

# Annual Report on the Public Interest Disclosure Act

## Fiscal Year 2023-24

**Subject:** Public Interest Disclosure Act Report – Fiscal Year 2023/24

### Background Description

B.C.'s Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) is provincial legislation that provides a safe, legally protected way for current and former public sector employees, including BC Housing employees, to report serious or systemic wrongdoing. This report marks the end of the first year of BC Housing's PIDA reporting program, as well as supporting PIDA Policy and Procedure, to fulfill its obligations under the Act.

Employees and former employees may seek advice or report wrongful or unlawful conduct in a confidential reporting process to: their direct supervisor; BC Housing's Designated Officer; or to a neutral third-party service contracted to enhance the confidentiality of complaints. Individuals may additionally raise their concerns directly with the Office of the BC Ombudsperson.

### Current Situation

#### Disclosures

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Number of Disclosures Received	1	0	1	0
Number of Referrals of Disclosures	1	1	1	0
Number of Known Disclosures Received by the Ombudsperson	0	0	0	0
Number of Investigations Commenced as the Result of a Disclosure	0	0	1	0
Number of Disclosures Acted On	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of Disclosures Not Acted On	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## Results of Findings by BC Housing of Wrongdoing

Description of Wrongdoing	<b>2023 – 001 (Q1):</b> Cannot be considered by designate due to anonymous reporting and inability to ensure disclosure is by current or past employee. <b>2023 – 002 (Q2):</b> Cannot be considered by designate due to not meeting the scope of the Act’s application to public bodies. <b>2023 – 003 (Q3):</b> Investigation determined no wrongdoing.
Recommendations (Including of Those from BC Ombudsperson)	Not applicable.
Corrective Actions Taken in Relation to Wrongdoing	Not applicable.
Reasons Why No Corrective Action Was Taken	Not applicable.

### Notes

The BC Housing Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) intake process continues to be supported by a third party, The Neutral Zone, to increase staff confidence in the anonymity and confidentiality of the disclosure process. This remains the most common pathway for disclosures.

During Fiscal Year 2023/2024, the program received 36 total contacts with 7 pertaining to the BC Housing PIDA program. These contacts tend to be disclosures or information queries around the purpose and scope of the BC Housing PIDA program.

**Prepared by:** Rebecca Willmott, Director, Privacy & Information Services and PIDA Designated Officer

**Reviewed by:** Ismail Ibrahim, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary

**Date:** May 31, 2024