

Airdrie, Alberta
November 12, 2016

MY FILES: 130

Ms. Suzanne Legault
The Information Commissioner of Canada
30 Victoria Street, 7th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1H3

Dear Ms. Legault:

Re: “UNABLE TO LOCATE RECORDS” RESPONSE PUBLIC SAFETY ATIP FILE: A-2016-00205

Reference is being made to my original *Access to Information Act* request dated September 13, 2016 and the ‘no records could be located’ response I received from Public Safety Canada dated October 14, 2016 (copies attached). I wish to complain about the incomplete search conducted by the department for the records I requested.

After such an egregious breach and so many violations of Charter Rights by the RCMP in High River in the days and weeks following the flood it is unbelievable that either (1) no meetings were held in the department in the last three years OR (2) no one in the department took minutes or notes at these meetings. Here are just some of the documented reasons why I believe meetings must have been held in the department over the last three years:

- The department’s failure to locate any records of meetings makes no sense. Look at these 351 pages of correspondence sent to the Minister between June 20, 2013 and May 20, 2014.
<http://new.nfa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Public-Safety-ATIP-Ministers-High-River-Briefing-Notes-etc-Aug-7-2014.pdf>
- The RCMP unlawfully entered and searched more than 4,000 High River homes. See the following legal authorities under the *Alberta Emergency Management Act* by lawyer, Rick Hemmingson of Lacombe, Alberta. <http://canadafreepress.com/print-friendly/67027>
- The RCMP kicked in at least 754 doors and caused damages to more than 2,200 homes during their unlawful entries resulting in more than \$2.3 million in damage claims being paid out.
<http://www.calgarysun.com/2016/06/13/damage-claims-from-rcmps-high-river-gun-grab-total-23-million>
<http://dennisryoung.ca/2015/11/19/the-mounties-kicked-in-how-many-doors-in-high-river/>
- If the four telephone polls (listed below) are correct, it means that many High River residents will either refuse to evacuate or delay evacuation when the next emergency evacuation order is given by the Town or the Provincial authorities. Given the Public Safety department’s oversight responsibility for the RCMP, meetings must have been held to consider the consequences will be if these ‘lack-of-trust’ indicators are not corrected.
- **September 9, 2016:** Less than half of High River residents trust the RCMP to protect their homes and property in the event of another emergency evacuation.
<http://dennisryoung.ca/2016/09/10/4th-nfa-high-river-poll-trust-in-the-rcmp-still-broken-three-years-after-flood/>
- **September 5, 2015:** 48% of High River respondents want Premier Notley to call a judicial inquiry
<http://new.nfa.ca/media-release-poll-shows-half-of-high-river-residents-want-judicial-inquiry/>
- **March 9, 2015:** 67% of High River respondents do not support RCMP entering their homes in a future emergency <http://new.nfa.ca/public-believes-police-actions-at-high-river-unnecessary-3/>

