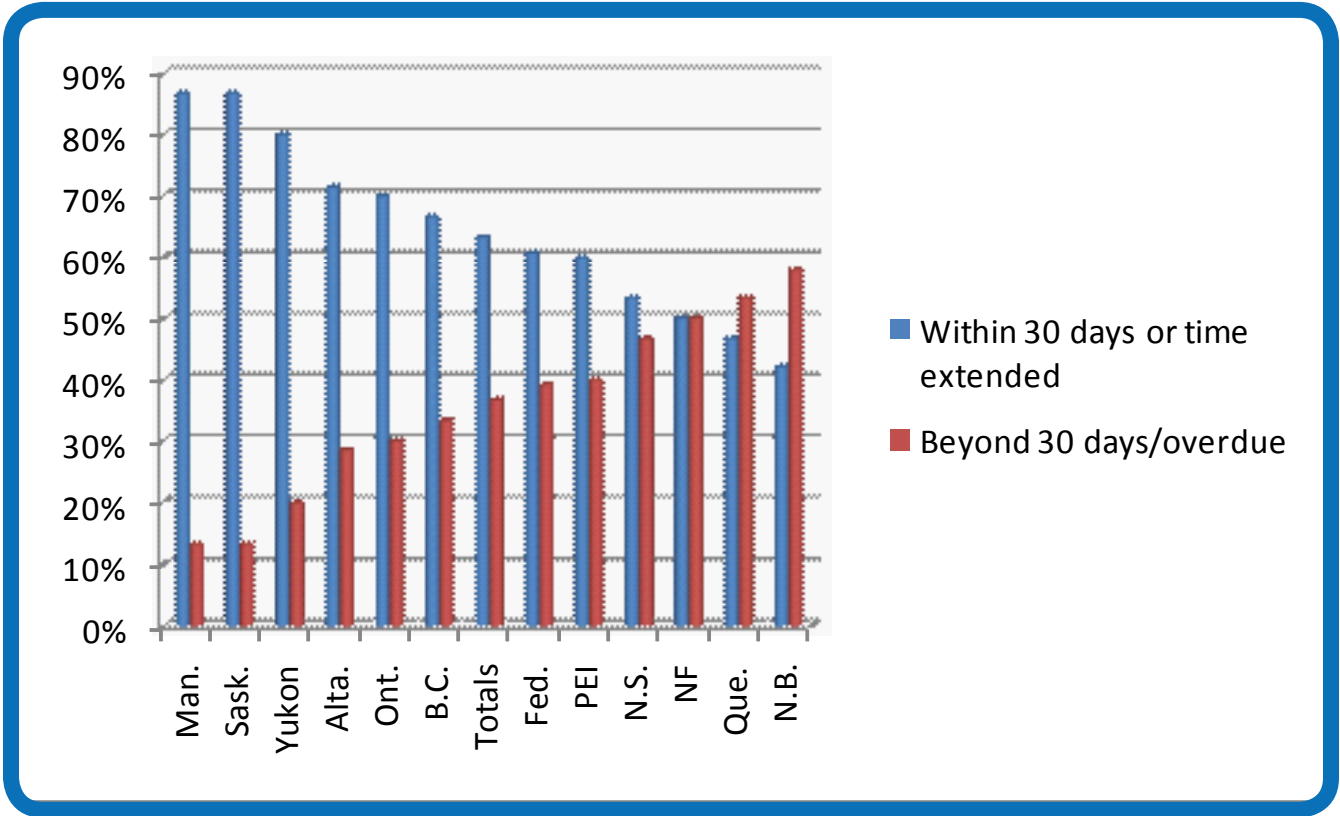
Federal institutions were on time 61 per cent of the time.

The following table shows the details of response times by province/territory, with federal requests included as well. For provinces, municipalities and provincial departments are grouped together:

Province	10 days or fewer	11 to 20 days	21 to 30 days	31 to 45 days	46 to 60 days	More than 60 days	No decision-overdue	Removed from audit	Time extension	Total requests	Within 30 days or time extended	Beyond 30 days/overdue
Man.	13%	13%	60%	13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	87%	13%
Sask.	20%	40%	27%	13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	87%	13%
Yukon	0%	0%	80%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	100%	80%	20%
Alta.	14%	29%	29%	29%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	100%	71%	29%
Ont.	7%	20%	40%	3%	3%	0%	23%	0%	3%	100%	70%	30%
B.C.	13%	47%	0%	7%	7%	0%	20%	0%	7%	100%	67%	33%
Totals	12%	19%	30%	13%	2%	2%	19%	0%	2%	100%	63%	37%
Fed.	13%	11%	34%	21%	4%	0%	14%	0%	4%	100%	61%	39%
PEI	20%	20%	20%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	60%	40%
N.S.	7%	20%	27%	7%	7%	0%	33%	0%	0%	100%	53%	47%
NF	0%	36%	14%	7%	0%	36%	7%	0%	0%	100%	50%	50%
Que.	20%	13%	13%	7%	0%	0%	47%	0%	0%	100%	47%	53%
N.B.	21%	0%	21%	11%	0%	0%	47%	0%	0%	100%	42%	58%

Source: CNA/UKC FOI audit. About half of the decisions made in 10 days or less resulted in either full denial or no records.

The following graph summarizes performance by province:



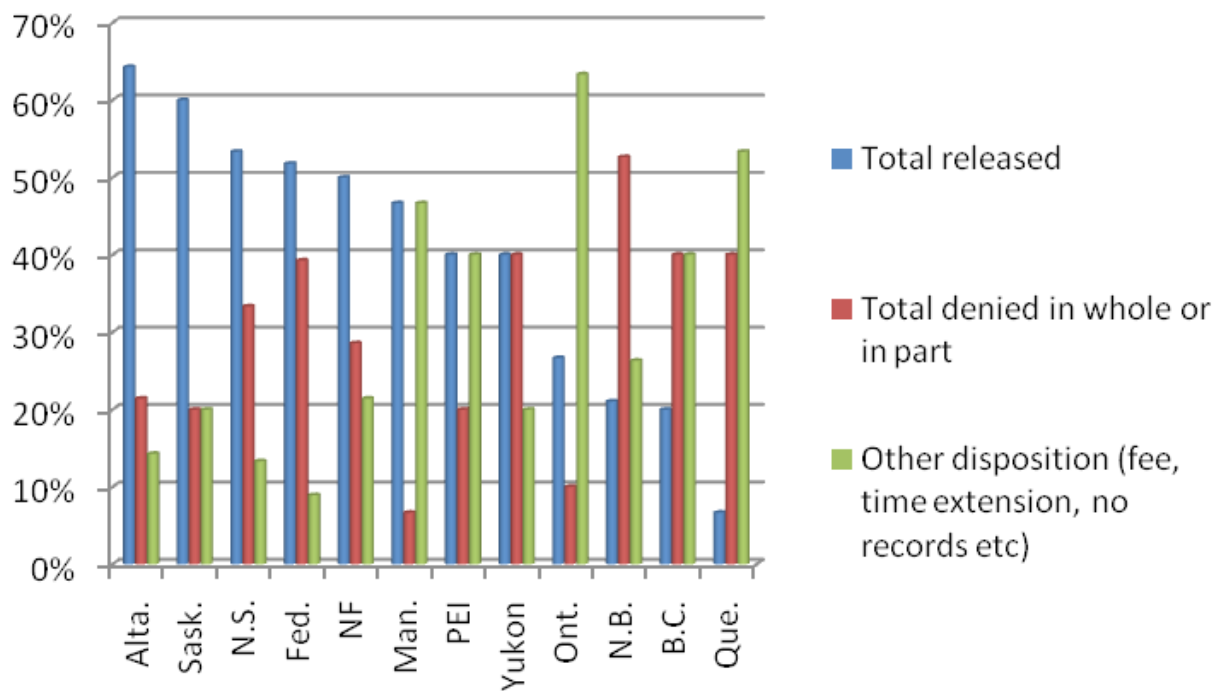
Source: CNA/UKC FOI audit. B.C. allows 30 business days; Quebec allows 20 days. Municipalities in New Brunswick not formally covered by Right to Information Act, but included to test level of openness.

