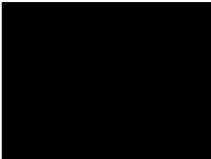


March 19, 2018



Dear :

**Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (File # NR-34-2018)**

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On February 20, 2018, the Department of Natural Resources received your request for access to the following records/information:

**Regarding the Mineral Rights Adjudication Board please provide all annual reports since 2011-12 which is the last annual report available publically online.**

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Department of Natural Resources, confirmed by the Deputy Minister, to provide access to the requested information. The answer to your question can be found below:

**Q: Regarding the Mineral Rights Adjudication Board please provide all annual reports since 2011-12 which is the last annual report available publically online.**

**A:** The last annual report published by the MRAB was in 2011-12:  
[http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/publications/pdf/mrab\\_2011-12\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/publications/pdf/mrab_2011-12_annual_report.pdf).

As indicated in that report, no grievances were brought before the board in that year. This period of inactivity continued for several years and, starting in 2012-13 it was deemed unnecessary for the board to produce reports while inactive. For the same reason, the board did not develop an activity plan for the 2014-17 period.

The inactive status of the board, and the absence of annual reports and a 2014-17 plan, were acknowledged in the corresponding annual reports and 2014-17 Strategic Plan of the Department of Natural Resources (for these documents refer to the Publications

section of the Department of Natural Resources web site at <http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/publications/index.html>).

The MRAB was active once again in 2016-17 and in June 2017 published a 2017-20 Activity Plan: [http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/publications/pdf/MRAB\\_2017-20\\_Activity\\_Plan\\_\(Tabled\).pdf](http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/publications/pdf/MRAB_2017-20_Activity_Plan_(Tabled).pdf).

An annual report for 2017-18 will be produced and made public by September 30, 2018, as required by the *Transparency and Accountability Act*.

As set out in section 42 of the Act you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the department's decision to provide access to the requested information. 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. Your request should identify your concerns with the department's response and why you are requesting a review.

The request for review may be addressed to 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

Pursuant to section 52 of the Act, you may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after receiving the department's decision.

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.

For further details about how an access to information request is processed, please refer to the Access to Information Policy and Procedures Manual at <http://www.atipp.gov.nl.ca/info/index.html>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 709-729-0463 or [rhynes@gov.nl.ca](mailto:rhynes@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Hynes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' and 'H'.

Rod Hynes  
ATIPP Coordinator