



74 West Seymour Street  
Kamloops, BC V2C 1E2

T 250 828 5500  
F 250 828 5631

2940 Virtual Way  
Vancouver, BC V5M 0A6

T 604 270 0649  
[www.bclc.com](http://www.bclc.com)

**VIA EMAIL**

December 23, 2021

**[applicant information]**

Re: Request for Records: BCLC File 21-055

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British Columbia Lottery Corporation (BCLC) writes further to your December 1, 2021 request under B.C.'s *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) and BCLC's letter of same date.

You requested:

- "a) I'd like to know how many people have enrolled in the VSE Program since the program's inception.
- b) I would also like to know the total amount of winnings confiscated from VSE enrollees under Section 92 of the Gaming Control Act, since the legislation has been in place.
- c) Lastly, I'd like to know how the confiscated winnings have been spent or allocated, e.g., other programs, studies, general revenues, etc."

In accordance with section 6(2) of FIPPA, BCLC has created a record, enclosed in the body of this letter, in response to your request.

Regarding part (a) of your request, as of December 1, 2021, a total of 44,442 distinct individuals have enrolled in BCLC's Voluntary Self-Exclusion (VSE) program since it was implemented in August 1999.

Regarding part (b) of your request, please note that prior to 2010 BCLC was not authorized to withhold winnings from VSE enrollees. During this time period BCLC therefore did not withhold any such winnings. In April, 2009 the *Rules and Regulations Respecting Jackpot Entitlement for Individuals who are Voluntarily Self-Excluded or Prohibited from Entering BC Gaming Facilities* were implemented, which gave BCLC this authority. BCLC created this rule following research conducted with VSE participants, who indicated that this could be a significant disincentive to try and re-enter a gaming facility. This rule has since been specifically incorporated into section 93(3) of the *Gaming Control Act*. From 2010 onward the total amount of winnings BCLC withheld from VSE enrollees is \$5,508,186.

Regarding part (c) of your request, BCLC uses winnings withheld from VSE enrollees to better support its players, including by funding research relating to problem gambling. In this regard BCLC has used these funds to support the following recipients and initiatives:

- Centre for Gambling Research at UBC
- Public Perception Responsible Gambling Research Study
- Problem Gambling Programs
- Responsible Gambling Council's Insight Forum

- Gambling Participation Instrument Initiative
- Problem Gambling Research Panel
- IPSOS Problem Gambling Player Research
- Electronic Gambling Machine (EGM) and Risk Gambling Research Exchange Ontario
- Responsible Gambling Survey
- Malatest Problem Gambling Prevalence Study
- BC Online Problem Gambling Prevalence Study
- IPSOS Problem Gambling Prevalence Study

Some of the research materials produced by these recipients are available on BCLC's website at the following link:

- [Reports & Disclosures: Responsible and Problem Gambling](#)

If you wish to learn more about the work BCLC does to help its players, information is available at the following links:

- [BCLC Player Health](#)
- [GameSense](#)
- [BCLC's Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program](#)

The full text of section 6 can be found at:

[http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/96165_00)

This response will be published a minimum of five business days after release at:

<https://corporate.bclc.com/who-we-are/corporate-reports/reports-disclosures.html>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding BCLC's processing of your request, please contact me at CPenkert@bclc.com, via mail or at (250) 852-5370.

Additionally, under section 52 of FIPPA, you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this reply to your request for information. You have 30 business days from the receipt of this notice to request a review by writing to:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia  
P.O. Box 9038, Station Provincial Government  
Victoria, BC V8W 9A4

T (250) 387-5629 F (250) 387-1696  
Email [info@oipc.bc.ca](mailto:info@oipc.bc.ca) Online [www.oipc.bc.ca](http://www.oipc.bc.ca)

Sincerely,

**[original signed by]**

Christian Penkert  
Senior Freedom of Information Analyst