# DISCLOSURE DECISIONS

The other key element tracked by the audit is the degree of disclosure. Overall, institutions released all of the information requested, either formally under the act, or informally, about 40 per cent of the time. They denied all or some of the information about 30 per cent of the time. Thirteen per cent were subject to fee estimates, while the remainder either had not responded in 45 days and had not asked for a time extension, and thus were deemed to have denied access, had requested a time extension, or had not responded at all. The best performance was in Alberta, where 64 per cent of requests were released in full, and the worst in Quebec, where only seven per cent of requests resulted in full release of the records requested. The relatively large number of requests not acknowledged at all in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick is an obvious area of concern. This table shows the breakdown by province:

Source: CNA/  
UKC FOI audit.

Province	0 Informal release	1 Released in Full	2 Denied in Part	3 Denied	4 Deemed refusal	5 fee estimate	6 No Records	7 Time extension (Ongoing)	8 No Acknowledgement	Total released	Total denied in whole or in part	Other disposition (fee, time extension, no records etc)
Alta.	21%	43%	14%	7%	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	64%	21%	14%
Sask.	27%	33%	7%	13%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	60%	20%	20%
N.S.	7%	47%	7%	0%	27%	7%	0%	0%	7%	53%	33%	13%
Fed.	2%	50%	23%	2%	14%	4%	2%	4%	0%	52%	39%	9%
NF	0%	50%	14%	7%	7%	0%	21%	0%	0%	50%	29%	21%
Man.	7%	40%	0%	7%	0%	33%	13%	0%	0%	47%	7%	47%
PEI	0%	40%	20%	0%	0%	0%	40%	0%	0%	40%	20%	40%
Yukon	0%	40%	20%	0%	20%	0%	20%	0%	0%	40%	40%	20%
Ont.	0%	27%	0%	3%	7%	40%	3%	3%	17%	27%	10%	63%
N.B.	5%	16%	5%	26%	21%	0%	0%	0%	26%	21%	53%	26%
B.C.	0%	20%	20%	0%	20%	27%	7%	7%	0%	20%	40%	40%
Que.	0%	7%	0%	7%	33%	20%	20%	0%	13%	7%	40%	53%
Total	5%	36%	11%	6%	13%	13%	8%	2%	6%	41%	30%	29%



## GRADES

Institutions at each level are graded separately because the requests were different at each level.

The grading was based on a point scale. For each request, the audit awarded points for speed of disclosure and completeness of disclosure. Demerit points were given for large fees and long time extensions, both of which are impediments to access.

Points were given on the following basis:

1. For time taken, three points if a decision was made within 10 days, two if made within 20 days, and one if made within 32 days. Any institution taking longer than 45 days lost a point. All institutions were held to the same standard no matter what the legislated time period for a decision.
2. For disclosure, four points were given if an institution released the information informally outside of the act, three if there was full disclosure within the act or if no records were found, two if some of the information was denied, and one if there was a fee estimate.
3. Fee demerits were assessed (all negative) based on the size of fee estimates, with fees of under \$50 not being penalized, fees from \$50 to \$100 resulting in one demerit, fees from \$100 to \$500 resulting in two demerits and fees of greater than \$500 being assessed three demerit points.
4. Finally, time extension demerits were applied to extensions longer than one month, with one demerit being assessed for time extensions from 31 to 60 days, two demerits for extensions from 61 to 90 days, and three demerits to extensions longer than 90 days.

By its design, the grading system awarded the highest grades to institutions that consistently released all of the information requested quickly. The worst grades went to institutions that took the longest times, disclosed the least, applied the longest time extensions or asked for the largest fees.

The grading system was designed from the perspective of the requester and measures the experience for the citizen. As such, it cannot address some issues that may be important to institutions, such as internal staffing questions or their own assessments with regard to the application of exemptions.

The following three tables summarize the grades received at each level:

Municipal Report Card			
INSTITUTION	PROVINCE	POINTS (out of 30)	GRADE
Saskatoon	Sask.	24	A-
Regina	Sask.	21	B+
St. John's	Nfld.	16	B**
Calgary	Alta.	18	B-
Fredricton*	N.B.	16	B-
Halifax	N.S.	14	C+
Montreal	Que.	14	C+
Edmonton	Alta.	12	C+***
Vancouver	B.C.	13	C
Toronto	Ont.	13	C
Winnipeg	Man.	11	C
Hamilton	Ont.	11	C
Victoria	B.C.	9	C-
Cape Breton	N.S.	9	C-
Ottawa	Ont.	8	D+
Corner Brook	Nfld.	7	D+**
Brandon	Man.	6	D+
Windsor	Ont.	5	D
Thunder Bay	Ont.	3	D-
Moncton*	N.B.	0	F**
Saint John*	N.B.	0	F
Quebec	Que.	0	F

Source: CNA/UKC FOI audit.

\*Fredericton, Saint John and Moncton not formally covered by access legislation, but requests were filed to test their level of openness.

\*\*Grades for Moncton, St. John's and Corner Brook based on four requests because policing is by non- municipal agencies.

\*\*\*Grade for Edmonton based on four requests because Edmonton police Taser request dropped from audit.

This table shows the grades for the provinces/Yukon.

Provincial Report Card		
PROVINCE	POINTS (out of 30)	GRADE
Sask.	24	A-
Man.	22	B+
Alta.	22	B+
P.E.I.	20	B
N.S.	17	B-
Yukon	15	C+
N.B.	15	C+
Nfld.	14	C+
Que.	13	C
B.C.	10	C-
Ont.	9	C-

Federal Report Card: Final Stage		
INSTITUTION	POINTS (out of 30)	GRADE
Public Works	23	B+
Canada Revenue Agency	20	B
VIA Rail	19	B
Environment Canada	19	B
Finance	17	B-
Privy Council Office	17	B-
Health Canada	16	B-
National Defence	15	C+
Canada Post	10	C-
Transport Canada	9	C-
CBC	5	D
Codiac RCMP*	4	

This table shows the grades for the federal departments, agencies and crown corporations.

\*Only 1 request filed to Codiac RCMP. It is included for information but not graded. Codiac RCMP provides policing in the Moncton, N.B. area. Overall federal grade is C+.

A particular challenge in the grading was what to do about institutions that said they had no responsive records. In the end, the decision was to be generous and give institutions the benefit of the doubt. If an institution said it had no records, it was given the same three points it would have been given for full release. It is possible that an institution might have said it had no responsive records when it did, but this would be a matter to settle through an appeal, review or complaint. As the institution may be being truthful it would seem unfair to penalize an institution for not having records. Seventeen requests had a response of “no records.” The following table shows institutions that responded to requests saying they had no records, with the number of requests for each.

This table shows the requests that resulted in no records.

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>REQUESTS</b>
Saskatchewan	3
P.E.I.	2
Newfoundland	2
Montreal	2
Manitoba	2
Yukon	1
Royal Newfoundland Constabulary	1
Quebec (province)	1
Privy Council Office	1
Ontario	1
B.C.	1

# DETAILS ON INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS

This section of the report breaks down results on individual requests. The following table shows the disclosure decisions made on each of the 15 requests:

