



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Freedom to Info Request: studies re isolation of SARS-COV-2

Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>
To: rafael.eskenazi@utoronto.ca

Mon, May 18, 2020 at 12:20 PM

May 18, 2019

Rafael Eskenazi, FIPP Director

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Office
University of Toronto
Room 104, McMurrich Building
12 Queen's Park Crescent W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1A8
416 946-5835
rafael.eskenazi@utoronto.ca

Dear Mr. Eskenazi,

This is a request for General Information, made under *the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)*.

Description of Requested Records:

All records in the possession, custody or control of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health or any other department of the University of Toronto (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.) describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: *the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else*. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead only to:

- the culturing of something, and/or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), and/or
- the sequencing of something.

[If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).]

Format:

Pdf documents sent to me via email; I do not wish for anything to be shipped to me.

Contact Information:

Last name: Massey
First name: Christine
Address: #221 - 93 George St. S., Brampton ON L6Y 1P4
Phone: 905-230-4155
Email: cmssyc@gmail.com

Application Fee:

I understand that the \$5.00 request fee will be deferred until the University resumes normal operations.

Thanks you in advance and best wishes,
Christine Massey, M.Sc.
Brampton ON L6Y 1P4



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Freedom to Info Request: studies re isolation of SARS-COV-2

Lindsay Mills <lindsay.mills@utoronto.ca>

Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 5:04 PM

To: "cmssyc@gmail.com" <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Cc: Rafael Eskenazi <rafael.eskenazi@utoronto.ca>, Kelly Carmichael <kelly.carmichael@utoronto.ca>

Dear Christine Massey,

Please be advised that your request (set out in your May 18, 2020 email below) made under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) has been transferred to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (Sunnybrook) pursuant to FIPPA section 25(2) because the University considers that Sunnybrook has a greater interest in any responsive records.

The contact person at Sunnybrook is Jeffrey Cutler. His information is as follows:

Privacy and Freedom of Information Coordinator

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

jeffrey.cutler@sunnybrook.ca

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (647-227-3418) or email (lindsay.mills@utoronto.ca).

Thank you,

Lindsay Mills

Lindsay G. Mills

Coordinator

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Office

University of Toronto

McMurrich Building, Room 104

12 Queen's Park Crescent West

Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A8

416-978-4873 (office)

647-227-3418 (cell)

lindsay.mills@utoronto.ca



From: Christine Massey <cmsync@gmail.com>
Date: May 18, 2020 at 12:21:10 EDT
To: Rafael Eskenazi <rafael.eskenazi@utoronto.ca>
Subject: Freedom to Info Request: studies re isolation of SARS-COV-2

May 18, 2019

Rafael Eskenazi, FIPP Director

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Office
University of Toronto
Room 104, McMurrich Building
[12 Queen's Park Crescent W.](#)
Toronto, ON M5S 1A8
416 946-5835
rafael.eskenazi@utoronto.ca

Dear Mr. Eskenazi,

This is a request for General Information, made under *the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)*.

Description of Requested Records:

All records in the possession, custody or control of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health or any other department of the University of Toronto (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.) describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

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- the culturing of something, and/or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), and/or
- the sequencing of something.

[If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Sunnybrook Freedom of Information Office: FOI Request

Cutler, Jeffrey <jeffrey.cutler@sunnybrook.ca>
To: "cmssyc@gmail.com" <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 17, 2020 at 4:38 PM

Dear M. Massey,

I am contacting you regarding your access request that was originally submitted to the University of Toronto. Upon review, the University of Toronto transferred the request to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre pursuant to section 25(2) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, because the University considers that Sunnybrook has a greater interest in any responsive records.

Please find attached a notice letter informing you of a time extension to respond to your request.

As per your instructions to the University of Toronto, I am communicating with you via email and sending a PDF copy of the letter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Cutler, LL.B., CIPP/C

Privacy and Freedom of Information Coordinator, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre


2075 Bayview Ave., Toronto ON M4N 3M5

Tel: (416) 480-6100 x 85046

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This e-mail is intended only for the named recipient(s) and may contain confidential, personal and/or health information (information which may be subject to legal restrictions on use, retention and/or disclosure). No waiver of confidence is intended by virtue of communication via the internet. Any review or distribution by anyone other than the person(s) for whom it was originally intended is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender and destroy all copies.

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Notice of Time Extension

June 17, 2020

Request Number 2020-0004

Christine Massey
#221 – 93 George St. S.
Brampton, ON L6Y 1P4

Dear Ms. Massey:

I am contacting you regarding your access request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the Act) as submitted to the University of Toronto on May 18, 2020. On June 2, 2020, the University transferred the request to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (Sunnybrook) after determining that Sunnybrook had a greater interest in the responsive records.

If you have not already submitted \$5.00 application fee to the University of Toronto, I ask that it be provided to Sunnybrook immediately.

