



Statistics Statistique
Canada Canada

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0T6

www.statcan.gc.ca

Tunney's Pasture

November 20, 2018

Our file: P-2018-00266

Brian Short
[REDACTED]

Vancouver, British Columbia [REDACTED]

Dear Brian Short:

This is further to your request submitted under the *Privacy Act* for “**I am requesting a copy of any records or data related to me that was received by Statistics Canada from TransUnion.**”.

As requested, please find attached the information Statistics Canada has on file for you as an individual. This information was obtained from TransUnion as part of a larger data access request, as permitted by section 13 of the *Statistics Act*.

Statistics Canada obtained this information strictly for statistical purposes. This means that by law it will never be used for any other purpose than producing non-confidential aggregate statistics.

Your name, address, telephone number or other direct means of identifying you have been removed from the files received by Statistics Canada and are being stored separately as an essential security measure. These files have limited access and are retrieved only on a need to know basis.

In order to respond to this privacy request, we have re-joined these two separate files, that is, your personal identifiers with your information, in order to produce a record to provide to you. We have also subsequently deleted all copies of the record that we created and provided to you.

The confidentiality provisions under the *Statistics Act* (subsection 17(1)) prohibit the disclosure of information that could identify you. Disclosure of such information by a Statistics Canada employee carries a penalty that includes imprisonment of up to five years.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that Statistics Canada's use of TransUnion information will have **no impact** on your credit score. Statistics Canada uses this information strictly for statistical purposes.



As a federal Agency, Statistics Canada is mandated to produce statistics that help Canadians better understand their country – its population, resources, economy, society and culture. Traditionally, Statistics Canada has collected the majority of its information directly from individuals, businesses, institutions and organizations, who report for themselves. This continues to be our approach to collecting information. An alternative approach to collecting information, however, is to use administrative records produced by another organization such as TransUnion, given that this information already exists for that organization's use. This approach is usually a lower-cost alternative to direct collection. Furthermore, Statistics Canada can obtain this information without asking respondents to complete a survey. This method is used whenever possible if the data quality of the administrative records is sufficiently high for Statistics Canada's use in its statistical programs.

By using administrative data sources such as TransUnion, Statistics Canada is able to improve data quality, meet new and ongoing information needs, reduce data collection costs and save time for Canadians who respond to our surveys.

Ensuring that appropriate security measures are in place is critical to the Agency's mandate and its relations with respondents and data providers. Statistics Canada's commitment to keep in trust the information it obtains, is enshrined in both the *Statistics Act* and the Agency's policies and practices that frame its data collection, analysis and dissemination activities. We would also note that as a federal Agency, Statistics Canada must respect the provisions of the *Privacy Act* in protecting the confidentiality of personal information it maintains.

You are entitled to bring a complaint to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada regarding the processing of your request. Notice of complaint should be sent to 30 Victoria Street, Gatineau, (Quebec), K1A 1H3.

If you have any questions concerning the processing of your request, you may communicate with me.

Sincerely,



Marie Lallier
Project Manager and Senior Advisor
Access to Information and Privacy Office
613-951-4967
marie.lallier@canada.ca

Encl.