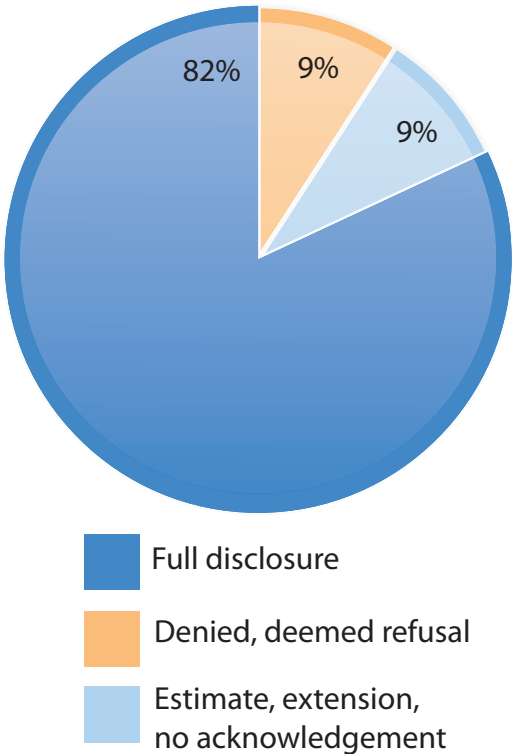
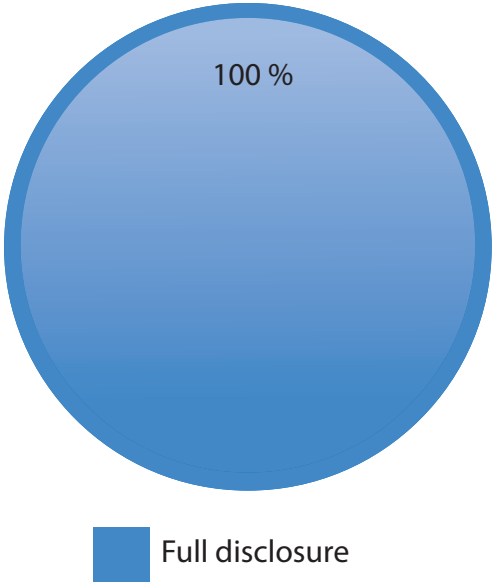
	0 Informal release	1 Released in Full	2 Denied in Part	3 Denied in Full	4 Deemed refusal	5 Fee estimate	6 No Records	7 Time extension (Ongoing)	8 No Acknowledgement	Total requests	Total full disclosure	Total denied in whole or in part	Percent full disclosure	Full disclosure	Denied in part	Denied, deemed refusal	No records	Fee, extension, no acknowledgement
Federal--cars	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	100%	11	0	0	0	0
Federal--employees	0	9	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	11	9	2	82%	9	0	1	0	1
Federal--media	0	8	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	11	8	3	73%	8	0	2	1	0
Provincial--vehicles	0	8	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	11	8	3	73%	8	0	1	1	1
Municipal--fleet	2	12	0	1	2	2	1	0	2	22	14	8	64%	14	0	3	1	4
Municipal--mayor	3	9	0	1	3	4	0	0	2	22	12	10	55%	12	0	4	0	6
Municipal--roads	0	12	0	1	4	2	1	0	2	22	12	10	55%	12	0	5	1	4
Provincial--contracts	2	2	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	11	4	7	36%	4	5	0	0	2
Provincial--guidelines	1	3	0	0	2	0	4	0	1	11	4	7	36%	4	0	2	4	1
Federal--hospitality	1	1	7	0	1	1	0	0	0	11	2	9	18%	2	7	1	0	1
Municipal--payments	1	2	1	3	4	9	0	0	2	22	3	19	14%	3	1	7	0	11
Provincial--carbon	0	1	2	2	1	2	3	0	0	11	1	10	9%	1	2	3	3	2
Provincial--physicians	0	1	1	1	1	0	5	0	2	11	1	10	9%	1	1	2	5	2
Municipal--tasers	1	0	3	3	2	5	0	2	2	18	1	17	6%	1	3	5	0	9
Federal--ATIP	0	0	5	1	3	1	0	1	0	11	0	11	0%	0	5	4	0	2
Federal--tasers	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0%	0	1	0	0	0
Provincial--tasers	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0%	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	11	79	25	13	27	29	17	4	13	218	90	128	41%	90	25	40	17	46

# FEDERAL REQUESTS

## Cars

Wording: A listing of the vehicle fleet owned or leased by the agency and available for the transportation of the minister or deputy minister (or senior executives for crown corporations), plus a copy of the department's policy with regard to idling of vehicles.

All of the agencies released the requested information, in full, by the time of the audit cutoff date. Seven agencies released the records within 30 days; the rest within 45 days.



## Employees

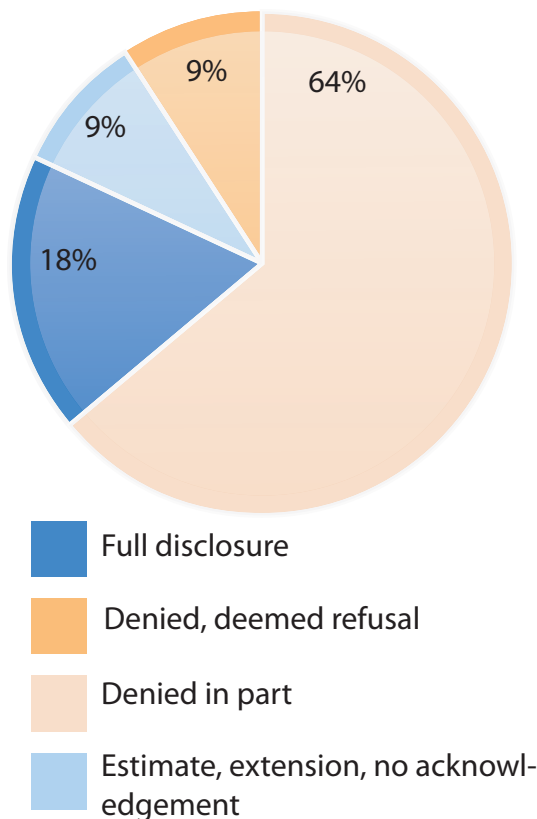
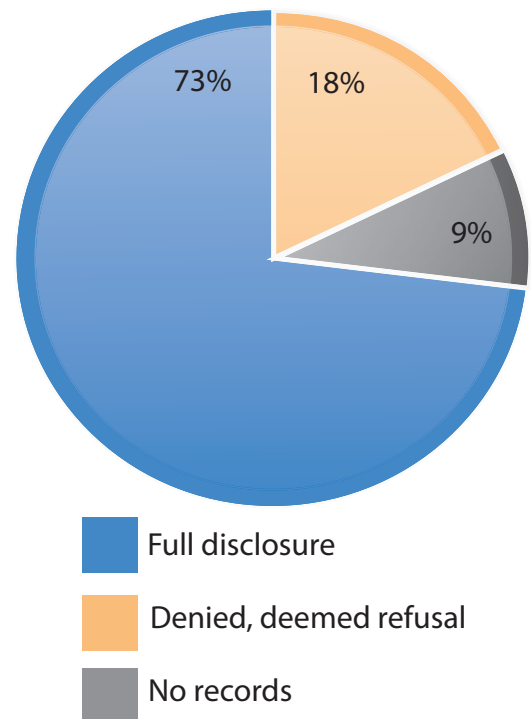
Wording: The name, classification and salary range for all employees at the ADM (or equivalent) level or higher. For crowns, senior executives substituted.

This was another routine request for basic public information. VIA Rail and the eight departments and agencies all released the information in full, from Public Works in 15 days to Transport Canada in 57 days. As of the audit cutoff, Canada Post had not delivered a decision. The CBC stood out from the rest of the federal institutions in seeking a six-month time extension to provide the names, classifications and salary ranges of its senior employees. This is one of the reasons why the CBC ended up with the worst grade of any federal institution audited (see section on grades above).

## Media

Wording: The current policy and procedures with regard to employees/public servants speaking to members of the news media, and the policy that was in effect Dec. 31, 2005.

Eight of the 11 institutions audited released their policies for employee dealings with the news media. Seven of those eight released it within 30 days. The Privy Council Office said it had no records as it operates under the government's umbrella media policy. Two agencies, Transport Canada and the CBC had not provided a decision two months after receiving the request and those requests were deemed refused.



## Hospitality

Wording: A list of hospitality events put on by the deputy minister's office, or by the minister's office in 2007-2008 and 2008 to date, including for each event the purpose of the event, the location, number of attendees and the total cost of the hospitality event. For crowns, slightly different wording was used.

Nine of the 11 institutions provided at least some information on hospitality events. Many formally denied the request on the basis that the information sought was available on the federal government's proactive disclosure websites. These were recorded in the audit as partial denials because the information requested is not identical to that on the websites. Canada Post issued a modest cost estimate. The CBC had not made a decision as of the close of the audit, and was recorded as a deemed refusal.

CNA FOI Audit/Federal Requests

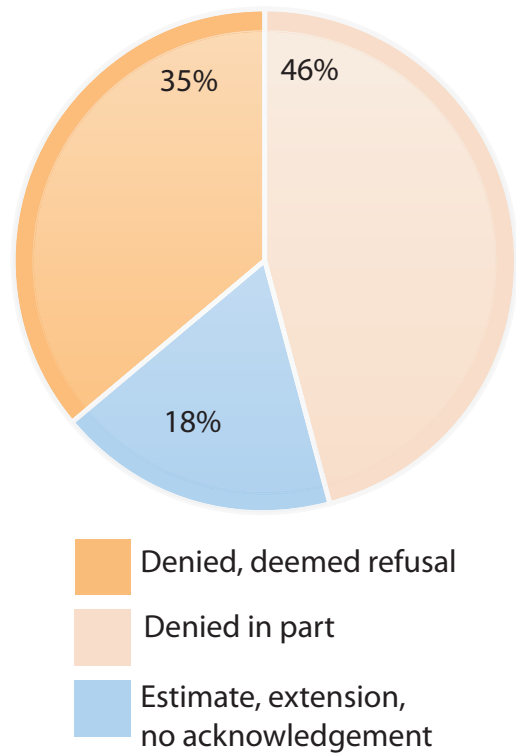
## ATIP

Wording: An electronic copy of the data in the agency's system used to track requests under the Access to Information Act. Please include requests for the fiscal year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 to date. Please provide in Microsoft Excel, Access, or delimited text.

