

File No.: 04-1000-20-2023-154

June 9, 2023

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: **Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")**

I am responding to your request of March 21, 2023 under the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*** for:

**Record of all reports, briefings, memos, and correspondence concerning allegations of foreign interference by the People's Republic of China in the 2022 municipal elections, including briefings on the issue by federal agencies. Date range: January 1, 2022 to March 20, 2023.**

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed (blacked out) under s.13(1), s.15(1)(l), and s.22(1) of the Act. You can read or download these sections here: [http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00).

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, [info@oipc.bc.ca](mailto:info@oipc.bc.ca) or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2023-154); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

*[Signed by Cobi Falconer]*

**Cobi Falconer, MAS, MLIS, CIPP/C**  
**Director, Access to Information & Privacy**  
[cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca](mailto:cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca)  
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

If you have any questions, please email us at [foi@vancouver.ca](mailto:foi@vancouver.ca) and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604-871-6584.

Encl. (Response package)

:pm

**From:** ["Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)

**To:** ["Wong, Tamarra" <tamarra.wong@vancouver.ca>](mailto:tamarra.wong@vancouver.ca)

["Heaney, Siobhian" <siobhian.heaney@vancouver.ca>](mailto:siobhian.heaney@vancouver.ca)

["Pin, Maria" <Maria.Pin@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Maria.Pin@vancouver.ca)

["Ramirez, Justinne" <Justinne.Ramirez@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Justinne.Ramirez@vancouver.ca)

**Date:** 6/27/2022 12:30:00 PM

**Subject:** FW: Request for Briefing - Vancouver Sun: CSIS officials briefed  
Vancouver mayor on foreign election interference

FYI.

Rosemary Hagiwara | she/her

Chief Election Officer

Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver

e: [rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)

t: 604.873.7177

We acknowledge and honour the unceded, ancestral and shared territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mochrie, Paul <[Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 27, 2022 11:58 AM

**To:** Dominato, Lisa <[Lisa.Dominato@vancouver.ca](mailto:Lisa.Dominato@vancouver.ca)>; Hagiwara, Rosemary <[rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)>; Monckton, Neil <[Neil.Monckton@vancouver.ca](mailto:Neil.Monckton@vancouver.ca)>

**Cc:** Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)

**Subject:** RE: Request for Briefing - Vancouver Sun: CSIS officials briefed Vancouver mayor on foreign election interference

Good morning Lisa,

I can confirm that staff have not been involved in any briefing or other discussions with CSIS.

I can also advise that we have a number of measures in place to secure and monitor our technical infrastructure and Rosemary, in her capacity as Chief Election Officer, is intensely focused on ensuring the integrity of the voting process. The City's voting technology:

- o has been acquired through standard and transparent procurement processes;
- o involves experienced providers with numerous federal, provincial and local government clients;
- o is thoroughly tested prior to deployment; and,
- o encompasses a variety of security measures to ensure integrity and accuracy of the election results.

Best,  
Paul

-----Original Message-----

From: Dominato, Lisa <Lisa.Dominato@vancouver.ca>

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2022 12:56 PM

To: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Hagiwara, Rosemary <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>; Monckton, Neil <Neil.Monckton@vancouver.ca>

Cc: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)

Subject: Request for Briefing - Vancouver Sun: CSIS officials briefed Vancouver mayor on foreign election interference

Hi Paul, Rosemary and Neil -

Noting this news story today, would it be possible to get a briefing on this subject and risks associated with the upcoming civic election.

Also, were our Election readiness staff part of this meeting/discussion and is there any follow up/recommendations for Oct 2022?

Lisa

<https://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news>

/csis-officials-briefed-vancouver-mayor-on-foreign-election-interference

Sincerely,

Lisa Dominato, Councillor  
City of Vancouver  
M: 604-754-7290

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** ["Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)  
**To:** ["MacKenzie, Angela" <Angela.MacKenzie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Angela.MacKenzie@vancouver.ca)  
**CC:** ["Ramirez, Justinne" <Justinne.Ramirez@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Justinne.Ramirez@vancouver.ca)  
**Date:** 6/28/2022 10:51:00 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Request for Briefing - Vancouver Sun: CSIS officials briefed Vancouver mayor on foreign election interference

FYI.

