

File No.: 04-1000-20-2025-759

October 21, 2025

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 October 10, 2025 under the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*** for:

Regarding the historical adoption of the rule that a council member who is present but does not vote at a council meeting is deemed to have voted in the affirmative. Records of all bylaws, bylaw drafts, council minutes, and staff reports that include, discuss, or propose this rule from 1886 to 2020, including but not limited to:

- **Any amendments or reports explaining the purpose or rationale of the rule;**
- **Any correspondence or internal memos referencing abstaining as deemed to vote in the affirmative;**
- **Any legislative or statutory records from the Province of British Columbia incorporated into Vancouver's governance framework (e.g., Municipal Act 1873, Municipal Clauses Act 1896, Vancouver Charter) that establish or reaffirm this rule; and**
- **Exact wording, date, and bylaw number of first adoption, and, if available, the context or explanation recorded in staff or council discussions.**

Date range: January 1, 1886 to January 1, 2025.

This information is publicly available. You can find this information on the City of Vancouver's website at this link: <https://vancouver.ca/your-government/city-council-meetings-and-decisions.aspx> and <https://vancouver.ca/your-government/individual-bylaws.aspx>

For records that are not publicly available online, you may go to the City of Vancouver Archives <https://vancouver.ca/your-government/city-of-vancouver-archives.aspx> and/or contact them directly at archives@vancouver.ca

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 or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (2025-759); 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

If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. You may also contact 3-1-1 (604-873-7000) if you require accommodation or do not have access to email.

:lg