

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (FOIPPA)

While everyone has rights to privacy, much of the information regarding a facility, as it relates to documentation collected by the Community Care Licensing Program, is accessible by any member of the public under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, which is provincial legislation. This means that most of the information in the licensing file may be releasable, and sometimes without a formal Freedom of Information request.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) may release information from a facility file regarding complaints, investigations, and routine inspection reports. To obtain copies of complaints, investigation reports, or for a full copy of a facility file, a formal FOI request must be made. Personal and third party information may be severed out prior to the release of the information to the requester.

The Regional Information and Privacy Office exists to oversee the information and privacy practices of VIHA, and ensure they are in compliance with the policies governing those practices, as well as the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)*, an access and privacy legislation to which all public bodies are bound.

For more details of how this office can be of assistance with matters related to privacy and confidentiality in VIHA, please visit their website at www.viha.ca/info_privacy or contact them as follows:

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