

SUBJECT: *FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT - SECTION 25 - DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST*

- (1) Whether or not a request for access is made, the head of a public body must, without delay, disclose to the public, to an affected group of people or to an applicant, information
 - (a) about a risk of significant harm to the environment or the health or safety of the public or a group of people, or
 - (b) the disclosure of which is, for any other reason, clearly in the public interest.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies despite any other provision of this Act.

The burden of proof with respect to the application of section 25 is on the applicant. In order to rely upon section 25, the applicant must show

- (1) that the records concern a public, not a private, interest;
- (2) that there is some urgency for the communication of those records to the public at large; and
- (3) that such disclosure is clearly, not just arguably, in the public interest.

Relevant Sections of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

Section 25 of the Act.

For More Information

Office of the Registrar:

<http://www.unbc.ca/registrar/contact.html>

Executive and Governance Services Manager:

(Freedom of Information/Protection of Privacy Officer)

<http://www.unbc.ca/provost/contact.html>