

Access to Information and Privacy Division
1010 Somerset Street, 1st floor
AL: 2301D
OTTAWA ON K1A 0K9

A-2007-00875 / kk

March 7, 2008.

Philippe Lucas
1104 Topaz Avenue
VICTORIA BC V8T 2M7

Dear Mr. Lucas:

This is in response to your request made under the *Access to Information Act* (the *Act*) for:

Modified Request by applicant / February 8, 2008:

Number of authorized medical cannabis users who have been cut off from accessing cannabis through Health Canada/PPS for non-payment of past (not "Post") shipments, as well as the number of users who's account has been referred to a collection agency, or who have received notice of final shipment for non-payment, up to and including December 2007. As well as the actual total amount of money owed to Health Canada/PPS by authorized users for medical cannabis.

Original Request:

Number of authorized medical cannabis users who have been cut off from accessing cannabis through Health Canada/PPS for non-payment of post shipments, as well as the number of users who's account has been referred to a collection agency, or who have received notice of final shipment for non-payment.

Enclosed is a copy of the records requested following the modifications made by you on February 8, 2008 to the scope of your request. Please note the records are being disclosed in their entirety. We appreciate your patience while we were processing your request.

If you have any questions or concerns about the processing of your request, do not hesitate to contact me. Please refer to our file number A-2007-00875 / kk in connection with this 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:
Information Commissioner, Tower B, Place de Ville, 112 Kent Street, 22nd Floor, OTTAWA ON K1A 1H3.

Yours sincerely,



Kofi Kodua
Analyst
Tel : (613) 952-8669 Fax : (613) 941-4541
E-mail: kofi_kodua@hc-sc.gc.ca

Page(s) 000001 to\à 000004

**Is(are) not relevant
n'est(ne sont) pas pertinente(s)**

Revised response.

Have been cut off from ordering cannabis from Health Canada for non-payment

- As of December 31st, 2007, 434 persons authorized to possess marijuana for medical purposes have received a letter from Health Canada informing them that their account is in arrears. Upon receipt of this letter, authorized persons are able to order one more shipment while making arrangements for payment. To receive additional shipments the account must be paid in full.

Have had their accounts referred to collection agency due to non-payment"

- As of December 31st, 2007, 29 accounts have been sent to a collection agency, in which case account holders cannot receive further shipments from Health Canada until their account is paid in full.

Total amount of money owed to Health Canada/PPS by authorized users for medical cannabis.

- As of December 31, 2007, 738 persons authorized to possess marijuana for medical purposes had received an invoice(s) which had not yet been paid. These invoices represent a total of \$746,315.00 owed to Health Canada. As of December 31, 2007 accounts that were considered in arrears represented \$554,225.00.
- Health Canada ships marijuana for medical purposes with an invoice indicating the amount owing. This amount is "owed" but is not considered due to Health Canada for 30 days. Therefore, due to the nature of the shipment cycle, at any given point in time all persons authorized to receive Health Canada's supply of medical marijuana would have money "owing" to Health Canada, but these accounts would not necessarily be delinquent.