Rosemary Hagiwara | she/her  
Chief Election Officer  
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver  
e: [rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)  
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Also, were our Election readiness staff part of this meeting/discussion and is there any follow up/recommendations for Oct 2022?

Lisa

<https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/csis-officials-briefed-vancouver-mayor-on-foreign-election-interference>

---

Sincerely,

Lisa Dominato, Councillor  
City of Vancouver  
M: 604-754-7290

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** 3/21/2023 11:28:00 AM  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Vancouver 2022 election interference

Hello s.22(1)

Thank you for your email.

The Vancouver Charter outlines the process to declare an election invalid and the opportunity for that has past.

### **Application to court**

**115.** (1)The right of an elected candidate to take office or the validity of an election may not be challenged except by an application under this section.

(2)An application may be made in accordance with this section to the Supreme Court for a declaration regarding the right of a person to take office or the validity of an election.

(3)The time limit for making an application is 30 days after the declaration of official election results under section 108.

(4)An application may be made only by a candidate in the election, the chief election officer or at least 4 electors.

(5)An application may be made only on one or more of the following bases:

(a)that a candidate declared elected was not qualified to hold office at the time the candidate was elected or, between the time of the election and the time for taking office, the candidate has ceased to be qualified to hold office;

(b)that an election should be declared invalid because it was not conducted in accordance with this Act or a regulation or by-law under this Act;

(c)that an election or the election of a candidate should be declared invalid because section 123, 124 or 125 (2) (a) was contravened.

(6)As a restriction on subsection (5) (b), an application may not be made on any basis for which an application for judicial recount may be or may have been made.

(7)At the time the petition commencing an application is filed, the court registry must set a date for the court to hear the application, which must be at least 10 days but no later than 21 days after the date the petition is filed.

(8)As soon as practicable, but no later than 2 days after a petition is filed, the person making the application must serve the petition and the notice of hearing on the City Clerk.

(9) If a candidate affected by an application files a written statement renouncing all claim to the office to which the candidate was elected, the court may permit the petition for the application to be withdrawn unless it is based on an allegation that the candidate who has renounced the office contravened section 123 or 124.

Regards,

Rosemary Hagiwara | *she/her*  
Chief Election Officer | Acting City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver  
e: [rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)  
t: 604.873.7177

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 1:07 PM  
To: Hagiwara, Rosemary <[rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: [EXT] Vancouver 2022 election interference

**City of Vancouver security warning:** Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

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To Rosemary Hagiwara,  
Chief Election Officer  
Vancouver, BC

As a registered voter, I would like to make a complaint about Vancouver's 2022 municipal election due to interference by the Chinese government.

[This \[theglobeandmail.com\]](https://www.theglobeandmail.com) recent Globe & Mail article states: "China's diplomatic mission in Vancouver has actively interfered in the city's politics, using proxies in diaspora community organizations and grooming politicians to run in last fall's municipal election, according to Canada's spy agency". The suspicious (but unquestioned) domination of the ABC Party in all sectors supports the accusation by CSIS.

I contacted Elections BC and they passed the buck stating they don't have jurisdiction over this matter, except to review campaign financing disclosure statements from 2022 General Local Elections, which "are ongoing". They stated that Vancouver's Chief Election Officer has the power under *The Local Government Act* and/or *The Vancouver Charter* to deal with this.

