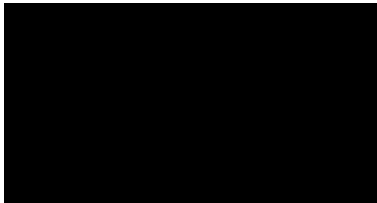


March 7, 2017



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* [Our File #: FIN-8-2017]

On February 8, 2017, the Department of Finance received your request for access to the following records/information:

“Travel expenses for Premier Dwight Ball and Finance Minister Cathy Bennett from Aug 1 2016-Feb 1 2017.”

On February 15, 2017 you were advised that the portion of your request related to travel expenses for Premier Dwight Ball was transferred to the Premier’s Office and that the Department of Finance would only be responding to the above request as it relates to Minister Cathy Bennett.

The Department of Finance is pleased to advise that access to this information has been granted and is as follows:

- Minister Expense Reports are proactively disclosed on the Open Government’s Website. As such, travel expense information for Minister Bennett for the period of June – November 2016, may be viewed at the following website address:
http://www.exec.gov.nl.ca/exec/cabinet/expenseclaims/june16nov16/pdf/bennett_c.pdf.
- The Minister’s travel expense for the month of December 2016 is provided in the table below. It is important to note that the primary purpose for travelling to Ottawa during the month of December was to attend the Federal/Provincial/Territorial meetings of Finance Ministers. Additionally, Minister Bennett used the opportunity to complete other government-related business. She met with various Federal Government Ministers and officials to discuss a variety of topics in her role as the President of Treasury Board and as the Minister responsible for the Status of Women.
- The Minister did not incur any travel expenses for the period of January 1st - February 1st, 2017.

Travel Claim Details		Amount	\$ 1,814.78
Reference ID	TCMS990173		
Transaction Date	20-Dec-16		
Purpose	To attend Federal/Provincial/Territorial Minister's Meeting in Ottawa, Ontario from December 14 - 19, 2016.		
Category		Amount	
Accommodations		\$	926.48
Travel		\$	888.30

Please be advised that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request, as set out in section 42 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act).

A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner. The address and contact information of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
 2 Canada Drive
 P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A
 St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309
 Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309
 Facsimile: (709) 729-6500

You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the Act.

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Completed Access to Information Requests website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned by telephone at 709-729-2082, or by email at bethbartlett@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



Beth Bartlett
 ATIPP Coordinator