To confirm, you requested access to the following:

All records in the possession, custody or control of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health or any other department of the University of Toronto (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.) describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead only to:

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- *the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), and/or*
- *the sequencing of something.*

[If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).]

A request under the Act usually must be answered within 30 calendar days, however section 27 (enclosed) allows for time extensions under certain circumstances. The time limit for answering your request has been extended for an additional 30 days to July 17, 2020. Because consultations with a person outside the institution are necessary to comply with the request, Sunnybrook cannot reasonably be completed within the time limit. You may request that our decision to extend the time limit be reviewed by the Information and Privacy Commissioner. The Commissioner can be reached at:

Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario
2 Bloor Street East, Suite 1400
Toronto, Ontario M4W 1A8
Canada

Please note that you have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request a review from the Commissioner.

Please contact me at 416-480-6100, ext. 85046 if you have any questions. We would appreciate you using the Request number FOI -2020-0004 assigned to your request in any further correspondence.

Sincerely,



Jeff Cutler
Privacy and FOI Coordinator

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990

Extension of time

27 (1) A head may extend the time limit set out in section 26 for a period of time that is reasonable in the circumstances, where,

(a) the request is for a large number of records or necessitates a search through a large number of records and meeting the time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the institution; or

(b) consultations with a person outside the institution are necessary to comply with the request and cannot reasonably be completed within the time limit.

Notice of extension

(2) Where a head extends the time limit under subsection (1), the head shall give the person who made the request written notice of the extension setting out,

(a) the length of the extension;

(b) the reason for the extension; and

(c) that the person who made the request may ask the Commissioner to review the extension.



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Sunnybrook Freedom of Information Office: FOI Request 2020-0004

Cutler, Jeffrey <jeffrey.cutler@sunnybrook.ca>
To: "cmssyc@gmail.com" <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 10:56 AM

Hello M. Massey,

Please find attached the decision letter with respect to the above referenced freedom of information request.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Cutler, LL.B., CIPP/C

Privacy and Freedom of Information Coordinator, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

2075 Bayview Ave., Toronto ON M4N 3M5

Tel: (416) 480-6100 x 85046

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Decision to the Requester Regarding an Access Request

VIA EMAIL

July 14, 2020

Request Number 2020-0004

Christine Massey
#221 – 93 George St. S.
Brampton, ON L6Y 1P4

Dear Ms. Massey:

I am responding to your request for access to records under *the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* as submitted to the University of Toronto on May 18, 2020. On June 2, 2020, the University transferred the request to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (Sunnybrook) after determining that Sunnybrook had a greater interest in the responsive records. We received the \$5.00 application fee on July 8, 2020.

You requested access to the following information:

All records in the possession, custody or control of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health or any other department of the University of Toronto (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.) describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead only to:

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- *the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), and/or*
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[If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).]

A search has been conducted by Sunnybrook's Freedom of Information and Privacy Office for records responsive to your request. No records corresponding to your request were identified. Consequently, the file is closed.

You may request this decision be reviewed by the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The Commissioner can be reached at:

Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario
Suite 1400, 2 Bloor Street East
Toronto, ON M4W 1A8
Telephone: 416 326-3333, 1-800-387-0073 (within Ontario).

The Commissioner will require a copy of your original request, a copy of this decision letter and an appeal fee in the amount of \$25.00, payable to the Minister of Finance.

Please contact me at 416-480-6100 ext. 85046 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Cutler
Privacy and Freedom of Information Coordinator



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Sunnybrook Freedom of Information Office: FOI Request 2020-0004

Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 12:26 PM

To: "Cutler, Jeffrey" <jeffrey.cutler@sunnybrook.ca>

Thank you very much, Mr. Cutler.

I've never had an FOI request forwarded before, so I'm uncertain how to interpret the letter. The request was specific to U of T. Since it was forwarded to Sunnybrook, does the response indicate that U of T has no responsive records, or that Sunnybrook has none? Or that neither has any?

Thanks and best wishes,
Christine

[Quoted text hidden]



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Sunnybrook Freedom of Information Office: FOI Request 2020-0004

Cutler, Jeffrey <jeffrey.cutler@sunnybrook.ca>
To: Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 1:07 PM

Hello M. Massey,

In determining whether to transfer the request, the University of Toronto would have searched for and identified any responsive records. No responsive records were identified by them. A search by Sunnybrook also did not identify any responsive information. In summary, neither Sunnybrook nor the University of Toronto identified any responsive records.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Cutler, LL.B., CIPP/C

Privacy and Freedom of Information Coordinator, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

2075 Bayview Ave., Toronto ON M4N 3M5

Tel: (416) 480-6100 x 85046

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From: Christine Massey [mailto:cmssyc@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:26 PM

To: Cutler, Jeffrey

Subject: Re: Sunnybrook Freedom of Information Office: FOI Request 2020-0004

CAUTION: External mail. Do not click on links or open attachments you do not trust.

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