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May 1, 2025

Section 38 (1)

Public Interest Disclosure Act: Annual report about disclosures for the Agricultural Land Commission ("ALC").

The Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA), B.C.'s whistleblower protection law, began to apply to the ALC effective December 1, 2022. PIDA requires every Chief Executive Officer of a public body to establish procedures for managing disclosures of wrongdoing and designate at least one senior official to receive requests for advice and investigate disclosures unless the agency is a small organization, where in consultation with the Ombudsperson under section 10(2) of the PIDA, it is determined not practical to apply these requirements.

The ALC has an exemption under section 10(2) of PIDA but the ALC must still be prepared to manage requests for advice and disclosures regardless of this exemption. Under this exemption the chief executive officer of the ALC automatically assumes the responsibilities of this position and PIDA investigations must be completed in consultation with, or referred to, the Ombudsperson.

The chief executive, or their delegate, must also prepare a report each year on all disclosures of wrongdoing that have been made in that year in respect of the body for which the chief executive is responsible, including disclosures made to the Ombudsperson, if a designated officer of the relevant body has been notified about the disclosures or investigations.

In accordance with the following sections of PIDA, for the reporting period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, the following information is reported for the ALC:

Disclosures of wrongdoing in respect of ALC

Section 38 (2)

(a) the number of disclosures received, including referrals of disclosures,

and the number acted on

and not acted on

0

0

(b) the number of investigations commenced as a result of a disclosure
(c) in the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing,
i. a description of the wrongdoing
ii. any recommendations, including those made by the
Ombudsperson, and
iii. any corrective action taken in relation to the wrongdoing or the reasons why no corrective action was taken

(d) any other information prescribed by regulation

Sincerely,

Kim Grout, CEO