

Phone/Téléphone: 416-979-1446 Toll-free/Sans frais: 1-800-668-8258 Fax/Télécopieur:

October 22, 2002



Re: Access to Information Request No.

Thank you for your request for access to information which was received in this office on September 30, 2003. You asked for billing and payment information related to solicitor who has provided a consent to the release of the information. Specifically, you requested from to totals for billings, as well as GST and pre-GST amounts. You also asked for payments out directly to the solicitor, as well as to third parties and payment totals.

At this time, I am enclosing information responsive to your request. The information you requested about billing totals and GST amounts has been provided in a print out titled 'Solicitors Paid List'. This is broken down by year, as requested. In that list, client names have been removed. What remains is certificate numbers, the amount of fees paid, the amount of disbursements paid, the amount of GST paid and the total paid, as well as the date paid. Please note that the years appear in hand writing at the top of each page where the year commences.

A second report has been produced by the accounting department in order to show where payments were made to third parties. This report is in the form of a chart with the solicitor's name and the title 'Payments to Third Parties'. Each year is dealt with separately as reflected in the far left column. Beside each year, the names of third party creditors appear which reflect the order of priority of payments out. In each line, payments appear that may be broken down among various creditors and the solicitor.

Please note that, where there is a direction to pay third party creditors, Legal Aid pays all fees owing to the third party creditors, but disbursements and GST are paid to the solicitor, as those disbursements and GST are in turn owed to third

> 375 University Avenue, Suite 404, Toronto, ON M5G 2G1 Bureau 404, 375, avenue University, Toronto, ON M5G 2G1

parties. That is why you may see the solicitor receiving monies in any given year, although there are still amounts owing to third party creditors.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. If you have any questions regarding the information provided, please feel free to contact Linda Hall of this office. I am responsible for the decision to grant you access to these records. You may ask for a review of this decision within 30 days of receiving this letter by writing to: The Information and Privacy Commission/Ontario, 80 Bloor Street West, Suite 1700, Toronto Ontario M5S 2V1, Telephone 1-800-387-0073.

If you decide to request a review of this decision, please provide the Commissioner's office with the following: the file number listed at the beginning of this letter; a copy of this decision letter; and a copy of the original request for information you sent to our institution.

In addition, you must send an appeal fee to the Commissioner's office. That appeal fee for information other than personal information is \$25.00.

Yours truly,

Ruth Lawson General Counsel