



Fact Sheet

Fees

What is in the new legislation?

Currently, the Access to Information Act allows the government to set an application fee of up to \$25, and to set other types of fees by regulation.

In May 2016 the government issued the [Interim Directive on the Administration of the Access to Information Act](#). The directive waived all access to information fees, apart from the \$5 application fee.

The bill proposes to retain, but modernize the wording, of the current provisions of the Access to Information Act, which allow the government to set an application fee of up to \$25, and to set other types of fees by regulation. This would provide flexibility in the act to continue to monitor trends in requests and make adjustments as appropriate if a future review of the act determines this is required. Also, as before, the act will allow the head of an institution to waive fees.

The government continues in its commitment to eliminate all fees other than the \$5 application fee.

Why does the new bill include amendments regarding regulations for fees?

The government has committed not to charge any fees apart from the \$5 application fee. However, the authority to prescribe fees by regulation would be retained to allow flexibility if a future review of the act determines that adjustments are required.

This would allow a further study of fees in Phase II, the first full review of the act, once the impacts of eliminating fees are better understood.

The bill modernizes the wording of the provisions that allow the Governor in Council to make regulations regarding fees to eliminate outdated wording (for example, the text makes reference to charging fees to provide microfiche).