

November 22, 2019



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* [IIAS-022-2019]

On October 25, 2019, the Intergovernmental Affairs Branch (IGA) of the Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs Secretariat received your request for access to the following records/information:

Hello I'm looking for notes, emails, briefings, and decision notes mentioning these topics: Texas Vampires, Baylor College of Medicine, Sequence Bio, and NL Genome Project. I'm looking at anything in the last 10 years. Thank you

On October 29, 2019, we discussed your request over the telephone and you provided additional clarity and information about your specific interests from a health policy perspective. As a result, the request was revised as follows:

Decision notes mentioning these topics: Texas Vampires, Baylor College of Medicine, Sequence Bio, and NL Genome Project, including references to Iceland, from October 2016 to October 2019.

The Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs has reviewed this request and, following a thorough search, IGA has no responsive records to provide. However, I would draw your attention to several previously completed requests by the Department of Health and Community Services (HSC) and Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (TCII) that may be of interest. Records can be found online at the following links:

Completed Request	Description	Link to Records
HCS-110-2019 (August 6, 2019)	From March 1, 2019 onward, please supply copies of any records or correspondence between Don MacDonald, Vice President, Data & Information	https://atipp-search.gov.nl.ca/public/atipp/requestdownload?id

	Services, NLCHI, and the following department members, on matters referencing or relating to a NLCHI data lab: Minister John Haggie Former Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Harvey Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Bannister	<u>=10530</u>
HCS-109-2019 (August 6, 2019)	<p>From March 1, 2019 onward, please provide records of any communication or correspondence between the Department of Health and Community Services and Stephen Clark, CEO, Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information, containing reference to (or pertaining to) Sequence Bio.</p> <p>From March 1, 2019 onward, please supply copies of any records or correspondence between Don MacDonald, Vice President, Data & Information Services, and the following department members, on matters referencing or relating to Sequence Bio: Minister John Haggie Former Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Harvey Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Bannister</p>	<u>https://atipp-search.gov.nl.ca/public/atipp/requestdownload?id=10529</u>
HCS-060-2019 (June 11, 2018)	Records of email correspondence between the Department of Health and Community Services and Jeremy Grushcow of Sequence Bioinformatics Inc. from the year 2016. Records of email correspondence between the Department of Health and Community Services and Chris Gardner of Sequence Bioinformatics Inc. from the year 2016. Records and email correspondence between the Department of Health and Community Services and Tyler Wish of Sequence Bioinformatics Inc. from the year 2016.	<u>https://atipp-search.gov.nl.ca/public/atipp/requestdownload?id=9106</u>
TCII-011-2019 (May 17, 2018)	All correspondence, briefings, and communications produced or received by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation regarding Sequence Bio and/or ethics approval of any Sequence Bio research studies.	<u>https://atipp-search.gov.nl.ca/public/atipp/requestdownload?id=8247</u>
HCS-056-2017 (June 6, 2017)	A copy of the following briefing materials: Sale of the former medical clinic in the town of Western Bay Request to support additional clinical psychology residency position at Eastern Health Review of financial position of Harbourview Manor Personal Care Home Lines of credit for the RHAs 2017-18	<u>https://atipp-search.gov.nl.ca/public/atipp/requestdownload?id=5644</u>

	Mental Health and Addictions Performance indicators Digital solutions to increase access to ... mental health services Penney's Funeral Service Sequence Bio meeting briefing.	
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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 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
P.O. Box 13004, Station A
St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309
Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309
Facsimile: (709) 729-6500
E-mail: commissioner@oipc.nl.ca

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 me by telephone at (709) 729-3523 or by e-mail at angelaledwell@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



ANGELA LEDWELL
ATIPP Coordinator
Intergovernmental Affairs

ANNEX

Sections of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015* referenced in Final Response Letter for IIAS-022-2019

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).