



October 23, 2020

Carol Koussaya  
[ckoussaya@yahoo.ca](mailto:ckoussaya@yahoo.ca)

*Sent by email*

**Subject: Access to documents request – Response**

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Dear Carol Koussaya,

This letter is in response to your request submitted October 5, 2020 under the *Act respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information* (the Act), for the following:

**All records in the possession, custody or control of the McGill Secretariat or any other department of McGill University (for example, downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy etc. describing the isolation of SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was NOT first combined with any other source of genetic material (ie monkey kidney cells, aka vero cells, liver cancer cells etc.)**

**Please note that I am using the term "isolation" in the everyday sense of the word; the act of separating a thing from everything else. I am NOT requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead only to:**

- the culturing of something and/or
- the performance of an amplification test (RT-PCR test) and/or
- the sequencing of something

**If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that the public may identify and access each record with certainty (ie: title, author, date, journal, where the public may access it).**

Please be advised that McGill University does not hold any documents responsive to your request.

Please be advised that pursuant to article 135 of the Act (appended below) you may ask the Commission d'accès à l'information to review this decision within a period of 30 days from the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Edyta Rogowska  
Secretary-General

**An Act respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, CQLR c A-2.1**

**135.** Every person whose request has been denied, in whole or in part, by the person in charge of access to documents or of protection of personal information may apply to the Commission for a review of the decision.

Every person who has made a request under this Act may apply to the Commission for a review of any decision of the person in charge concerning the time prescribed for processing the request, the mode of access to a document or information, the application of section 9 or the fee payable.

The application must be made within thirty days of the date of the decision or of the time granted by this Act to the person in charge for processing a request. However, the Commission may, for any serious cause, release the applicant from a failure to observe the time limit.

1982, c. 30, s. 135.