REPORT WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF IN RELATION TO INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM SASKATCHEWAN JUSTICE

(the "Applicant") filed with me a Request for Review dated November 28 (presumably 2001). The Request for Review related to the dealings of the Applicant with Saskatchewan Justice (the "Respondent") and in particular, with regard to an Access to Information Request Form filed with Saskatchewan Justice on August 7, 2001. That Access to Information Request Form described the record which was being sought by the Applicant in the following words:

"All documents contained in said file as of Dec 12 1983 (enclosed by same) all records evidence and documents added to said file to this date Aug / 001."

[2] The Respondent declined to provide any information in pursuance of the Access to Information Request Form of the Applicant and so advised the Applicant by letter dated November 20, 2001. The substance of that letter reads as follows:

"Your application for access was received at this office on November 1, 2001, in reference to your dealings with "RCMP, ...Sask. Justice, Fed. Dept. of Justice, Solicitor Gen. Or any others. The only materials forming a record subsequent to your 1997 request (JU18/97G), are either correspondence from you or your agents, responses to you or your agents, or materials which are exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 22(b) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Section 22(b) states"

The head may refuse to give access to a record that was prepared by or for an agent of the Attorney General for Saskatchewan or legal counsel for a government institution in relation to a matter involving the provision of advice or other services by the agent or legal counsel;

As a result, I must decline to provide you with access to any such record which may exist and which you are not already in possession of.

If you wish to request a review of this action, you may do so within one year of this notice. To request a review, please complete a 'Request for Review' form, which is available at the same location where you applied for access. Your request should be sent to the Information and Privacy Commissioner at #700 – 1914 Hamilton Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3N6."

[3] I have obtained from the Respondent copies of the materials which it claims are exempt from disclosure pursuant to the provisions of Section 22(b) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the "Act"). Section 22(b) of the Act reads as follows:

- "22 A head may refuse to give access to a record that:
 - (b) was prepared by or for an agent of the Attorney General for Saskatchewan or legal counsel for a government institution in relation to a matter involving the provision of advice or other services by the agent or legal counsel; or"
- [4] Having examined the documents in question, I am satisfied that the Respondent has correctly declined to grant to the Applicant access to the documents in question. They have clearly been prepared by an agent of the Attorney General for Saskatchewan or legal counsel for a Government institution respecting the providing of advice or the giving of services by the agent or legal counsel. These documents need not be made public by the Respondent as set forth in subsection 22(b) quoted above. I therefore recommend that the Respondent maintain its refusal to provide copies of the documentation in question to the Applicant.
- [5] This file indicates to me that the Applicant has engaged in a series of communications extending over two or three decades respecting his personal concerns with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Saskatchewan Justice. The file indicates to me, as well, that copies of those materials which can properly be provided to the Applicant have been provided to him some considerable time ago.
- [6] Dated at Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 3rd day of April, 2002.

GERALD L. GERRAND, Q.C. Commissioner of Information and Privacy for Saskatchewan