Earlier this year, the federal government killed an interdepartmental database dubbed CAIRS that tracked access to information requests. Journalists and others had been accessing this database in a spreadsheet format to do research on what other requests had been filed. With the death of CAIRS this research was no longer possible.

This request sought similar information to that which had been contained in CAIRS, on a department-by-department basis. It resulted in the slowest and least complete disclosure of any of the requests filed to federal institutions. Crown corporations proved more open than most government departments on this question, with Canada Post, the CBC and Via Rail all disclosing records. The departments of finance and public works also released lists of ATIP requests. All of these institutions, however, left out much of the data requested without any explanation, and declined to provide records in one of the electronic database formats requested, choosing to release either paper print-outs or static pdf files. This makes the information far less useful than the previous CAIRS data, which had been available in an electronic format.

Access bureaucrats in some departments also sought to narrow the request before responding to it.



## ATIP (cont'd)

Environment Canada provided a list of fields it could release, but by the close of the audit had not done so. Officials in National Defence and the Privy Council Office were least cooperative.

Defence agreed to a list of fields to release, but then attempted to reword the request to exclude requests still being processed. After the auditors insisted on continuing with the request as written, and in receiving an electronic format, the department imposed a six month time extension.

Defence also took the position that in order to release the information under the Access to Information Act, and apply any necessary exemptions, it would have to process the data through a system that would produce a static image file. The department offered to release in Excel format outside of the act.

The Privy Council Office refused to process the request unless the auditors said specifically what information they were seeking from the database. When the auditors persisted in asking for a copy of the data in the database, the department wrote that "we are unable to provide an electronic copy of the data requested in the format you have specified." The PCO did not claim any formal exemption under the act and did not explain why it was "unable" to fulfill the request. The auditors attempted to follow up by telephone, but their call was not returned.

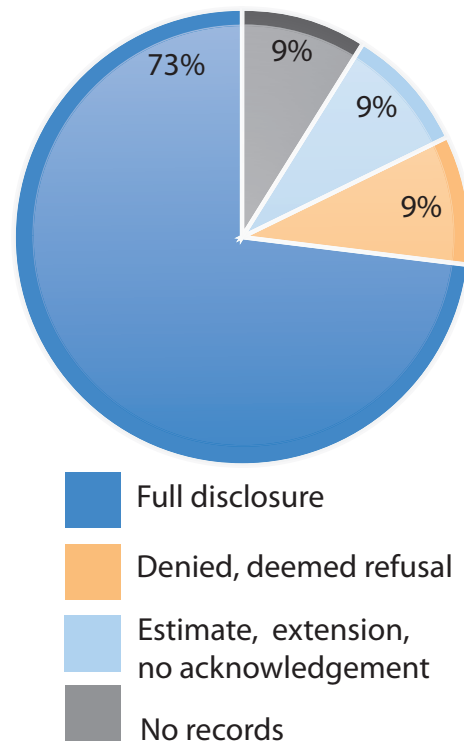
Health Canada and Transport Canada had not responded by the close of the audit and those requests were recorded as deemed refusals, along with the request to Environment Canada.

# PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL REQUESTS

## Vehicles

**Wording:** A list of vehicles (including make, model, and year) available for transportation of members of cabinet and senior public servants. As well, please provide a copy of your policy on the idling of vehicles.

Seven of the 11 jurisdictions released a list of vehicles available to transport members of cabinet and senior public servants, along with the idling policy where one existed. Ontario also promised release upon payment of a \$32 fee. Newfoundland and Labrador said it didn't have any records on such vehicles, although the executive council office suggested filing a request to another department for an idling policy. Nova Scotia released its anti-idling policy, but said it had no records on government vehicles. The request was entered as full disclosure. B.C. had not provided a decision by audit close and the request was entered as a deemed refusal.



## Contracts

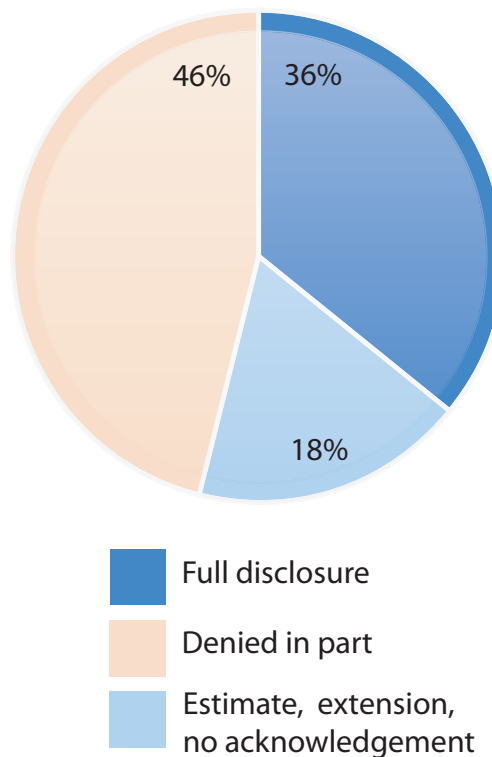
Wording: An electronic list of highway construction contracts including fields for the contractor, contract value, date contract awarded and description of the work, for contracts of \$100,000 or more awarded during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Please provide the data in Microsoft Excel, Access or delimited text format.

Highway construction is always a large expense for provincial governments, and one that has traditionally allowed for widespread patronage. Ease of access to an electronic list of construction contracts valued at more than \$100,000 varied.

Alberta and Manitoba were most open as the information was already available online. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia both e-mailed the requested electronic files.

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, B.C. and Yukon provided computer printouts, and these were recorded as denied in part. The letter from the Transportation and Public Works department in Newfoundland stated that the information “does not exist in electronic form within this department,” even though the record released was a computer printout.

Saskatchewan provided a pdf file, also a partial denial as pdf files are static and can-



not be analyzed in a database or spreadsheet program. Quebec said it would release the records upon payment of a nominal fee.

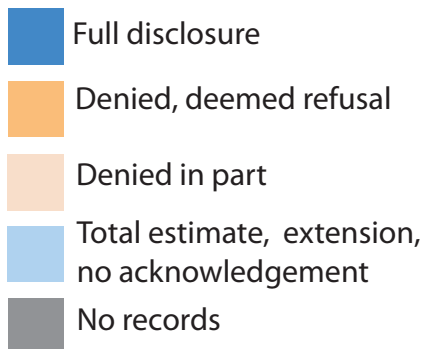
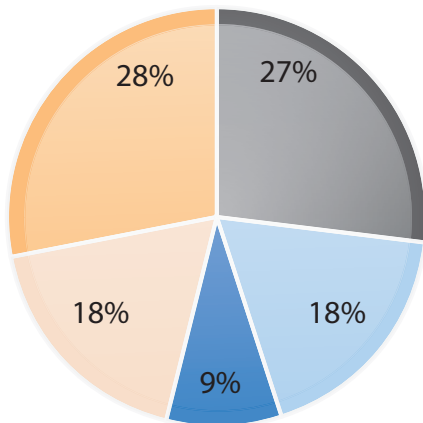
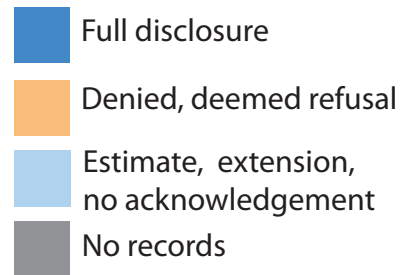
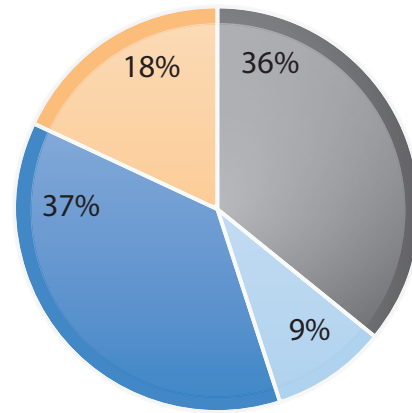
Ontario was least responsive, saying a computer programmer would have to work for three hours to write a script to extract the requested data. There would also be charges for preparation and for a disk, for a total charge of \$220 for the same information other jurisdictions provided at little or no cost.