- **August 7, 2014:** 53% of High River respondents would refuse orders to evacuate their homes in the event of another flood <http://new.nfa.ca/poll-of-high-river-residents-shows-a-dismal-lack-of-trust-in-ramp-2/>
- Since this petition was introduced in Parliament months ago, and remains unanswered by the government, there must have been meetings about how to answer this petition in the department.
PARLIAMENT OF CANADA HIGH RIVER FLOOD RIGHTS VIOLATIONS PETITION E-179
<http://dennisryoung.ca/2016/02/20/parliament-of-canada-high-river-petition-e-179/>
<https://www.change.org/p/premier-of-alberta-call-a-judicial-inquiry-into-the-high-river-forced-entries>
- It's pretty obvious that the Minister of Public Safety was thoroughly briefed on High River is because of the very clear statements he made in Fort McMurray when it was evacuated. These Ministerial briefings were planned and held without departmental officials conducting even one meeting?
<http://dennisryoung.ca/2016/05/09/goodale-promises-no-repeat-of-high-river-ramp-mistakes-in-fort-mcmurray/>
- The many issues raised in my letter to Minister Goodale one year ago must have also resulted in meetings being held in the department, especially, since my letter has yet to be acknowledged let alone responded to.
RCMP IN HIGH RIVER DID NOT 'APPROPRIATELY RESPECT CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES'
<http://dennisryoung.ca/2015/11/25/minister-goodale-ramp-in-high-river-did-not-appropriately-respect-civil-rights-and-civil-liberties/>
- The fact that the recent Calgary Sun column received more than 65,000 Facebook hits must have also been cause for at least one meeting in the department.
<http://dennisryoung.ca/2016/08/26/nfa-65000-facebook-hits-for-high-river-gun-grab-article-in-calgary-sun/>
- Finally, the two reports by Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP regarding the 112 High River homes that had guns seized from them during the RCMP's response to the High River Flood must have also resulted in many meetings in the department especially with regard to FINDING NO. 29: *In a number of cases the RCMP seized firearms which were lawfully secured.* and FINDING NO. 30: *RCMP members were not authorized by the Criminal Code to seize secured firearms.*
<https://www.crcc-ccetp.gc.ca/en/chair-initiated-complaint-and-public-interest-investigation-ramps-response-2013-flood-high-river>
<https://www.crcc-ccetp.gc.ca/en/chairpersons-final-report-after-commissioners-response-regarding-ramps-response-2013-flood-high-river>

Thanks for your help to find the records I requested.

Yours sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Dennis R. Young
1330 Ravenswood Drive SE
AIRDRIE, AB T4A 0P8
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Public Safety
Canada

Sécurité publique
Canada

269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0P8

Your file - Votre référence

Our file - Notre référence
A-2016-00205 / BH

OCT 14 2016

Mr. Dennis R. Young
1330 Ravenswood Drive SE
Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0P8

Received via email
14 OCT 2016
[Signature]

Dear Mr. Young:

This is further to your request under the *Access to Information Act* for:

"For the period from July 21, 2013 to present please provide copies of the minutes of all meetings held in the department regarding the RCMP and National Defence response to the 2013 flood in High River, Alberta including: (1) minutes of meetings attended by public servants; (2) minutes of meetings attended by the Minister's exempt staff, (3) minutes of meetings attended by the Deputy Minister; and (4) minutes of meetings attended by the Minister. Please include any handwritten notes taken in those meetings by the persons in attendance."

A thorough search was conducted and Public Safety Canada was unable to locate any records responding to your request.

Please be advised that you are entitled to complain to the Information Commissioner concerning the processing of your request within sixty days of the receipt of this notice. In the event you decide to avail yourself of this right, your notice of complaint should be addressed to:

Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada
30 Victoria Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 1H3

Should you require additional information, please contact Barbara Haase, the analyst responsible for the processing of your request, at 613-949-1672.

Sincerely,

[Signature of André Chartrand]

André Chartrand
Manager, Access to Information and Privacy

OCT 17TH
See email follow-up
with Barbara Haase.
[Signature]

Canada

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

Access to Information Request Form

For official use only:

My File: 130

Federal Government Institution:

PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA

Details regarding the information being sought:

For the period from July 21, 2013 to present please provide copies of the minutes of all meetings held in the department regarding the RCMP and National Defence response to the 2013 flood in High River, Alberta including: (1) minutes of meetings attended by public servants; (2) minutes of meetings attended by the Minister's exempt staff, (3) minutes of meetings attended by the Deputy Minister; and (4) minutes of meetings attended by the Minister. Please include any handwritten notes taken in those meetings by the persons in attendance.

Method of access preferred: ☒ Receive copies of originals ☐ Examine originals in government offices

Name of Applicant: Dennis R. Young
Address: 1330 Ravenswood Drive SE
Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0P8

Telephone Number: 587-360-1111 E-Mail: dennisryoung@telus.net

This request for access to information under the Access to Information Act is being made by:

☒ a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or another individual present in Canada, or
☐ a corporation present in Canada

Cheque # 506

Signature: _____
[Original signed by]
Dennis R. Young

Date: September 13, 2016