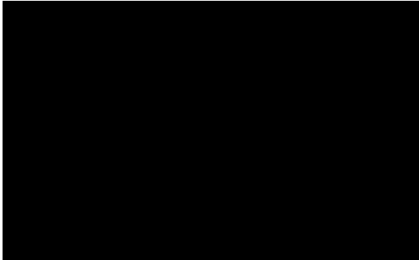


August 19, 2019



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (File # NR-141-2019)

On July 31, 2019, the Department of Natural Resources received your request for access to the following records/information:

A yearly breakdown of clean-up costs incurred at the former Consolidated Rambler mine and the former Buchans mine, for the fiscal years from 2007-08 to 2018-19.

The Department of Natural Resources have reviewed this request and are pleased to provide the attached record and following information in relation to your request.

Mines opened since 1999 are regulated under the *Mining Act* and must provide rehabilitation and closure plans, together with sufficient financial assurance to cover the costs of rehabilitation in the event of closure. The Consolidated Rambler Mines and the Buchans mines were operated in accordance with the standards of the day, before there was a full understanding of environmental issues related to mining. Orphaned or abandoned mines (OAMs) such as Consolidated Rambler Mines and Buchans mines are those mines for which the owner cannot be found or for which the owner is financially unable or unwilling to carry out environmental clean-up. There are in excess of 10,000 OAMs in Canada.

The Department of Natural Resources has undertaken rehabilitation work on both the former Consolidated Rambler Mines and the former Buchans mine sites. At the Consolidated Rambler site the mill and crusher buildings have been demolished and the mine shafts and vent raises were capped with engineered concrete slabs. Within the last two years, the dams at the Consolidated Rambler site have been repaired. In 2010 repairs were carried out on the tailings dams at the former Buchans Mine site. As part of its dam safety program, the department continues to plan for and undertake regular

inspections, maintenance and repair of dams at OAMs so that they meet safety standards of the Canadian Dam Association.

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 this letter will be published following a 72 hour period after it 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 letter posted to the Office of Public Engagement's website within one business day following the applicable period of time.

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

Sincerely,



Rod Hynes
ATIPP Coordinator

	2007 - 08	2008 - 09	2009 - 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 - 13	2013 - 14	2014 - 15	2015 - 16	2016 - 17	2017 - 18	2018 - 19
Consolidated Rambler	116,500	828,800	834,200	13,400	125,300	14,000	9,700	41,300	1,400	145,600	625,700	417,800
Buchans	0	141,500	443,400	2,756,000	281,400	32,400	8,500	22,900	140,100	11,800	45,700	11,800