Given the evidence, I ask that you declare the 2022 election results invalid, and that you enact emergency measures to ensure future elections in Vancouver will be much more credible than this lawless one. As of now, Vancouver's Council, Parks Board, and Trustees can be deemed



illegitimate puppets of a foreign state.

s.22(1)

s.22(1) Vancouver, BC s.22(1)

Tel: s.22(1)

Email s.22(1)

**From:** ["Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)  
**To:** ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)  
**CC:** ["Leckovic, Katrina" <katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca>](mailto:katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca)  
**Date:** 6/27/2022 9:18:00 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Briefing - Vancouver Sun: CSIS officials briefed Vancouver mayor on foreign election interference

Hi Paul,

Not sure it's worth a briefing. The election project is planned with those risks in mind. We have resources in place to monitor fake news and are prepared to respond. I don't think I want to explain to council the details of our plan as that would counter-intuitive in my mind.

If you need to respond, here is a couple of bullet points for your consideration with respect to technology:

s.13(1)



Rosemary Hagiwara | she/her  
Chief Election Officer  
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver  
e: [rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)  
t: 604.873.7177

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To: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Hagiwara, Rosemary  
<rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>; Monckton, Neil  
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mayor on foreign election interference

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M: 604-754-7290

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**From:** "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <[rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)>  
**To:** "Wong, Tamarra" <[tamarra.wong@vancouver.ca](mailto:tamarra.wong@vancouver.ca)>  
"Yee, Jessica" <[jessica.yee@vancouver.ca](mailto:jessica.yee@vancouver.ca)>  
**CC:** "Ramirez, Justinne" <[Justinne.Ramirez@vancouver.ca](mailto:Justinne.Ramirez@vancouver.ca)>  
**Date:** 6/23/2022 4:38:00 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Talks with CSIS Officials

Port Moody asked me and I said no.  
If they contacted CEC, they should be referring them to me.

@Justinne – do you know anything about this?

Rosemary Hagiwara | *she/her*  
Chief Election Officer  
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver  
e:  
[rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)  
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**From:** Wong, Tamarra <[Tamarra.Wong@vancouver.ca](mailto:Tamarra.Wong@vancouver.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 4:23 PM  
**To:** Yee, Jessica <[jessica.yee@vancouver.ca](mailto:jessica.yee@vancouver.ca)>; Hagiwara, Rosemary  
<[rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Talks with CSIS Officials

I haven't seen anything unless something went to communications?



We're hiring 1,500 election officials for October! Find  
out more at [vancouver.ca/election-work](https://vancouver.ca/election-work).

**Tamarra Wong** | *she/her*  
Deputy Chief Election Officer | 2022 Vancouver Elector  
[tamarra.wong@vancouver.ca](mailto:tamarra.wong@vancouver.ca)  
Office: 604-673-8315

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**From:** Debbie R. Comis <[DEBBIE.COMIS@BURNABY.CA](mailto:DEBBIE.COMIS@BURNABY.CA)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 4:20 PM



To: Wong, Tamarra <[Tamarra.Wong@vancouver.ca](mailto:Tamarra.Wong@vancouver.ca)>

Subject: [EXT] Talks with CSIS Officials

**City of Vancouver security warning:** Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hi Tamarra,

We have had an interesting inquiry from the Toronto Star asking if we have been contacted by CSIS about foreign interference in the election.

The advised Vancouver had been contacted.

As far as I can ascertain no one from CSIS has contacted us – do you know if Vancouver was contacted? If so, can you share any info about when and what their concerns were?

Thanks

**YOUR CITY – YOUR CHOICE**

**#BurnabyVotes**

<https://www.burnaby.ca/elections> [burnaby.ca]

Kind Regards,

**Debbie Comis**

Election Consultant

Main Line: 604 294-7088 | Direct : 604-294-7790

City of Burnaby

|

Corporate Services

|

Election Office

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – 3713 Kensington Avenue, Burnaby, BC

V5B 0A7

The City of Burnaby respectfully acknowledges that Burnaby is located on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əŋəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples.

*The contents of this posting or electronic mail message are solely the writings, thoughts and/or ideas of the account holder and may not necessarily reflect those of the City of Burnaby.*

*If you have any concerns about inappropriate use of this account, please email [postmaster@burnaby.ca](mailto:postmaster@burnaby.ca)*