

How to work through the Business Information Exemption: Section 21/481

One of the purposes of the *Act* is “to ensure that public bodies are fully accountable to the public by giving the public a right of access to records”, a goal that is further advanced by “specifying limited exceptions to the rights of access” to information. Public body accountability through the public right of access to information is very important and especially compelling because it holds public bodies to account for the decisions that it makes in regards to the delivery of public services and the spending of taxpayers’ money.

Below is a flowchart that can be used by public bodies and third party contractors who believe information must not be disclosed, to help them to work through the 3-part test found within the exemption.