## Guidelines

Wording: Any guidelines or rules on the use of Tasers or any similar electronic control devices by police in the province.

When asked for guidelines on the use of Tasers by municipal police in the province, Alberta was again the most responsive of all of the provincial governments, releasing the guidelines informally outside of its act.

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Yukon all released their guidelines, within 30 days. Saskatchewan, Manitoba, B.C. and P.E.I. all said they had no records. Quebec did not acknowledge the request, while Ontario and Newfoundland and Labrador did not issue decisions and were recorded as deemed refusals.



## Carbon

Wording: Any briefing notes prepared for the provincial minister of finance on the issue of a carbon tax.

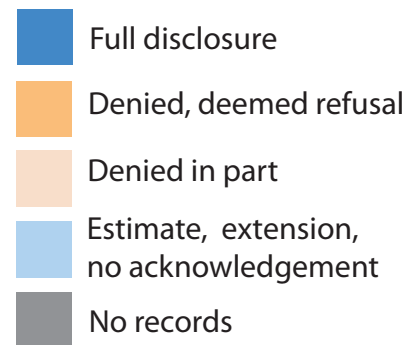
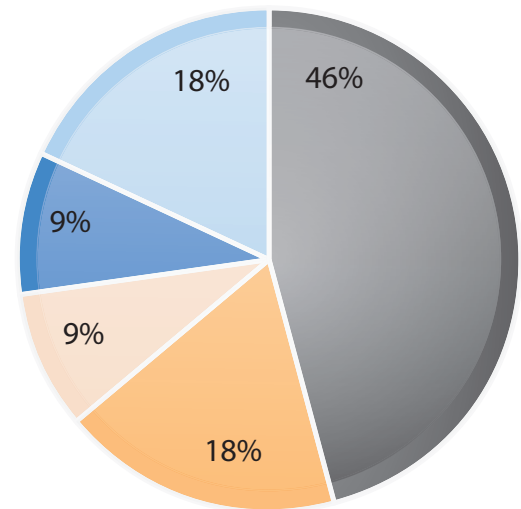
The issue of a carbon tax is controversial, both because of the Liberal Green Shift proposal in the recent federal election, and the prior introduction of such a tax in B.C. The audit sought any briefing notes prepared for provincial finance ministers on the issue.

PEI released one background note on the issue but every other province either denied some or all of the records, said no records existed, or in the case of Nova Scotia and Ontario, said fees would have to be paid prior to release. Nova Scotia's fee estimate was modest, but Ontario wanted \$739.50.

## Physicians

Wording: Any internal audits of the system in the last two fiscal years of paying physicians for services covered by the provincial Medicare plan.

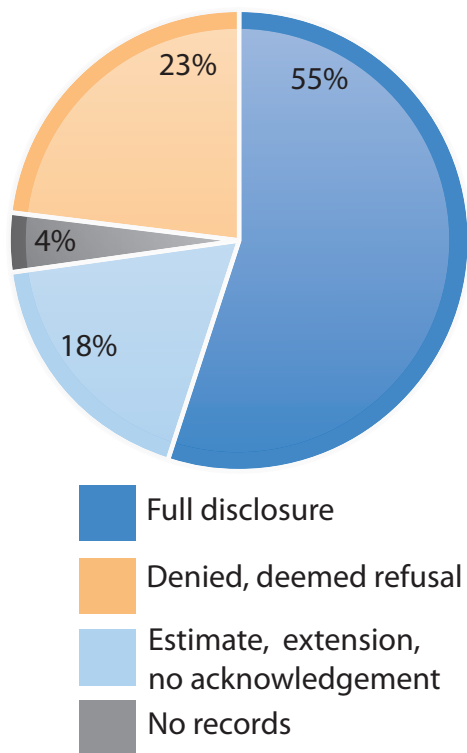
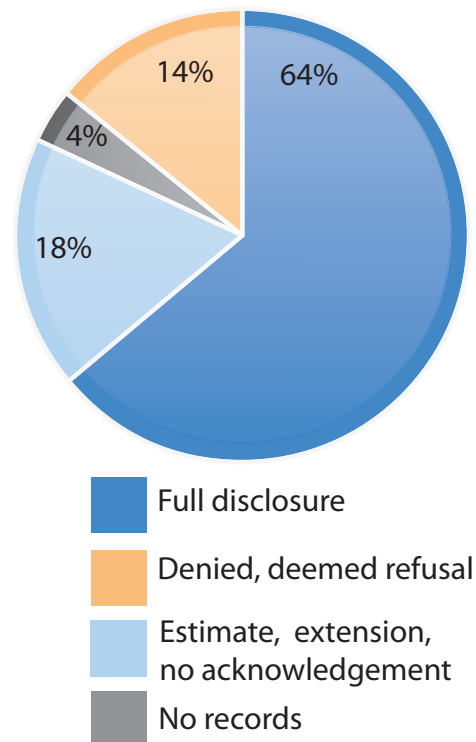
Most provinces either had no records, did not acknowledge the request, or had not provided a decision by the close of the audit. Nova Scotia provided one audit, while B.C. provided one audit but exempted some information.



## Fleet

Wording: An inventory of the municipality's passenger vehicle fleet, including make and model, how many are in the fleet, and the department using the vehicles. As well, a copy of the municipality's policy on idling vehicles.

Of the 22 municipalities sent requests, 12 released the records in full, while two released them informally outside of the act. Windsor and Ottawa issued modest fee estimates, while the latter also said it would only release part of the information requested on the basis that full release could facilitate the commission of an unlawful act or hamper the control of crime. The City of Montreal said it didn't have a list of vehicles in its fleet, or a policy on idling. The remaining municipalities either did not acknowledge the request at all or had not made a decision by the close of the audit and were deemed to have refused access.



## Roads

Wording: The priority list for municipal road repairs for the current year, including name of street, work required, estimated or expected cost, and when the work is scheduled.

Eleven municipalities released a priority list of road repairs at no cost and within 30 days. The top performer was Saskatoon, which e-mailed the list in six days. Corner Brook supplied the information in full, but took 81 days. Montreal said it had no records. Fredericton said it was not subject to the act, while Saint John said it would provide information informally, but never did.

Ottawa issued a fee estimate of \$121, while Vancouver said it would cost \$2,590.

Four municipalities had not issued a decision by the audit close date, and were entered as deemed refusals. Two had not acknowledged the request at all.

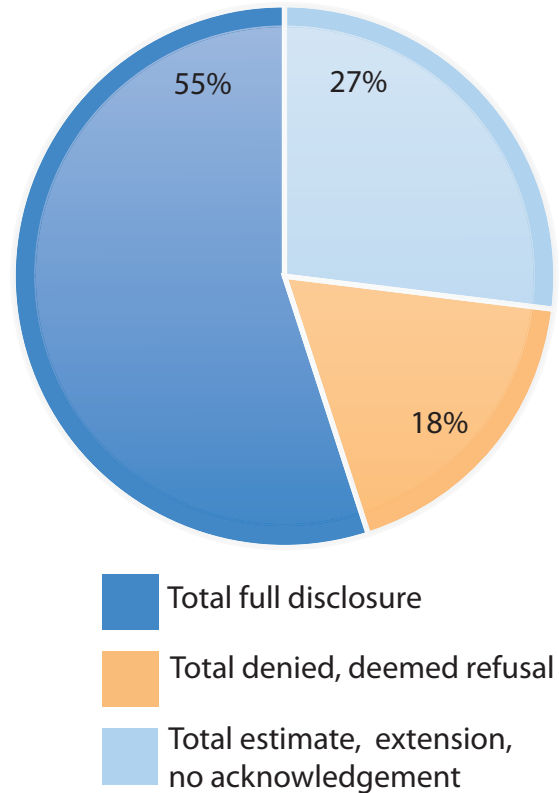
## Mayor

Wording: A list of all out-of-province trips taken by the mayor, including destination, purpose of trip, and cost of the trip. If no such list exists, please provide other records sufficient to provide the same information [clarified when asked to mean current mayor's term(s)].

Access to information about travel expenses has become a basic expectation everywhere in Canada. But the audit request for a listing of out of province travel by the current mayor resulted in dramatically different responses. Three municipalities provided the information informally, outside of the act. Of these, Halifax and Calgary have the information posted online, while Regina provided it by e-mail.

At the other extreme, Fredericton replied that it was not subject to New Brunswick's Right to Information Act although members of the public could go in person to Fredericton City Hall and make handwritten notes on whatever information is mandated to be public by provincial law. Photocopies, or staff assistance to find records, would not be provided, the letter said. Saint John, while saying it was willing to provide information informally, said the auditors should contact the mayor directly.

