

**David D. Schreck, Ph.D.**  
145 East Windsor Road  
North Vancouver, British Columbia V7N 1J9  
cell 604-619-1783 res 604-984-8344  
e-mail: Schreck@StrategicThoughts.com

---

February 9, 2007

Jacque Edwards  
Director, Information Planning and Services  
Ministry of Finance  
PO Box 9424 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9V1

by fax only to (250) 356-8201

Dear Ms. Edwards:

Re: Your File 292-30/FIN-06305

I have received your letter dated February 7, 2007, in which you indicate that there are no records responsive to my request for a table showing number of families and total number of people by level of MSP premium assistance and by family type as of whatever month is most recently available for 2006, similar to the 2001 table that was produced by the Ministry's Tax Policy Branch.

Before I put this matter in the hands of the Commissioner in the form of an appeal, please consider your obligations under Section 6 of the *Act*, particularly 6(2) which requires that a record be created. It strains credibility to assert that the table I requested hasn't been updated since MSP premiums add over \$1.4 billion per year to government revenues, and in her February 2005 budget, the Minister of Finance announced a \$4,000 increase in the threshold to qualify for the Medical Services Plan Premium Assistance Program which she claimed would reduce or eliminate premiums for 215,000 people. If your assertion is correct that there are no records responsive to my request, then it amounts to saying that the 2005 announcement was made without due diligence and that no effort has been made to measure the accuracy of the 215,000 claim since February 2005. If that is the case, it is about time that a record is generated in accordance with Section 6 of the *Act*.

I trust that I will receive a satisfactory response to this request without having to ask for a review by the Commissioner.

Sincerely,

David D. Schreck



Our File: 292-30/FIN-06305

February 7, 2007

David D. Schreck  
145 East Windsor Road  
North Vancouver, BC V7N 1J9

Dear David Schreck:

Re: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act)*  
Request for Information #FIN-06305

This is further to your request to the Ministry of Finance for an updated version of a table created by the Tax Policy Branch in 2002.

Please note, the table you requested has not been updated beyond the version you provided. Therefore, no records exist that are responsive to your request.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Fisher at (250) 356-8136.

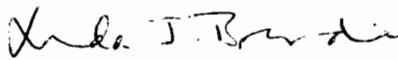
Section 52 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this response to your request. You have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request a review by writing to:

Information and Privacy Commissioner  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 756 Fort St.  
PO Box 9038 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9A4  
Tel. (250) 387-5629 Fax (250) 387-1696

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with:

- 1) a copy of your original request for information;
- 2) a copy of this letter; and
- 3) the reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting a review.

Yours truly,

  
Jacquie Edwards  
Director

---

**Information Planning and Services**  
**Information Management Branch**  
**Corporate and Ministry Support**  
**Services Division**

*Providing services to:*  
Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Finance  
Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services  
BC Public Service Agency

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 9424 Stn Prov Govt  
Room 362, 617 Government Street  
Victoria BC V8W 9V1  
Telephone: (250) 356-8136  
Facsimile: (250) 356-8201

*David D. Schreck, Ph.D.*  
145 East Windsor Road  
North Vancouver, British Columbia V7N 1J9  
cell 604-619-1783 res 604-984-8344  
e-mail: [Schreck@StrategicThoughts.com](mailto:Schreck@StrategicThoughts.com)

---

December 20, 2006

Jacque Edwards  
Director, Information Planning and Services  
Ministry of Finance  
PO Box 9424 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9V1

by fax only to (250) 356-8201

Dear Ms. Edwards:

I make this request pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Accompanying this request is a document that was produced by the Ministry's tax policy branch on February 14, 2002 as part of the background for a change in rates of premium assistance (concurrent with the 50% increase in MSP premiums). This request is for a comparable table containing the most recently available information. That should be a table showing number of families and total number of people by level of assistance and by family type as of whatever month is most recently available for 2006.

I trust that a single document is readily available that will make it possible to promptly reply to this request.

Sincerely,

David D. Schreck

**Medical Services Plan  
Rates of Premium assistance (2001)**

	Level of Assistance	Rate	Single	Couple	Family	Total Contracts	Total People
0-12	1	0%	310,305	58,503	58,778	427,586	652,938
12-14	2	20%	36,236	9,299	3,807	49,342	68,992
14-16	3	40%	25,775	8,454	3,206	37,435	54,674
16-18	4	60%	19,165	6,443	2,679	28,287	42,090
18-20	5	80%	13,395	4,425	2,170	19,990	30,388
over 20	C	100%	528,383	427,279	377,282	1,332,944	3,059,237
	H	0%	83,119	23,727	16,745	123,591	188,358
<b>Total contracts</b>			<b>1,016,378</b>	<b>538,130</b>	<b>464,667</b>	<b>2,019,175</b>	<b>4,096,677</b>

The table shows Medical Services Plan contracts by the rate of premiums payable in 2001.

Premium assistance levels are those in effect prior to changes announced for 2002 (the five level of assistance are set at increments of \$2,000 in adjusted net family income starting at \$12,000 in adjusted family net income).

Premium assistance enhancements made by increasing the adjusted net family income thresholds for assistance by \$4,000 each will reduce premiums for current premium assistance recipients at the 20% through to the 80% level of assistance. In the table, this is about 197,000 people. In addition, about 30,000 additional people will be eligible for assistance at the 60% level of assistance, which, at 60% of the increased rate, is a lower amount than the current premium rate. Therefore, a total of about 230,000 people will pay lower premiums after the rate increase and with the premium assistance enhancements.

In addition another 30,000 for the 80% level of assistance.

Tax Policy Branch  
February 14, 2002