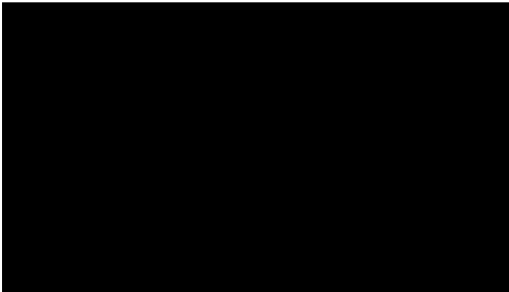


November 5, 2019



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* [Our File #: FIN-77-2019]

On October 7, 2019, the Department of Finance received your access to information request for the following:

“Please provide the budget guidelines issued to departments and agencies for the upcoming 2020/2021 budget.”

The Department of Finance wishes to advise that the Budget 2020/2021 guidelines were created as advice, recommendations or policy considerations submitted or prepared for submission to the Cabinet. As such, access has been denied pursuant to section 27.(1)(a), and section 27.(2)(a) of the ATIPPA. Please note that further details are available regarding these exemptions at: <https://www.assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/statutes/a01-2.htm#27>

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Bartlett".

Beth Bartlett, CIAPP-C
ATIPP Coordinator