Four municipalities, Montreal, Windsor, Ont., Victoria and Brandon, Man. issued fee estimates of \$21, \$75, \$575 and \$780 respectively for the same information that some provided free or online. Montreal also indicated it would remove information of a personal nature to ensure confidentiality.



Nine municipalities released the records as requested, while five either didn't acknowledge the request or had not made a decision by the close of the audit and were recorded as deemed refusals.

Most institutions made decisions within 30 days. St. John's took more than 60 days, but that appears to have been caused by an internal delay in the processing of travel claims. The City of Corner Brook also took longer than 60 days, apparently because the employee handling the audit requests left the employ of the city and the requests sat untended for weeks until the auditors inquired about the long delay.

## Payments

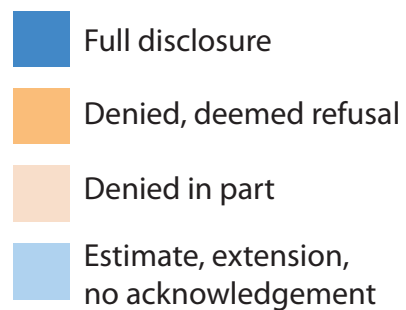
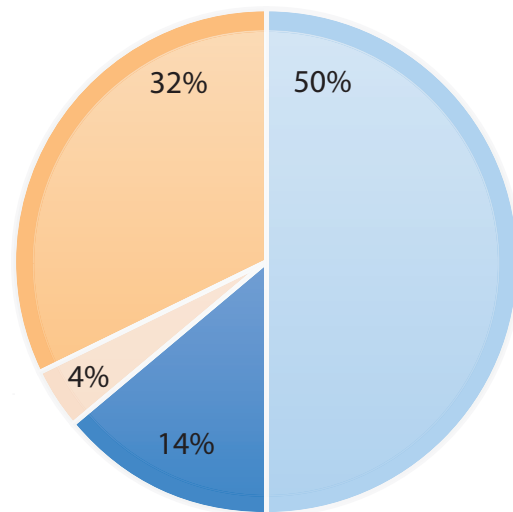
**Wording:** An electronic list of all payments made by the municipality for goods and/or services. Please include the name of the payee, the reason for the payment, the amount paid, the invoice number, and the date paid. Please provide the data in Microsoft Excel, Access or delimited text format.

Knowing how our governments spend money is one of the most fundamental rights in a democratic society. While senior governments publish public accounts that provide aggregated amounts paid to vendors, many municipalities do not. This request sought a list of payments in electronic form, generated from the municipalities accounting system.

Responses to this request varied wildly.

The City of Regina provided the listing informally by e-mail, while Saskatoon and St. John's did the same, though formally through their legislation. The City of Corner Brook also provided the payments information by e-mail, although it did so as a pdf file, so this request was listed as having been denied in part as a pdf file is static and cannot be analyzed in database software.

Montreal and Toronto simply denied the request altogether. Montreal said it would mean creating a record, which its legislation doesn't require, and Toronto said the request was too



## Payments (cont'd)

large and “fulfilling it would unreasonably interfere with the daily operations of the institution.”

Nine municipalities issued fee estimates, the largest of which was \$103,420 from Windsor, Ontario. The city said it would have to search through more than 100,000 paper records to locate the reasons it made payments. It allowed that if the reason for payment was left out, then it would only cost \$1,570. The city said it would take its staff more than three days to export the data from its computer system, for which it would charge \$780. The rest of the \$1,570 was to be for time spent severing exempt information, and 2,000 photocopies at 20 cents each. It wasn't clear whether paper copies would be provided, or if the charge for photocopies was per electronic “page.” The latter would be a highly unusual practice, while the former would mean the city was ignoring the request for an electronic file.

Other substantial fee estimates were almost \$8,000 from the City of Calgary, \$2415 from the City of Edmonton, \$1,762 from Hamilton, Ontario, \$970 from Ottawa, \$740 from Brandon, Man., \$336 from Winnipeg, and \$160 from Vancouver.

Two did not acknowledge the request, and four had not made a decision by the close of the audit and were recorded as deemed refusals.

## Tasers

Wording: All reports prepared by police officers in 2007 and 2008 after their use of Tasers or any similar electronic control devices.

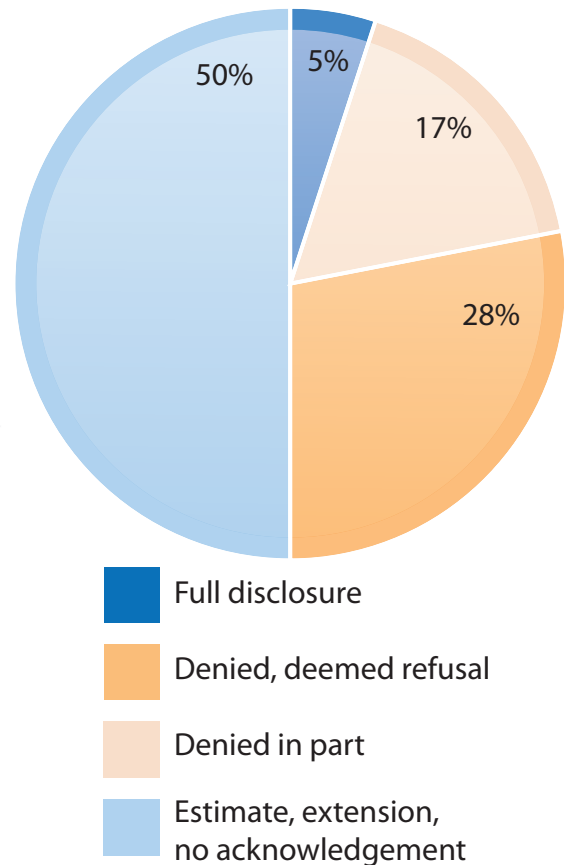
There has been much controversy in Canada over the use of Tasers. The audit sought the reports filled out by police officers after use of what are also often called conducted-energy devices.

Some police forces willingly provided the records with sensitive information removed, while others said no or asked for fees.

The largest fee estimate came from the Winnipeg Police, who requested from than \$4,600, saying a number of types of reports existed for each use of the Tasers. Montreal police wanted \$662.50, while the Brandon Man. police asked for \$195 and the Ottawa Police \$125.40.

Although not subject to the Right to Information Act, the Fredericton Police released use-of-force reports. Some information, particularly the names of those involved, was removed prior to release.

In contrast, the Saint John, N.B. police, also not subject to the act, refused to release the use-of-force reports on the basis that it would be an "improper release of information," and that the police are not covered by the Right to Information Act. The Saskatoon and Regina



## Tasers (cont'd)

Police, both not covered under Saskatchewan access legislation, also refused to release use-of-force reports, but did provide some statistics.

The Halifax Calgary and Victoria Police, and the Codiac RCMP detachment (Moncton) released severed documents.

The Hamilton Police said its use-of-force reports did not have any details of the incidents, but just information gathered to collect statistics, and said in any case the "reports are not accessible to me or to the public and are protected under section 926 of the Police Service Act. They are not even accessible by the Courts." Hamilton police had not issued a formal decision by the time the audit closed, so were recorded as a deemed refusal.

Toronto and Vancouver Police claimed time extensions, which were still in force when the audit closed.

Three other requests were either deemed refused or had not been acknowledged.

A special case was the Edmonton Police Service. It claimed not to have received an application fee with the request and did not respond to a follow up e-mail from the auditor stating that a cheque had been enclosed. Due to the uncertainty, the request was removed from the audit.

