

**THE NOVA SCOTIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

A **REQUEST FOR REVIEW** of a decision of **ACADIA UNIVERSITY** with respect to an application for access to the salaries and benefits of named employees of the University.

**REVIEW OFFICER:** Darce Fardy

**REPORT DATE:** **June 28, 2004**

**ISSUE:** Whether the information provided is accurate.

In a **Request for Review**, dated January 22, 2004, the Applicant asked that I recommend to **Acadia University** (the University) that it disclose the salaries as well as the benefits received by employees named in the Application.

The University's decision included a document compiled in response to the Applicant's request which outlined benefits as of January 14, 2004. The Applicant complained that the document, though it contained the names of employees, provided only the benefits received by those employees.

The University subsequently, on February 11, provided the salaries of the same employees.

Following this disclosure, the Applicant, while having been provided with the information requested, questioned its accuracy and asked the Review Office to investigate.

**Conclusions:**

While **Section 7(1)(a)** obliges public bodies to respond to applications “accurately” it is, in my view, not practicable for the Review Officer to investigate accuracy on such a scale as this. I believe my suggestion to the two parties to sit down together and go over the figures in the record is a useful one.

**Recommendations:**

That the University invite the Applicant to meet to review the figures provided.

**Section 40** of the Act requires the University to make a decision on this recommendation within 30 days of receiving this report, and to notify the Applicant and the Review Officer, in writing, of that decision.

**Dated** at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 28th day of June, 2004.

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Darce Fardy, Review Officer