

July 10, 2019



**Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015* [Our File #: PRE/49/2019]**

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On June 19, 2019 the Premier's Office received your request for access to the following records/information:

*"4/9/2019 Information Note titled IAS - Nunatsiavut Government 2019-20 Budget."*

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Chief of Staff of the Premier's Office to provide access to the requested information.

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. Contact information for the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

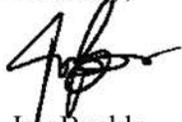
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner  
2 Canada Drive  
P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A  
St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8

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 this response, pursuant to section 52 of the *Act* (a copy of sections 42 and 52 of the *Act* have been enclosed for your reference). This response will be published as outlined on the Completed Access to Information Requests website. (<http://atipp-search.gov.nl.ca/>)

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (709)729-3570 or by e-mail at [joybuckle@gov.nl.ca](mailto:joybuckle@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,



Joy Buckle  
ATIPP Coordinator  
Enclosure

## **Access or correction complaint**

**42.**(1) A person who makes a request under this Act for access to a record or for correction of personal information may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting a decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request.

(2) A complaint under subsection (1) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days

(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or

(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16(2).

(3) A third party informed under section 19 of a decision of the head of a public body to grant access to a record or part of a record in response to a request may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting that decision.

(4) A complaint under subsection (3) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days after the third party is informed of the decision of the head of the public body.

(5) The commissioner may allow a longer time period for the filing of a complaint under this section.

(6) A person or third party who has appealed directly to the Trial Division under subsection 52(1) or 53(1) shall not file a complaint with the commissioner.

(7) The commissioner shall refuse to investigate a complaint where an appeal has been commenced in the Trial Division.

(8) A complaint shall not be filed under this section with respect to

(a) a request that is disregarded under section 21;

(b) a decision respecting an extension of time under section 23;

(c) a variation of a procedure under section 24; or

(d) an estimate of costs or a decision not to waive a cost under section 26.

(9) The commissioner shall provide a copy of the complaint to the head of the public body concerned.

### **Direct appeal to Trial Division by an applicant**

**52.** (1) Where an applicant has made a request to a public body for access to a record or correction of personal information and has not filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42, the applicant may appeal the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request directly to the Trial Division.

(2) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (1) not later than 15 business days

(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or

(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16(2).

(3) Where an applicant has filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42 and the commissioner has refused to investigate the complaint, the applicant may commence an appeal in the Trial Division of the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request for access to a record or for correction of personal information.

(4) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (3) not later than 15 business days after the applicant is notified of the commissioner's refusal under subsection 45(2).

## Information Note Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs

**Title:** Nunatsiavut Government (NG) 2019-20 Budget

**Issue:** The NG tabled its 2019-20 budget on March 6, 2019.

### Background and Current Status:

- The NG's balanced budget of \$112.4 million includes \$58 million that was received by the NG from the Government of Canada (Canada) under the NG Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA). The FFA is a tripartite agreement (NG, Canada and the Government) negotiated pursuant to the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (LILCA), which provides funding to the NG for the provision of federal and provincial programs and services to Inuit and other persons living in Inuit communities. The Government does not provide any funding to the NG under the FFA as the NG has not taken over responsibility for the delivery of any provincial programs and services.
- The NG budget includes a \$21 million of internally-restricted funds brought forward from previous years. The NG FFA allows the NG to carry these funds from previous years for longer-term projects and initiatives. Of the \$21 million internally-restricted funds, \$13.1 million relates to housing initiatives, \$4.5 million for education programs and services, \$1.9 million for economic development, and \$1.5 million for a new Department of Health and Social Development office in Hopedale.
- In addition to revenue from the FFA, other significant revenue sources include: revenues from projected Personal Income Tax (\$4.2 million) and Goods and Services Tax (\$3 million) from Canada; and the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement Trust Fund of \$6.2 million. The Government does not currently provide a share of any tax revenues to the NG. Should the NG take over delivery of any provincial programs and services, the Government has agreed in the NG FFA to provide to the NG a share of provincial taxes collected from Beneficiaries in the Inuit communities.
- The budget will be allocated among eight (8) NG departments, Inuit Community Governments and Inuit Community Corporations. Nunatsiavut Affairs has the largest budget at \$33.4 million as it includes funding for capital infrastructure projects and housing. The Department of Health and Social Development has the second largest budget (\$25.4 million) as it administers Non-Insured Health Benefits and other health programs. \$10.4 million also has been allocated to the five Inuit Community Governments.

### Analysis:

- The NG's 2019-20 budget focuses on increased investments to implement several initiatives including the implementation of a housing strategy, energy and food security plans and the development of new initiatives around language and culture. The budget also focuses on the enhancement of programs and services for Beneficiaries of the LILCA including programs and services for children, youth and families.
- NG's total budget for housing is \$22 million. This money will be used to implement the NG's housing strategy. Of note, \$2.8 million is set aside for the Torngat Regional Housing Association to provide housing to low-income residents of the Inuit communities. According to the NG, the largest obstacle to building new housing units in Nunatsiavut is the severe

shortage of developed land. The budget commits the NG to work with each of the Inuit Community Governments to ensure there is adequately developed land.

- Of note, on March 6, 2019 the Nunatsiavut Assembly enacted the *Nunatsiavut Housing Act*, which establishes a high level policy to govern housing development and programs in Nunatsiavut, and includes the establishment of a Nunatsiavut Housing Commission. A separate information note has been prepared on the new *Nunatsiavut Housing Act*.
- The budget also sets aside funds to carry out action items outlined in the Nunatsiavut Energy Plan that had been approved in 2017, and to complete the Food Security Strategy.
- Funding has also been allocated for the development of a comprehensive language strategy including funding for a language summit to learn from Labrador Inuit and language specialists from other Inuit regions on how to address language gaps and needs in Nunatsiavut.
- Other funding for language and culture includes funding to complete the Illusuak Cultural Centre (anticipated to open in 2019-20); and funding to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1918 Spanish flu which will enable up to 150 descendants of those families impacted by the disease to travel to the former village of Okak for four-day event planned for this summer.
- Other notable expenditures include:
  - Funding to continue work on the Imappivut, a marine plan for Nunatsiavut;
  - Funding to continue a base-line study to provide for community-based monitoring of water, fish, and seals and associated analysis, as well as an expansion of the current monitoring program to include other species within the Lake Melville ecosystem; and
  - A two percent salary increase for both permanent and casual employees.
- The budget does not include as an expenditure, an Own Source Revenue (OSR) payment to Canada, as a federal moratorium on OSR offsets against federal payments under the NG FFA remains in effect. This moratorium came into effect on April 1, 2017, for up to three years. Government also has put in place a provincial moratorium on provincial OSR against any provincial payments to the NG until April 1, 2020, should the NG take over the delivery of any provincial programs and services. At present, it is not anticipated the NG will take over any such programs in the near term.
- This Note is for the information of the Premier as Minister of Indigenous Affairs.

**Action Being Taken:**

- Indigenous Affairs will monitor implementation of the NG's budget.

**Prepared/Reviewed by:** R. Carter/A. Gover  
**Reviewed by:** C. Osmond/C. Blundon, Cabinet Secretariat  
**Approved by:** A. Gover

April 5, 2019