# FEE ESTIMATES

The audit revealed startling differences in how different agencies handled the same requests, and as noted in the details above, how some demanded large sums of money to process the same requests that others completed at no cost. These differences are reflected in the formal grades, but a separate discussion of the fee estimates is useful. The following table shows fee estimates greater than \$50:

Fees Greater than \$50				
LEVEL	PROVINCE	ORIGINAL INSTI-TUTION	TOPIC	ESTIMATE AMT.
Municipal	Ont.	Windsor	payments	\$103,420.00
Municipal	Alta.	Calgary	payments	\$7,909.00
Municipal	Man.	Winnipeg Police	Tasers	\$4690.50
Municipal	B.C.	Vancouver	roads	\$2,590.00
Municipal	Alta.	Edmonton	payments	\$2,415.00
Municipal	Ont.	Hamilton	payments	\$1,762.23
Municipal	Ont.	Ottawa	payments	\$970.00
Municipal	Man.	Brandon	mayor	\$780.00
Municipal	Man.	Brandon	payments	\$740.00
Municipal	Ont.	Ontario	carbon	\$739.50
Municipal	Que.	Montreal Police	Tasers	\$662.50
Municipal	B.C.	Victoria	mayor	\$575.00
Municipal	Man.	Winnipeg	payments	\$336.00
Municipal	Ont.	Ontario	contracts	\$220.00
Municipal	Man.	Brandon Police	Tasers	\$195.00
Municipal	B.C.	Vancouver	payments	\$160.00
Municipal	Ont.	Ottawa Police	Tasers	\$125.40
Municipal	Ont.	Ottawa	mayor	\$121.00
Municipal	Ont.	Windsor	roads	\$75.20
Municipal	B.C.	Victoria	payments	\$60.00
Municipal	Ont.	Windsor	fleet	\$60.00

A brief glance over the above table reveals that certain institutions are far more likely to ask for fees than others.

The City of Windsor sought fees on three of the four requests it handled, while the Province of Ontario asked for fees on three of five. Two of these were to the same ministry, the Ministry of Transportation.

The table below shows the number of fees, of any amount, by request level and province:

Fees by Gov't Level and Province		
LEVEL	PROVINCE	REQUESTS
Municipal	Ont.	8
Municipal	Man.	5
Municipal	B.C.	4
Provincial	Ont.	3
Municipal	Alta.	2
Provincial	Que.	1
Provincial	N.S.	1
Municipal	Que.	1
Federal	Fed.	1

While the total number of fees is not large, the proportion of requests subject to fee estimates in Ontario, Manitoba and B.C. is much higher than in other jurisdictions. About one in three requests filed in Ontario and about one in two municipal requests in Manitoba and B.C. resulted in a fee estimate. Ontario does not allow any free hours for search and preparation time for requests, while Manitoba allows two free hours and B.C. three.

# ELECTRONIC REQUESTS

The audit requested an electronic database file from institutions at each level. Access to electronic records is important in modern democracy because so much important information is kept this way. While the sample is small, the results show a disturbing reluctance to disclose electronic records in a format that can be opened and analyzed using database or spreadsheet software. As noted above, those federal agencies that had responded by the end of the audit period had all indicated that they would not disclose the records requested on access to information requests in an electronic format. Performance was better, but by no means good at the provincial and municipal levels. The following chart demonstrates that the requested electronic records were less likely to be disclosed as requested, and without fees, than conventional, paper records:

AUDIT DECISIONS: PAPER vs. DATA		
AUDIT DECISION	CONVENTIONAL	DATA
Deemed refusal	12%	16%
Denied in full	5%	9%
Denied in part	8%	25%
Fee estimate	10%	27%
Informal release	5%	7%
No acknowledgement	6%	5%
No records	10%	0%
Released in full	43%	9%
Time extension	2%	2%

Source: CNA/UKC FOI audit. Records requested in electronic form released on paper or as pdf file were recorded as denied in part. PDF files cannot be opened in database or spreadsheet software.

# CONCLUSION

The fourth annual CNA freedom of information audit has once again revealed deficiencies in compliance with access to information laws across Canada. Institutions are still taking longer to comply with access requests than the law allows, and there are glaring differences in access depending on who receives the request.

# APPENDIX A

## Detailed Decisions by Institution

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Fed.	Fed.	Canada Post	ATIP	23	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Canada Post	employees		Deemed refusal		
Fed.	Fed.	Canada Post	media	23	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Canada Post	hospitality	50	Fee estimate	\$40.00	
Fed.	Fed.	Canada Post	cars	34	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	CRA	employees	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	CRA	hospitality	6	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	CRA	cars	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	CRA	media	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	CRA	ATIP	16	Fee estimate	\$33.20	
Fed.	Fed.	CBC	cars	13	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	CBC	media		Deemed refusal		
Fed.	Fed.	CBC	ATIP	26	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	CBC	employees		Time extension		180 days
Fed.	Fed.	CBC	hospitality		Deemed refusal		
Fed.	Fed.	Codiac RCMP	Tasers	20	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Environment Canada	hospitality	10	Denied in part		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Fed.	Fed.	Environment Canada	employees	28	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Environment Canada	ATIP		Deemed refusal		
Fed.	Fed.	Environment Canada	media	10	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Environment Canada	cars	22	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Finance	ATIP	27	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Finance	media	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Finance	employees	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Finance	Cars	22	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Finance	hospitality	36	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Health Canada	cars	26	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Health Canada	media	22	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Health Canada	ATIP		Deemed refusal		
Fed.	Fed.	Health Canada	employees	32	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Health Canada	hospitality	21	Informal release		
Fed.	Fed.	Defence	employees	28	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Defence	ATIP		Time extension		180 days

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Fed.	Fed.	Defence	media	13	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Defence	cars	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Defence	hospitality	7	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Privy Council Office	employees	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Privy Council Office	ATIP	37	Denied in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Privy Council Office	media	27	No records		
Fed.	Fed.	Privy Council Office	cars	30	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Privy Council Office	hospitality	6	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Public Works	media	28	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Public Works	cars	31	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Public Works	hospitality	3	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Public Works	employees	15	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Public Works	ATIP	8	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Transport Canada	hospitality	45	Denied in part		
Fed.	Fed.	Transport Canada	cars	14	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	Transport Canada	media		Deemed refusal		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Fed.	Fed.	Transport Canada	ATIP		Deemed refusal		
Fed.	Fed.	Transport Canada	employees	57	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	VIA Rail	hospitality	31	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	VIA Rail	cars	31	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	VIA Rail	media	31	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	VIA Rail	employees	31	Released in full		
Fed.	Fed.	VIA Rail	ATIP	31	Denied in part		
Mun.	Alta.	Calgary	mayor	5	Informal release		
Mun.	Alta.	Calgary	roads	28	Released in full		
Mun.	Alta.	Calgary	payments	29	Fee estimate	\$7,909.00	
Mun.	Alta.	Calgary	fleet	18	Released in full		
Mun.	Alta.	Calgary Police	Tasers	31	Denied in part		
Mun.	Alta.	Edmonton	mayor	22	Released in full		
Mun.	Alta.	Edmonton	payments	25	Fee estimate	\$2,415.00	
Mun.	Alta.	Edmonton	fleet	32	Released in full		
Mun.	Alta.	Edmonton	roads	12	Released in full		
Mun.	Alta.	Edmonton Police	Tasers		Removed from audit		
Mun.	B.C.	Vancouver	payments	12	Fee estimate	\$160.00	

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Mun.	B.C.	Vancouver	roads	13	Fee estimate	\$2,590.00	
Mun.	B.C.	Vancouver	mayor	1	Released in full		
Mun.	B.C.	Vancouver	fleet	5	Released in full		
Mun.	B.C.	Vancouver Police	Tasers		Time extension		30 days
Mun.	B.C.	Victoria	roads		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	B.C.	Victoria	payments	20	Fee estimate	\$60.00	
Mun.	B.C.	Victoria	fleet	13	Released in full		
Mun.	B.C.	Victoria	mayor	20	Fee estimate	\$575.00	
Mun.	B.C.	Victoria Police	Tasers	39	Denied in part		
Mun.	Man.	Brandon	payments	27	Fee estimate	\$740.00	
Mun.	Man.	Brandon	fleet	29	Released in full		
Mun.	Man.	Brandon	roads	22	Released in full		
Mun.	Man.	Brandon	mayor	29	Fee estimate	\$780.00	
Mun.	Man.	Brandon Police	Tasers	28	Fee estimate	\$195.00	
Mun.	Man.	Winnipeg	roads	26	Released in full		
Mun.	Man.	Winnipeg	mayor	20	Released in full		
Mun.	Man.	Winnipeg	payments	43	Fee estimate	\$336.00	
Mun.	Man.	Winnipeg	fleet	28	Released in full		
Mun.	Man.	Winnipeg Police	Tasers	26	Fee estimate	\$4,690.50	30 days
Mun.	N.B.	Fredricton	mayor	0	Denied in full		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Mun.	N.B.	Fredricton	roads	0	Denied in full		
Mun.	N.B.	Fredricton	payments	0	Denied in full		
Mun.	N.B.	Fredricton	fleet	0	Denied in full		
Mun.	N.B.	Fredricton Police	Tasers	34	Informal release		
Mun.	N.B.	Moncton	fleet		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	N.B.	Moncton	roads		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	N.B.	Moncton	payments		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	N.B.	Moncton	mayor		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	N.B.	Saint John	mayor		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	N.B.	Saint John	roads		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	N.B.	Saint John	payments		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	N.B.	Saint John	fleet		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	N.B.	Saint John Police	Tasers	41	Denied in full		
Mun.	N.S.	CBRM	fleet	19	Released in full		
Mun.	N.S.	CBRM	payments		Deemed refusal		

## Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Mun.	N.S.	CBRM	roads	29	Released in full		
Mun.	N.S.	CBRM	mayor		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	N.S.	CBRM Police	Tasers		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	N.S.	Halifax Regional Police	Tasers	18	Denied in part		
Mun.	N.S.	HRM	roads				
Mun.	N.S.	HRM	mayor	1	Informal release		
Mun.	N.S.	HRM	payments		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	N.S.	HRM	fleet	35	Released in full		
Mun.	N.S.	Corner Brook	fleet	66	Released in full		
Mun.	N.S.	Corner Brook	payments	66	Denied in part		
Mun.	N.S.	Corner Brook	mayor	66	Released in full		
Mun.	N.S.	Corner Brook	roads	81	Released in full		
Mun.	Nfld.	St. John's	roads	25	Released in full		
Mun.	Nfld.	St. John's	payments	20	Released in full		
Mun.	Nfld.	St. John's	fleet	11	Released in full		
Mun.	Nfld.	St. John's	mayor	71	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Hamilton	mayor	25	Released in full		

Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Mun.	Ont.	Hamilton	roads	25	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Hamilton	fleet	25	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Hamilton	payments	28	Fee estimate	\$1,762.23	
Mun.	Ont.	Hamilton Police	Tasers		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	Ont.	Ottawa	mayor	21	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Ottawa	roads	21	Fee estimate	\$121.00	
Mun.	Ont.	Ottawa	payments	11	Fee estimate	\$970.00	
Mun.	Ont.	Ottawa	fleet	18	Fee estimate		
Mun.	Ont.	Ottawa Police	Tasers	12	Fee estimate	\$125.40	
Mun.	Ont.	Thunder Bay	mayor		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	Ont.	Thunder Bay	roads		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	Ont.	Thunder Bay	payments		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	Ont.	Thunder Bay	fleet		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	Ont.	Thunder Bay Police	Tasers	13	Fee estimate	\$26.27	
Mun.	Ont.	Toronto	fleet	10	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Toronto	mayor	25	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Toronto	payments	52	Denied in full		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Mun.	Ont.	Toronto	roads	25	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Toronto Police	Tasers		Time extension		30 days
Mun.	Ont.	Windsor	fleet	26	Fee estimate	\$60.00	
Mun.	Ont.	Windsor	roads	28	Released in full		
Mun.	Ont.	Windsor	payments	26	Fee estimate	\$103,420	
Mun.	Ont.	Windsor	mayor	24	Fee estimate	\$75.20	
Mun.	Ont.	Windsor Police	Tasers		No acknowledgement		
Mun.	Que.	Montreal	roads	1	No records		
Mun.	Que.	Montreal	payments	39	Denied in full		
Mun.	Que.	Montreal	fleet	13	No records		
Mun.	Que.	Montreal	mayor	8	Fee estimate	\$27.12	
Mun.	Que.	Montreal Police	Tasers	28	Fee estimate	\$662.50	
Mun.	Que.	Quebec	payments		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	Que.	Quebec	roads		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	Que.	Quebec	fleet		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	Que.	Quebec	mayor		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	Que.	Quebec Police	Tasers		Deemed refusal		
Mun.	Sask.	Regina	payments	22	Informal release		
Mun.	Sask.	Regina	roads	27	Released in full		

## Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Mun.	Sask.	Regina	mayor	22	Informal release		
Mun.	Sask.	Regina	fleet	22	Informal release		
Mun.	Sask.	Regina Police	Tasers	15	Denied in full		
Mun.	Sask.	Saskatoon	fleet	6	Informal release		
Mun.	Sask.	Saskatoon	payments	31	Released in full		
Mun.	Sask.	Saskatoon	roads	6	Released in full		
Mun.	Sask.	Saskatoon	mayor	31	Released in full		
Mun.	Sask.	Saskatoon Police	Tasers	6	Denied in full		
Prov.	Alta.	Alta.	vehicles	4	Released in full		
Prov.	Alta.	Alta.	contracts	6	Informal release		
Prov.	Alta.	Alta.	guidelines	13	Informal release		
Prov.	Alta.	Alta.	physicians	31	Denied in full		
Prov.	Alta.	Alta.	carbon	33	Denied in part		
Prov.	B.C.	B.C.	physicians	56	Denied in part		
Prov.	B.C.	B.C.	carbon		Deemed refusal		
Prov.	B.C.	B.C.	vehicles		Deemed refusal		
Prov.	B.C.	B.C.	contracts	17	Denied in part		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Prov.	B.C.	B.C.	guidelines	11	No records		
Prov.	Man.	Man.	guidelines	0	No records		
Prov.	Man.	Man.	vehicles	15	Released in full		
Prov.	Man.	Man.	carbon	28	Denied in full		
Prov.	Man.	Man.	physicians	34	No records		
Prov.	Man.	Man.	contracts	0	Informal release		
Prov.	N.B.	N.B.	vehicles	26	Released in full		
Prov.	N.B.	N.B.	contracts	25	Released in full		
Prov.	N.B.	N.B.	guidelines	26	Released in full		
Prov.	N.B.	N.B.	physicians		No acknowledgement		
Prov.	N.B.	N.B.	carbon	27	Denied in part		
Prov.	N.S.	N.S.	physicians	49	Released in full		
Prov.	N.S.	N.S.	carbon	28	Fee estimate	\$38.00	
Prov.	N.S.	N.S.	contracts	22	Released in full		
Prov.	N.S.	N.S.	guidelines	17	Released in full		
Prov.	N.S.	N.S.	vehicles	27	Released in full		
Prov.	Nfld.	Nfld.	vehicles	20	No records		
Prov.	Nfld.	Nfld.	contracts	30	Denied in part		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Prov.	Nfld.	Nfld.	carbon	31	Denied in full		
Prov.	Nfld.	Nfld.	physicians	20	No records		
Prov.	Nfld.	Nfld.	guidelines		Deemed refusal		
Prov.	Nfld.	Royal Nfld. Constabulary	Tasers	12	No records		
Prov.	Ont.	Ont.	contracts	11	Fee estimate	\$220.00	
Prov.	Ont.	Ont.	vehicles	7	Fee estimate	\$32.00	
Prov.	Ont.	Ont.	carbon	32	Fee estimate	\$739.50	
Prov.	Ont.	Ont.	physicians	14	No records		
Prov.	Ont.	Ont.	guidelines		Deemed refusal		
Prov.	P.E.I.	P.E.I.	vehicles	16	Released in full		
Prov.	P.E.I.	P.E.I.	guidelines	1	No records		
Prov.	P.E.I.	P.E.I.	contracts	40	Denied in part		
Prov.	P.E.I.	P.E.I.	carbon	25	Released in full		
Prov.	P.E.I.	P.E.I.	physicians	43	No records		
Prov.	Que.	Que.	vehicles	16	Released in full		
Prov.	Que.	Que.	carbon	10	No records		
Prov.	Que.	Que.	guidelines		No acknowledgement		
Prov.	Que.	Que.	contracts	25	Fee estimate	\$30.74	
Prov.	Que.	Que.	physicians		No acknowledgement		
Prov.	Sask.	Sask.	physicians	12	No records		

### Detailed Decisions by Institution Cont'd

LEVEL	PROVINCE	INSTITUTION	TOPIC	DAYS TO DEC.	DECISION	FEE EST.	TIME EXT.
Prov.	Sask.	Sask.	carbon	13	No records		
Prov.	Sask.	Sask.	vehicles	13	Released in full		
Prov.	Sask.	Sask.	contracts	11	Denied in part		
Prov.	Sask.	Sask.	guidelines	12	No records		
Prov.	Yukon	Yukon	carbon	22	No records		
Prov.	Yukon	Yukon	physicians		Deemed refusal		
Prov.	Yukon	Yukon	guidelines	21	Released in full		
Prov.	Yukon	Yukon	contracts	23	Denied in part		
Prov.	Yukon	Yukon	vehicles	22	Released in full		

Source: CNA/UKC FOI audit. \*\*Windsor also provided an alternative fee estimate of \$1,570 if part of the information requested was left out.