

File No.: 2026-014

February 11, 2026

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 January 5, 2026 under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for:

**The following records regarding the use of drones by City of Vancouver personnel (including bylaw officers) to monitor current or former homeless encampment sites:**

- 1. Any Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs), policy documents, or guidance documents related to such activities; and**
- 2. Any public safety strategy documents (memos, reports, etc.) that discuss the use of drones by the City and/or the sharing of information collected by drones with police.**

**Date range: June 1, 2025 to January 1, 2026.**

All responsive records are attached\*.

\*Some of the records responsive to your request are publicly available on the City's website. Please see the following links:

- <https://policy.vancouver.ca/ADMIN016.pdf>; and
- <https://policy.vancouver.ca/ADMIN029.pdf>.

Please note that Engineering Services staff have advised our office that the use of drones has not been implemented by the City for encampment-purposes and is not something considered in the near future by Engineering Services.

Under Part 5 of the Act, 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@oipbc.ca](mailto:info@oipbc.ca) or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (2026-014); 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,

Kevin Tuerlings, FOI Case Manager, for

*[Signed by Kevin Tuerlings]*

**Siân Madsen, MA, MAS**  
**Acting Director, Access to Information & Privacy**

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. You may also contact 3-1-1 (604-873-7000) if you require accommodation or do not have access to email.

Encl. (Response Package)

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## PRIVACY OFFICE

### GUIDANCE

#### DRONE PRIVACY

Drones that have cameras must adhere to FIPPA requirements for lawful collection, use, and disclosure of information. This includes obtaining consent when required, limiting collection to necessary information only, and implementing security measures to protect personal information.

The Privacy Office must be contacted if you are using a drone to confirm and document your activity is privacy compliant.

Please see steps below if you are:

#### COLLECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Contact the Privacy Office to confirm that the camera will be collecting personal information so that we can provide direction on completing a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA).

#### NOT COLLECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Contact the Privacy Office to confirm:
  - You are not collecting personal information
  - Explain how you will avoid collecting personal information
  - Inform the public using signage\* that a drone is in use

#### Best practices:

- Drone operator has taken the Mandatory ATIP training.
- Delete any personal information collected inadvertently.
- \*Use signage with the following language: **DRONE IN OPERATION [ADD IMAGE]**  
**A CITY OF VANCOUVER OWNED AND OPERATED DRONE MAY BE OVERHEAD [ADD PURPOSE].**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF THIS FLIGHT, PLEASE CONTACT: [ADD 311 OR DEPT/PHONE NUMBER & DATE (i.e. July 31, 2025)]**  
**Note: The recordings are not intended to capture personal information. These images are typically unrecognizable and are not used to identify individuals. Any personal information inadvertently collected will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.**

## RELATED POLICIES

[ADMIN-029 Privacy Policy](#)